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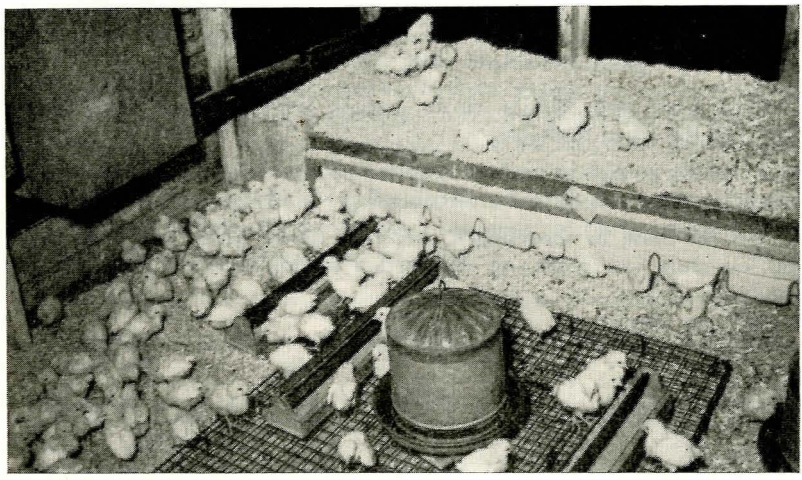
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Mash Formulas for Chicks and Poult



The University of Nebraska Agricultural College Extension Service
United States Department of Agriculture Cooperating
W. H. Brokaw, Director Lincoln, Nebraska

Mash Formulas for Chicks and Poult

F. E. MUSSEHL

The First Ten Weeks START FEEDING mash as soon as poults and chicks are put in the brooder house. Use protected feeders to prevent contamination with droppings. Provide eight feet of mash feeder space per 100 poults, and five feet of space per 100 chicks.

Expose poults and chicks to direct sunshine whenever possible without danger of chilling. A sunporch attached to the brooder house with half-inch-mesh hardware cloth for the floor is very desirable.

If chicks are being grown for use as layers or breeders, start feeding grain at four weeks. A grain mixture that is suggested is equal parts of cracked yellow corn and whole wheat. From the fourth to the tenth week feed one-third grain, two-thirds mash.

Feed green feed (alfalfa, clover, lettuce, lawn clippings, etc.) cut in short lengths when available.

About six pounds of feed are required per chick for the first ten weeks. About seven pounds of feed are required per poult for the first ten weeks.

Mix the mash by shoveling it over four times. Many local feed stores and elevators are rendering satisfactory mixing service for 10 cents per hundred.

Ingredients	For Chicks			For Poults	
	8	8-M ¹	8-S	8-TS	8-TSM
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Yellow cornmeal	310	410	310	250	250
Shorts or ground wheat	200	200	200	200	200
Bran	100	100	100	100	100
Pulverized barley or whole oats	100	100	100	100	100
Alfalfa meal (No. 1 quality)	100	100	100	100	100
Meat scraps (55% protein)	50	25	50	70	70
Fish meal (65% protein)	50	25	50	70	70
Dried buttermilk	50	35
Soybean oil meal (43% protein)	50	70	35
Oyster shell or limestone (chick size)	20	20	20	20	20
Fine salt	10	10	10	10	10
Suitable fish oil or its concentrate equivalent ²	10	10	10	10	10
	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Estimated protein content	18%	15%	19%	22%	22%

¹ With skimmilk.

² U. S. P. standard is 85 D plus 600 A units per gram. Most fish-oil concentrates are standardized at 400 D plus 3000 A units per gram.



Eight-weeks-old Poults on Alfalfa Pasture

**Tenth to
Twenty-fourth
Weeks, on
Range**

THE FORMULAS listed in the table above contain no expensive ingredients, except the cod-liver oil and dried buttermilk. After the poults and pullets are on range, the cod-liver oil is not necessary, and the dried buttermilk can also be dispensed with. When skim-milk or liquid buttermilk are available, we recommend that they be used. The following modified growing mash formulas are recommended. These are also adapted for laying-mash mixtures.

Ingredients	Suitable for Chicks, Poults, or Laying Hens	
	No. 8-GR	No. 8-GM, with skim- milk or buttermilk
	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Yellow cornmeal.....	340	415
Shorts or ground wheat.....	200	200
Bran	100	100
Pulverized oats or barley.....	100	100
Alfalfa meal (No. 1 quality).....	100	100
Meat scraps	50	25
Fish meal.....	50	25
Soybean oil meal.....	50	25
Fine salt.....	10	10
TOTAL.....	1000	1000

Road gravel (for grit) about the size of whole corn should be provided for both pullets and poults at all times.

Oyster shells or high-quality crushed limestone should be accessible during the entire growing period. For growing birds after the eighth week, this is preferable to including pulverized limestone in the mash.

For pullets after 12 weeks the following grain mixture is recommended. Feed equal amounts of grain and mash.

Whole yellow corn or grain sorghum.....	500 lbs.
Wheat	250 lbs.
Oats or barley.....	250 lbs.

For poults, feed some grain as soon as they will take to it readily. Whole yellow corn is recommended for the last month of the growth period in addition to the dry mash, fattening mash (moistened), and green feed.

Feed costs can be materially reduced when pullets and poults have constant access to green feed. Alfalfa and Sudan grass are excellent pasture crops. Rape is satisfactory for growing pullets and turkeys, but should not be used for laying hens because of the unfavorable effect on yolk color.

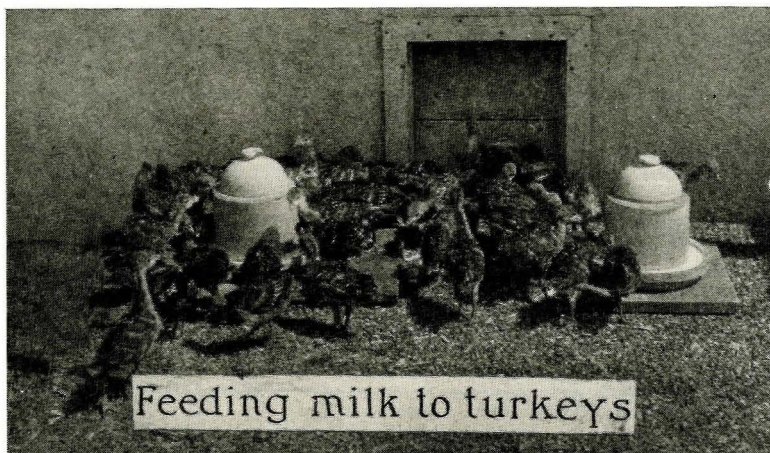
For turkeys the use of a milk-moistened fattening mash fed once daily from the time the birds are 20 weeks old until marketed is very desirable. The following fattening mash proved very palatable and effective in some experiments at the Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station.

Fleshing Mash Formula No. 3-3-3-1

	<i>Lbs.</i>
Yellow cornmeal.....	30
Wheat shorts.....	30
Fine pulverized oats.....	30
Soybean oil meal.....	10
	100

Moisten with milk to a crumbly consistency.

Clean feed, clean water, clean houses, and a clean range are better than medicine for maintaining healthy flocks.



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