

**UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI      COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE**  
**COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN**  
**AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS**

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND THE UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COOPERATING

A. J. MEYER, Director, Agricultural Extension Service

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**COLUMBIA, MISSOURI**

**MAY, 1922**

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**Project Announcement 15**

**DEMONSTRATION FARM FLOCKS**  
**and**  
**CERTIFIED POULTRY BREEDING**

T. S. TOWNSLEY

The program of the Agricultural Extension Service of the University of Missouri College of Agriculture for increasing the profits from farm poultry by making each hen a more efficient producer centers around the local community demonstration farm flock. Demonstration flocks are established on farms where the owners agree to cooperate with the county farm bureau and with the Agricultural Extension Service in demonstrating the proper methods of feeding, housing and handling the farm flock to insure maximum production.

**HOW DEMONSTRATIONS ARE ESTABLISHED**

In counties where farm bureaus have been established, co-operators for the demonstration farm flock project are selected by representatives of the county farm bureau. As nearly as possible one cooperator is chosen in each community in the county so that a large number of farm flock owners will have an opportunity to watch the progress of the demonstration. In counties without farm bureau organizations the Agricultural Extension Service of the Missouri College of Agriculture, through its proper representatives, selects the cooperators.

In farm bureau counties the local demonstration flocks are under the direct supervision of either the county agricultural agent or the home demonstration agent. In counties without farm bureaus a poultryman representing the Agricultural Extension Serv-

ice has supervision of the demonstration flocks. The Extension Service furnishes directions to cooperators, sends its poultrymen to make personal visits, and compiles the records from the various demonstration flocks, sending each cooperator a monthly summary of the reports from the entire state. These reports make up the records of the "Missouri Demonstration Farm Flock Laying Contest."

Flock owners who establish farm flock demonstrations agree to follow as nearly as possible the recommendations of the University of Missouri College of Agriculture for feeding, culling, housing and management in handling their poultry, and to send at the end of each month to the county farm bureau and to the Agricultural Extension Service a definite record of the flock, showing all expenditures and receipts.

The efforts of the local cooperator in demonstrating up-to-date methods of poultry management on his own farm are purely voluntary, as he furnishes all stock, feed and equipment and no prizes are offered for the flock owner who makes the best showing.

The record year for demonstration flocks extends from November 1st to October 31st, and new cooperators should enroll during the fall months so their records can start on November 1st.

Samples of the agreement for cooperators and record blanks for cooperators are shown in Forms 1 and 2.

(Form 1)

**Memorandum of Agreement for Community Demonstration Flock**

Name of Flock Owner ..... Address .....

Community ..... County .....

In order to aid the poultry industry of the State of Missouri and particularly of his community, the owner of the flock of chickens, herein mentioned agrees to cooperate with the Agricultural Extension Service of the College of Agriculture and the County Farm Bureau of the county in which he resides, in caring for his fowls in such a way as to furnish to the people of his community a practical demonstration of the value of farm poultry under proper management.

The owner agrees to care for his flock as far as is practicable as directed by the Agricultural Extension Service. The owner agrees to pay all expenses of feed, labor, stock and equipment; to keep careful records of income and expenses; and to furnish once each month to the County Agent, or Home Demonstration Agent, a record of the income and outgo from the poultry flock. All profits made shall belong to the owner, but all records shall be the property of the Agricultural Extension Service.

The poultry specialist of the Agricultural Extension Service, or a representative he may assign, shall be permitted to hold at least one public demonstration meeting on the farm during the term of this agreement.

The Agricultural Extension Service agrees to furnish each month practical suggestions for feeding, housing, breeding, hatching, rearing, and culling the flock. All necessary record and report blanks will be furnished by the Agricultural Extension Service, and the traveling expenses of its representatives shall be paid by the University of Missouri. At the completion of this agreement the Agricultural Extension Service shall publish for free distribution a summary of the reports secured by this cooperation.

The agreement shall become effective ....., 19 ....., and continue in force until November 1, 19.....

Dated this ..... day of ....., 19.....

FOR THE AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE

.....  
Poultry Specialist

FOR THE COUNTY FARM BUREAU

.....  
County Agent

(Form 2)

COMMUNITY DEMONSTRATION FARM MONTHLY EXPENSE AND SALES RECORD

Name of Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Community \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ Breed \_\_\_\_\_

REPORT FOR MONTH ENDING

19

STOCK RECORDS				FEED EXPENSES				
KIND OF STOCK	NO. FIRST OF MONTH	NO. ADDED	NO. DIED	DATE	KIND OF FEED	NO. LBS.	PRICE PER 100	COST
Mature Hens								
Breeding Males								
Pullets								
Cockerels								
Chicks								

Total Feed, Lbs. \_\_\_\_\_ Cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_

No. eggs set from home flock \_\_\_\_\_ Cost of new equipment - - - \$ \_\_\_\_\_

No. eggs gathered for month \_\_\_\_\_ Cost of new stock - - - - \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cost of eggs bought - - - - \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Average No. eggs laid per hen \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL EXPENSE - \$ \_\_\_\_\_

INCOME

FOWLS SOLD						EGGS SOLD				
DATE	KIND	NO.	POUNDS	PRICE	VALUE	DATE	NO. DOZ.	CHARACTER	PRICE	VALUE
Total Sales						Total Sales				
Fowls Eaten						Eggs Eaten				
Total						Total				

Total value of fowls and eggs sold and eaten \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make the feed record as simple as possible. The amount and cost of the feed for the month are the figures wanted. Weigh or measure about a months supply and store in a convenient place. Charge farm grown feed at market prices. This record measures your profit. Keep it accurate. Use back side of this sheet for remarks.

## MISSOURI PLAN OF CERTIFIED BREEDING

The Missouri plan of certified breeding is a system of supervised breeding established by the Agricultural Extension Service of the Missouri College of Agriculture in cooperation with county farm bureaus. The object of the certified breeding plan is to establish definite breeding standards and make high producing stock available for distribution to farm poultry keepers.

Only flocks that have been successfully handled as demonstration flocks are eligible for certification, and only those demonstration flocks that are purebred and that show an average production of 25 eggs for each hen between November 1 and March 1 shall be considered for certified breeding.

### HOW FLOCKS ARE CERTIFIED

Flock owners who have met the requirements for certified breeding and desire to have their flocks certified shall make application to the Agricultural Extension Service of the Missouri College of Agriculture at Columbia. All applications must be filed before September 1 on forms furnished by the Agricultural Extension Service in order to receive consideration. Applications from farm bureau counties must be signed by the county executive committeeman in charge of poultry work and by either the county agent or the home demonstration agent. In counties having no farm bureau, each application must be signed by the president and the secretary of the county poultry association or by two reliable poultry keepers who are residents of the same county. Each application will be carefully considered and those flock owners who have successfully handled a purebred flock as a farm demonstration flock, attaining an average of 25 eggs for each hen between November 1 and March 1 and who agree to comply with the rules for certified breeding, shall have their flocks inspected between September 1 and November 1 by a poultry husbandman representing the Agricultural Extension Service.

Only hens that have passed through one or more laying seasons or pullets that were hatched from certified flocks will be considered. The females shall be selected on basis of vigor, breed type and laying ability as indicated by physical characteristics and by records of production. Hens for breeders must not have begun molting before September 1, must show pale shanks, fine quality

of skin and bone, straight, flexible pin bones, a soft pliable abdomen, a body depth of at least three inches, and a spread of at least two inches between the pin bones. They must also be free from standard disqualifications and be worthy representatives of their breed. All females accepted for use in certified breeding flocks will be marked with sealed numbered leg bands.

Males to head the breeding flock shall be selected or approved by the representative of the Agricultural Extension Service. Breeding males shall be selected on the basis of individuality and pedigree. Only males that are sons of hens which have an authentic trapnest record of more than 200 eggs in one year shall be mated with certified hens. Breeding males must be vigorous, early hatched, well marked and must be free from standard disqualifications.

The male offspring of this special breeding flock shall be examined by the Extension Service representative during July or August, and those males that are outstandingly good individuals shall be marked as certified cockerels. Cockerels to be certified must have been hatched before May 1, must be worthy representatives of their breed in type and color, must be in good health, early maturing and free from standard disqualifications. Cockerels that meet the requirements for certification will be marked with numbered, sealed, wing bands.

## **RULES FOR CERTIFIED BREEDING**

Breeders who desire to have their flocks certified must agree to comply with the following rules:

1. A special breeding flock shall be maintained during the spring months, consisting only of females which have been selected and banded by a poultry husbandman representing the College of Agriculture, and pedigreed males which have been approved in the same manner. Only high producing hens that are free from standard disqualifications shall be banded, and the breeding males must be free from standard disqualifications and be the sons of hens with a reliable trapnest record of 200 or more eggs in one year.

2. No breeding males shall be kept during the hatching season except the pedigreed males described above, and no eggs shall be sold for hatching except those laid by the hens above mentioned. No eggs shall be set and no baby chicks shall be secured during

the months of February, March, April or May from any other source than the special breeding flock above described, unless they be of a different variety from the breeding flock or be secured from another approved flock.

3. No cockerels shall be offered for sale as certified breeders except those specially selected and marked by the representative of the College.

4. A definite record of all sales of certified breeding cockerels and certified hatching eggs must be kept, showing the number of eggs or birds sold, the name and address of each purchaser, and the sale price.

5. A complete record of egg production, feed used, chicks hatched, chicks raised, and products sold and eaten shall be kept for each flock and shall be reported monthly, through the County Farm Bureau Office, to the Agricultural Extension Service, Missouri College of Agriculture, Columbia, Mo.

6. Whenever any females that have been banded as certified are sold or disposed of in any manner their bands must be removed and returned to the Agricultural Extension Service.

7. Before eggs or chicks are sold, the cooperator agrees to inform the purchaser that the stock raised is not eligible for resale as certified stock. (The purpose of rules six and seven is to prevent parties who are not eligible for certification from handling certified stock and eggs.)

8. Violation of any of these rules shall be cause for revoking this contract.

9. It is agreed that when this contract is revoked, all certified bands shall be returned to the Agricultural Extension Service and the cooperator shall no longer use the term "Certified" in advertising or printed matter nor sell stock or eggs under any representation that they are certified.

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