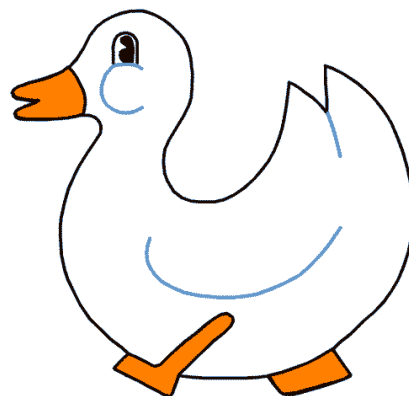


2020-2021

**WALWORTH CTY
POULTRY PROJECT**



Poultry Committee 2020-2021

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Kristen Henningfeld
Claire Schilz
Mason Chamberlin
Heidi Sherman

*indicates testers

Additional tester: Melanie LaRock Drall 262-495-2389

Visit our facebook page: Walworth County Poultry Project

2020-2021 Poultry Project Meeting dates

December 3, 2020

Activity Center

January 21, 2021

Activity Center

March 18, 2021

(Family Fun Night)

Activity Center

May 20, 2021

Sheep/Poultry Barn

July 15, 2021

Sheep/Poultry Barn

Aug TBA

WALWORTH COUNTY FAIR REQUIREMENTS

The following are required to show poultry at the Walworth County Fair:

1. You must have a premise ID if you keep your animals on your premise. This is applied for through the State of Wisconsin at www.datcp.state.wi.us/premise/
2. At least one poultry project meeting must be attended by each poultry project member. See the list of project dates in the packet.. Reminder that you must sign in at the meetings you attend.

We will be adding another day to bring in your scratches which will be one week before fair (date to be announced later). You may bring your scratches to either set up, the additional date we have added or you can still bring them to check-in. If you bring your health papers to the new scratch date just before fair it will make your check in easier.

3. ALL poultry, including turkeys and waterfowl, must have health papers. There has been a lot of confusion of health papers so please see the next few pages for assistance.
- 4 ALL members MUST sign up for at least one 2 hour shift of barn duty during the fair. Sign up can be done as early as set up.
- 5 All birds brought to the fair must be clean and parasite free and kept clean throughout the fair.
- 6 All birds except roasters and broilers must be received or in your possession by June 1st.

RAISING POULTRY

Proper management is essential in raising healthy chicks. Here are a few guidelines to help you raise healthy chicks:

Environment: Keep it clean and keep it dry. Warm, dry housing without drafts. Make enclosure predator proof. Clean and disinfect housing, feeders, and waterers before chicks arrive. Then disinfect regularly with a disinfectant. The bedding should be 2-5" deep, use wood shavings, straw, etc.

Space Requirement: No Crowding allowed. Newborn to 6 weeks need about 0.8-1.0 square feet per chick. 6 weeks and older need 1.0-2.0 feet per chick.

Temperature: AVOID THE BIG CHILL. Heat in advance, raise light to adjust temperature. Place thermometer at chick level. Day old chicks should be about 90-95 degrees and the heat lamp approximately 20 inches above the chicks. Comfort can be observed. If the chicks huddle under the light then it is too cool. If the chicks huddle in corners then it is too hot. Reduce temp 5 degrees each week until you have reached 65 degrees.

Water: Wet their whistles. Use one quart waterer per 25 chicks. Use fresh, clean water, change daily. Disinfect waterers prior to use. Dip beaks to induce drinking. Elevate waterer after first week to reduce contamination from the liter. Waterer should not be higher than the chick's back. Double water capacity at 6 weeks.

*Turkey poults are slower to understand eating and drinking. Watch closely the first few days. To get poults started dip beaks in water and feed.

*Ducklings/goslings may swim in water after about 4 weeks. Keep dry until then. Place marbles in the waterer to reduce splashing.

Feed: Use a one foot feeder for 25 chicks. Keep it full at all times, scatter starter feed on the floor of brooder also for about 2-3 days to encourage eating.

*Broilers (meat chickens): feed meat builder to finish. Pullets being kept for egg production should be fed layer feed beginning at 18-20 weeks.

*Ducklings/goslings: Feed meat builder from hatch on. (Medicated feed not approved by FDA)

*Turkey poults: Use turkey starter 0-6 weeks old, turkey grower 6-14 weeks old and finish with turkey finisher. Turkey starter and grower are available with and without medication. Meat builder can be used as an alternate feed.

MAKING A CHICK BROODER

Supplies:

Brooder: cardboard or wooden box, etc.

Heat source: heat lamp or light bulb

Feeder and Waters: commercial or plastic jar lids will work until the chicks get older.

1. The brooder should be at a temperature of 90-95 degrees for the first week, after that you should gradually lower the temperature by 5 degrees each week.
2. The brooder should be free of drafts, but the chicks should be able to move away from the heat source if they get too hot. If the chicks are too cold, they will peep and huddle together. If they are too warm, they will be panting and try to get away from the heat source. Too much heat can kill your chicks. They will find their comfort area.
3. The waterers should be high enough that the chicks do not drown themselves. They also have to be low enough so that the chicks can reach them. Before the chicks are put into the brooder, you should dip their beaks slightly into the water container to teach them to drink.
4. Red or yellow heat lamp bulbs are better for the chicks than white bulbs. The white bulbs are hard on the chick's eyes.
5. A non-slip floor covering is essential. Newspapers make a very slippery surface, so they should not be used. It is best to use paper towels for the first 5 days or so, because they help the chicks get traction. Some people suggest not using wood shavings for the first few days because they could possibly try to eat them. If some chicks are having traction problems, a piece of an old bath towel helps them keep their footing.
6. Depending on how many chicks you have, the size of the box will vary.
7. Feeders and waterers need to be kept clean. Turkeys and chicks should have medicated starter feed, but DUCKS AND GEESE SHOULD NOT! Also, baby chicks need baby grit, NOT oyster shells.
8. The chicks like hard boiled eggs mashed up in small pieces. It helps give them protein and a good start. They like it a lot.

SOME COMMON PARASITES OF POULTRY

MITES- The most common external parasite.

1. Can be seen by good eye or magnifying glass
2. Treated with Ivermectin or other topical treatment
3. Causes scaly skin, flaking, and disfiguring of face and legs

LICE- Another external parasite.

1. Can be seen under microscope or with magnifying glass
2. Treated with dusting powder or spray
3. Causes feather picking, scratching and decreased productivity

COCCIDIA- Eggs passes through fecal and oral transmission.

1. The vet can determine if present
2. Treated by oral medications in feed or water
3. Causes weak birds with bloody or mucous diarrhea

WORMS- Passed through fecal or oral transmission

Treadworms-Causes weak birds that don't eat well, may have diarrhea

Ascarids-May show no signs at all

Gapeworm- Causes breathing problems, voice changes, or coughing

1. May cough up eggs, consult a vet
2. Treated with Ivermectin or other oral treatment
3. Can cause weak, unthrifty birds or death