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RAISING BROILER-TYPE CHICKENS FROM TWO WEEKS TO TEN WEEKS
OF AGE IN SMALL LOTS

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BROODING AND REARING AREA - Provide about $\frac{1}{2}$ square foot per chick of floor space in an area that is sheltered from the weather so that the birds can be maintained at comfortable temperatures and tight enough so dogs and rodents will not get to the birds.

Cover the floor with four to six inches of litter material such as shavings or straw. Let the birds out on clean ground when the weather permits if birds are to be raised on range.

HEAT SUPPLY - One 250 watt infra-red heat bulb will care for about 50 chickens. Hang it about 24 inches from the floor using a porcelain socket and a chain or wire to hang it on. The birds will spread out in the light pattern to rest when the bulb is the right height. They will crowd and pile if it is too high and will move away from it when it is hung too low. The bulbs should be burning when the birds require heat. Weather conditions and age of birds will dictate when it can be turned off.

FEEDERS - Provide about one linear inch of feeder space per chick to four weeks of age. These feeders should be about 3 to 4 inches wide, and two inches deep and about 2 to 3 feet long, inside dimensions.

WATER FOUNTAINS - Provide one small water station for each 50 birds to four weeks of age. One large unit will care for 100 birds or more. The sides should

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be low enough to allow the birds to drink, yet high enough so they don't waste excess water. Shallow pans are alright if a grill is provided to keep the birds out of the pans.

FENCE FOR RANGE BIRDS - When the birds are first turned out they will need some protection from dogs and other predators so it will be necessary to have a small pen with a temporary fence just outside the brooding area. When they are big enough to take care of themselves the fence can be removed and they can range further. Birds should not be allowed on the same land more than one season every three years.

FEEDING PROGRAM - The feeding program will be most efficient if the birds are confined throughout the growing period. Birds on range will require a longer growing period and will use about the same amount of mash and grain to grow to a specific weight.

The following chart shows estimated requirements of grain and 25% protein broiler feed from two weeks to ten weeks of age for broiler-type birds. Grains should be ground and mixed with the broiler feed until the birds are four weeks of age or more.

ESTIMATED FEED REQUIRED BETWEEN TWO AND TEN WEEKS OF AGE FOR BROILER-TYPE BIRDS
(PER 100 BIRDS)

Week of Age	Grain		25% Protein Broiler Feed		Average Body Weight (Lbs.)
	Lbs./Wk.	Lbs./Day	Lbs./Wk.	Lbs./Day	
3rd	25	3.5	25	3.5	0.7
4th	35	5.0	35	5.0	1.0
5th	50	7.0	40	5.5	1.5
6th	60	8.5	50	7.0	2.0
7th	70	10.0	50	7.0	2.5
8th	90	13.0	50	7.0	3.0
9th	<u>110</u>	16.0	<u>50</u>	7.0	3.6
Totals	440		300		