

Poultry Press May, 1997

From Your Editor

Bill Wulff

The month of May brings out all the leaves on the trees and bushes, flowers blooming, and lots of babies in all forms of life. The weather here is beginning to really warm up and those little ones are beginning to grow so you can tell the cockerel from the pullets.

The number one priority this month is tell you about a new advertiser that you probably noticed in the April issue. **The product is called Immuno-Boost (Now called Avia-Charge 2000) and manufactured by Innovators LLC, Dane Hobbs out of Brenham, Texas. We received a letter from Dane that we printed on page 22 of the April issue and gave him a call. After he sent us a sample bottle (originally a liquid, now a water soluble powder) he asked that we try it. We started putting it in our water to our Breed Red Pyle, along with our usual vitamins and electrolytes and red cell. When the eggs started coming in good number in February and March, our fertility was running between 70-75% week after week. That total included one-two year old cock that hasn't produced a fertile egg. Without his eggs being counted the fertility ran between 88-92%. Yes, that right in February and March. We usually get those kind of numbers in late April and May but never that early in the year. So you say, what make you think it was the Immuno-Boost (Avia Charge 2000).**

Well, here's the best part. It's when I put the eggs in the hatcher, in the four weeks that I've had previously to writing this article on April 1, 1997. Week one, I hatched 9-10eggs, Week two 19-19, Week three, 35-36, and Week four we got 38-39. That is 102 chicks out of 104 eggs that we put in the hatcher. We've never had that kind of hatching in all of our 33 years of breeding birds. That is 97% plus hatching. The one thing that was really unbelievable was that they busted out the eggs and the chicks weren't weak. They seem to be much larger and fluffier and act more like 5-7 day old chicks than newly hatched.

We are extremely pleased to say that this is a product that we wish I had known about years ago. It is made out of the ocean has vitamins and minerals in it that has really made the difference in our breeding programs. We know that our Red Pyle males are much more aggressive than they ever have been and remind me of my Black Old English males that I had four years ago. The heads of the females are about bald from the males breeding them. As I told Dane when I talked to him about it, I had doubts. I called him back since then and told him that I definetly believe in it.

I wish I could have told you about this sooner than the May issue, but I have to be sure about things before I pass on things to you. If it is something that works, I'm always glad to tell people about it. To me, this is what the fancy is to be all about, helping each other. Too many people in the world are so afraid to tell people things in fear of getting beat at the shows. Competition is the greatest thing in the world because it only makes us better at trying to make a breed or variety better and that's what all of us are striving for, aren't we? Until next month, best to all.

Poultry Press February, 1998

From Your Editor

Bill Wulff

Well this issue is February and I'm writing this on January 1, 1998. Yes 1998. It's very hard to believe that we are into an New Year. We mated up all our birds today and we started them on layer and on February 1 we will turn on the lights so that they can have their 14 hours of daylight (artificial), so they can start to lay (hopefully). We look forward to 1998 with another positive attitude with our breeding program.

We put together eleven breeding pens of Red Pyles with nine males and twenty-seven females. We have three females to each male with two pens with two females and another pen with one female. We will alternate two different males with these pens. We keep them in each pen one day and then put him in the next pen the next day. We have only cocks in each pen as we like to see how the cockerels mature out into cocks before we test them into a breeding pen.

As we said we have them on Gamebird Layer and we spread red cell on top of it daily for the first week and every other day after that throughout the breeding season. **We also be using the Immuno-Boost (now called Avia Charge 2000) that we tried last year that worked so well for us. We will use it daily this year instead of alternating like we did last year. The reason we did that was because the old timers taught us to use vitamins and electrolytes for two days, clear water for a couple of days and back to the vitamins on a rotational basis. That was the way we were taught and it worked for use. So when the Immuno-Boost came into the picture we would use the vitamins and electrolytes two days, clean water two days, Immuno-Boost two days, clean water two days and back into the rotation because that was the way we were taught. This year with the success with Immuno-Boost, we are going to use it on a daily basis.**

The reason that we are going to do that is because it worked so well for us last year. The female's eggs were so good last year but the percentage of

hatch was the biggest thing. We only tried it on Red Pyles last year and this year we will put it in the water for the kids plus the waterfowl, especially the Bantam Ducks. Lou Horton tried it last year year on his and his hatches were up tremendously. Lou cautioned me to tell you that it can stain White or Light Ducks, so if you want to show and breed them, they can't swim in it. If it can do for the Bantam Ducks what it did for my Red Pyles, I will look for that with great anticipation.

We hope that each and every one of you has the most successful year with your breeding program and that you can produce Grand Champions of the Show. We have very high hopes for a successful breeding season with the birds that we put together this year. When you mate up your birds, do it with a lot of thought by what you are putting together. If doesn't matter what you raise, each breed and variety are a little different but breeding is basically the same. I always put my males in the breeding pen first then introduce the females. I found over the years that when you already have the males in the pens, it is their territory and when the females are put in with them they will fight the male some but not as much as when the females are put in the pen and introduce the male. The answer I'm not sure but this is what I have noticed over the years. Do what works for you.

By the time you read this, the American Bantam Association National Meet hosted by the Pacific Poultry Breeders Association will be over. We congratulate all of you that did well at the show and we enjoyed seeing all of you at Roseville, California. Until next month, best of all.

Poultry Press January, 1999

From Your Editor

Bill Wulff

Happy New Year! We hope and wish the very best to each and every one of you for 1999. We hope it's the best year ever for each of you in the breeding season, the showroom and your family.

The Ohio National and ABA APA Joint Nationals is in the history books and it was a tremendous show in both numbers (12,294) and quality. We hope you enjoy the 48 page special edition. It was a lot of work getting it all together for the January Issue, but it was worth it to get it done for each and every one of you. The show will be discussed for years and to those of you who didn't attend it, you missed a tremendous one.

It is now 1999 and the majority of us it time to mate our birds up. My day to put birds together is January 1. I've done that for many, many years and probably as long as I'm alive. I'll continue on doing that on mating up my birds.

On January 1, I will put them on Purina Gamebird Layer along **with Avia Charge 2000 in the water**. I will also continue on spraying the red cell on top of the Purnia Gamebird Layer. I've had lots of my friends tell me that one thing that really helps them is to give them some wheat germ in their feed. I will give it a try. I picked up 500 pounds of it and been giving my old breeders while they were coming through their molt.

My breeding pens will consist of less numbers and I'm planning on raising a lot less birds. In the Red Pyles, I'm only using four cocks in my breeding pens and maybe a couple of cockerels. I only kept four hens and ten pullets. I will keep probably four females out for showing and put the other six in to raise around 150 young Red Pyles. I'm planning on breeding 10 BB Red females and hopefully about 150 BB Reds.

I had a goal for 1998 to raise around 200-250 Red Pyles this past year and hatched 275. We hatched 225 BB Reds this past year out of 12 females but it took until September to get those numbers out. I won't hatch the BB Reds that late this year as I needed to get some numbers of them hatched. I didn't have everything I needed in them this past year but some of the ones I hatched this year met my breeding qualities that I need in producing the birds that I'm after.

We hope that 1999 is your best year ever in your breeding and showing, We know that this past year has had its ups and downs weather wise. I'm writing this on Monday night December 21 and today it was almost 60 degrees and tomorrow night its supposed to be down the single digits. That's hard not only on man but also the birds. This was the warmest Fall on record and it has had the birds confused. They still will go into breeding pens on January 1 and the lights will come on February 1. We will then look for the results. Until next month, best to all.