

MOUSE BREEDING HINTS

If a young doe destroys her young, mate her again, but if a doe that has reared a litter previously destroys her young, then provided she has had ordinary attention, there is likely to be gland or other trouble and she should be discarded from future breeding.

Those who lay moist food on the cage floor should beware of mildew. Clean looking sawdust may be hiding mildew due to the dampness, and you will find that oats, etc. laid on it will be wasted by the mice.

Those who feed stock lavishly, giving more oats than mice can eat, should remember that oats, usually a corrective to scours, can be a cause if the oats become soaked with urine. Do not force your stock to consume stale food.

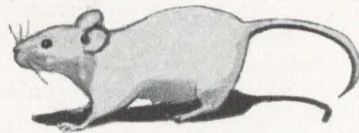
Another sawdust trouble may be mites, which may germinate in fine sawdust and oat residue. When we recall the troubles these pests can bring, much trouble can be avoided by keeping the cage clean.

WHY CAVIES?

To anyone on the lookout for a hobby that will bring endless pleasure and prove of absorbing interest, let us recommend the keeping of a few Cavies. In the "no-tails" we have animals that do not require a large amount of hutch room. The space required for one Rabbit will comfortably accommodate at least a pen of two sows and a boar. Your interest will never wane once you have made a start with cavies, for they are such happy little creatures to watch in their various ways. They greet you with that squeak-squeak whenever they hear the sound of approaching footsteps, and make for the front of the hutch as though delighted with your company.

Cavies are very clean in their habits and make ideal pets for both young and old. There are many different varieties to choose from. In the smooth-coated ones we have the Self colours—blacks, whites, creams, reds, chocolates and beige. Then we have the marked varieties—Dutch, Tortoise and Whites, and Tortoise-shells. Also we have Agoutis, both in golden, silver and cinnamon, not forgetting the white cavy with black points, namely, the Himalayan. If a rough-coated variety is fancied the Abyssinian with its rosettes fills the bill, and the Peruvian with long silky tresses is always a picture, and we are surprised that more lady fanciers do not take up this lovely variety.

FANCY MICE



CONDITIONING SHOW MICE

The subject of conditioning is a very old one indeed, but at the same time it should be evergreen since conditioning plays such an important part in the life of an exhibition mouse.

To begin with, what is condition? I will try to define it. In my opinion a mouse is in condition when it is quick and alert, with bold, bright eye, the flesh hard and firm, causing the muscles to ripple with every movement, the skin tight, the coat short and sleek, shining like the proverbial "racehorse," and in every respect full of the joy of life.

Now how can we obtain and keep this condition? Yes! that is the question. It is not done without considerable trouble which, however, to the real fancier is a pleasure. The conditioning of a mouse commences at the time when the parents are mated. Unless these are in the pink of condition it is hopeless to expect the young to be so. Do not say to yourself "I think this mouse is going off show condition; I will mate it up." Mating must be done when at the height of show form.

Exercise is a wonderful aid to condition, therefore give ample room in your cages, with good light and air, but at the same time keep them warm and cozy and free from draught and damp.

Mice intended for exhibition should be daily groomed with a silk cloth. This will also make them tractable when being handled by the judge, which goes a long, long way towards creating a good impression.—J. K.

CARE OF YOUNG MICE

If possible avoid breeding during very hot weather. Besides being very trying for the does, youngsters never appear to have the same sleek coats as when bred in cooler weather.

Not more than a couple of days before the arrival of the young, the doe should be given an extra allowance of bread and milk. When the young do arrive this should be given night and morning if at all possible.

A doe should not be allowed to rear more than four youngsters to obtain the best results. When the babies have their eyes nicely open sprinkle a little oatmeal in the nest

and induce them to commence eating as soon as possible. This will not only relieve the doe, but the youngsters will come on more quickly. When the young mice commence to run about discontinue the morning milk sop and the milk for the evening feed should be diluted with a little water for a few days, when all milk may again be given.

Young mice which have been brought on well in the way described will be precocious, therefore at a month old remove the young bucks. Those from two or three litters may all be placed together in a roomy cage, leaving the young does with the mother for another couple of weeks.

Now at this age the young mice should be as fat as little pigs—the fatter the better.

EXHIBITION MICE

At present, I have no Mice of any kind for sale, and shall have none of J. Wood's or Dr. Kerr's books until March 1st. Kindly note that I do not sell White Mice of any kind to readers. I have professionally made breeding cages for sale at less than half-price, all with drop fronts for feeding.

REV. R. W. FERRIER
Stockport, New York

MANATEE MOUSERY



FANCY MICE ALL COLORS

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RABBITS NEED SALT

Common salt, or sodium chloride, is essential to the health of all animals. Rabbits, in their natural environments, are able to select their own food and balance their own ration, and evidently they are capable of doing a good job of it. When the rabbit is domesticated and placed in a hutch, however, it does not have opportunity to select its food according to its body requirements, but is forced to eat what is put before it. Consequently, it is important that the rabbit breeder acquaint himself with the needs of his animals and supply the food necessary for their health and well being.

The food of domestic rabbits was studied at the U.S. Rabbit Experiment Station at Fontana, California, and an experiment was conducted for twelve months, to determine the quantity of salt necessary to maintain health. Ten mature New Zealand herd bucks and forty-three New Zealand does with their litters (until weaned at eight weeks of age) were

used. The concentrate mixture fed these herd bucks and dry does consisted of equal parts by weight of whole oats, barley, grain, sorghum, wheat, and a pelleted plant protein meal. The bucks and dry does were given one-sixth of a pound of this concentrate daily. The does with their litters were full fed the same mixture, except that two parts of the protein supplement meal were used in the mixture. The bucks and dry does were given one-fourth of a pound of alfalfa hay daily, but the does with their litters had hay before them at all times. Small quantities of green food were fed once a day to all the rabbits, and water was available at all times.

Small blocks of white salt were placed in the hutches so that all the animals would have access to them at all times. The blocks were removed once a month and weighed to determine the quantity the rabbits were consuming.

The ten mature bucks consumed an average of 0.088 pound of salt per

animal during the year; their yearly salt consumption was 0.88 per cent of their live weight. The forty-three does and their litters consumed an average of 0.195 pound of salt during the 12 months.

WINTER BIRTHS

The only precaution to take when young ones are expected, and if the weather is very severe, is to have a jar of hot water, wrapped up in a sack, and placed in a corner of the hutch a day or two before the litter is expected. A small box may be placed alongside the jar with a quantity of hay and sawdust inside. This is all necessary to provide heat during the cold period if the rabbitry is free from damp and draught. If the breeder can refill the jar with hot water for a few days after the arrival of the youngsters, everything will usually go well. A plentiful supply of good dry hay in the hutch at this time does much to ensure success.

GESTATION CHART FOR MICE

(PERIOD OF GESTATION—20 TO 22 DAYS)

Dates shown here are for 21 days, allowing for a variation either way.

Date of Breeding	Jan.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
Date of Birth	Jan.	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	Feb.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Date of Breeding	Feb.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28				
Date of Birth	Feb.	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	Mar.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21			
Date of Breeding	Mar.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
Date of Birth	Mar.	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	Apr.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Date of Breeding	Apr.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
Date of Birth	Apr.	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
Date of Breeding	May	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
Date of Birth	May	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	Jun.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Date of Breeding	Jun.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
Date of Birth	Jun.	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
Date of Breeding	July	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
Date of Birth	July	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
Date of Breeding	Aug.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
Date of Birth	Aug.	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	Sep.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Date of Breeding	Aug.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
Date of Birth	Aug.	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	Sep.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Date of Breeding	Sep.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
Date of Birth	Sep.	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
Date of Breeding	Oct.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
Date of Birth	Oct.	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	Nov.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Date of Breeding	Nov.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
Date of Birth	Nov.	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
Date of Breeding	Dec.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
Date of Birth	Dec.	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	Jan.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21

NOTE: When breedings occur in a Leap Year, from February 8th to February 29th, add one day to the dates shown here.

SEX CONTROL EXPERIMENT

Late last year the New York News, through the Applied Research Laboratories of New Jersey, conducted sex control experiments with Rats. Breeding females were first treated with acid solutions and with alkaline solutions prior to mating. Those treated with the acid solution produced a larger number of female young, while those treated with the opposite solution produced a higher percentage of males. In several instances rats were given both tests and they responded accordingly with each solution used.

Inasmuch as ALL-PETS has published in the past two issues Mr. Armitage's methods of controlling Canary sexes, these new experiments open an avenue of even greater possibilities. What the final result this work will bring is to be watched with great interest, and although scientists, medical men and students of genetics have voiced differential opinions regarding the tests, the field offers much for continued study and will bear our attention.—RSS.

BROKEN MARKINGS

The English standard says: "A Broken should not have either Dutch cheeks, saddle, or any markings which may be considered evenly placed." If one takes into consideration that later it says: "The more spots or patches (the better)." It follows that any markings on the cheeks will be too small to be mistaken for Dutch cheeks. Also any markings on the hind portion of the body, either on top or under will be smaller than saddle markings and not evenly placed. So these areas, which in the Dutch constitute its markings may, in the Broken, contain any number of spots or patches so long as they are not evenly placed and are as uniform in size as possible.

Trained Carrier Pigeons are used by The San Antonio, Texas Express to bring in films taken at important news scenes. The birds travel with the photographer, who after taking a picture, places the negative in a light-protected case and attaches it to the birds. The birds return to lofts accessible to the newspaper offices.

Advertise your Rabbits in the April Issue—the Easter Number. Forms close March 15th.

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4c per word per month, 3 times.
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WANTED: ANGORA RABBIT WOOL. No red tape, no association, nothing to join. We are manufacturers and need the wool. Write or ship. We pay cash.—Wool Supply Company, Route 11, Portland, Oregon. my339

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WANTED: GUINEA PIGS AND WHITE Mice for laboratory purposes. State what you have.—Keystone State Caviary, Reinholds, Pennsylvania. my339

CAVIES WANTED: MALES ONLY, 17-22 ounces, in large quantities. Send self addressed stamp envelope or postal card for quotations to Tilden James, Box 175, Hanover, Pennsylvania. de1239

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FOR SALE

TATTOO SETS, 40c; 100 RAZOR Blades, 60c.—Banderman, Higginsville, Missouri. de1239

MAKE MONEY WITH ANGORA Wool Rabbits! Raise the kind of wool that pays! Clay Super Woolers give growers best return. Write Now!—Clay Farms, Box AP, Sharon, Washington. ma1239

FOR SALE: WHITE NEW ZEALAND Rabbits. Homer and Fantail Pigeons. Reasonable.—Frank Heimke, Kaukauna, Wisconsin. ma339

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RAISE FLEMISH GIANTS. LARGEST breed of Rabbits on Earth. My Keystone Strain of Flemish have won blue ribbons in every National Convention Show since 1930. Big demand for Flemish Rabbits from laboratories making pneumonia serums makes this a profitable business. For price list write John E. Holtzinger, 512 S. 22nd St., Altoona, Pennsylvania. ja1240

CHINCHILLA AND FLEMISH GIANT Rabbits. Young Stock.—Christie Farm, Thiells, New York. ap339

YOUNG CHINCHILLA RABBITS AND English Cavies.—Pet Farm, Holland Patent, New York. oc1239

BEAVER REX AND LILAC REX RABBITS.—Paul Belot, 127 W. Ring St., Milwaukee, Wisconsin. ma39

PEDIGREED WHITE FLEMISH AT reasonable prices.—M-C Rabbitry, Mich. Center, Michigan. ma39

CHINCHILLA RABBITS, PEDIGREED. 7 month bucks, \$2.50. 4 month bucks, \$1.75. Does, \$2.00. Unrelated trios, \$5.00.—D. N. De Luca, 3223 W. Liberty Avenue, Dormont, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. ma39

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FOR SALE

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