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## EC1437 Pits for Dead Birds

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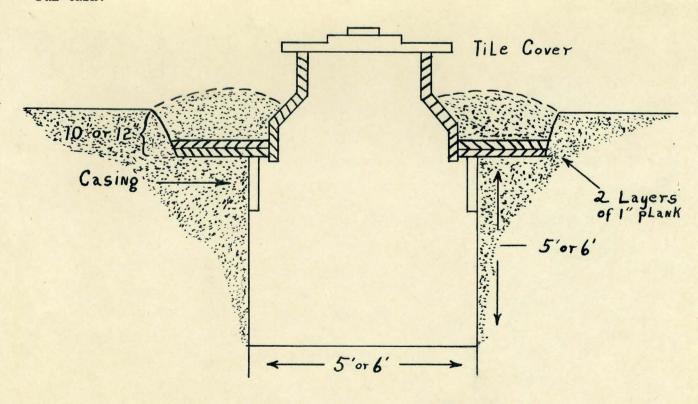
U. of N. Agr. College & U. S. Dept. of Agr. Cooperating W. H. Brokaw, Director, Lincoln

E. C. 1437

## PITS FOR DEAD BIRDS

LINGOLN, The New Jersey College of Agriculture gives the following instructions for building pits for disposal of dead hens. "To make a desirable pit, choose a location where digging will be comparatively easy and relatively close to the center of your operations. A hole should be dug five or six feet deep, the sides of which will be five feet or more square. Old lumber, bricks or concrete blocks may then be used to shape up the sides so that the hole will not fill up prematurely. After this has been done, the hole should be covered with old planking or other lumber, providing a hole in the center of the top, sufficiently large to take a section of ten or twelve inch pipe or a square box of similar proportions. This receiving pipe or box should then be fitted with a cover or cap. Dirt should then be replaced over the top of the pit. To dispose of dead birds simply remove the cap and deposit them in the pit.

"Periodically, a small amount of caustic lime or borax may be dropped over the birds in the pit to hasten their decay. Incubator eggs should not be deposited in such pits since the shells do not decay and occupy too much room. When once constructed, a pit of this type can serve an average plant for a number of years, and provides a ready and easy manner of caring for an otherwise distasteful task."



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