

BOOK REVIEW

Pure Poultry

Living Well with Heritage Chickens, Turkeys and Ducks.

By: Victoria Redhed Miller
New Society Publishers
ISBN 978-0-86571-753-4
\$19.95

For anyone who has had the dream of a going-back-to-the-land lifestyle this book will provide a glimpse of what can actually happen. Ms. Miller takes us on a hopscotch journey of discovery from one anecdote to another through her six years of establishing a piece of rural property into a comfortable home and lifestyle. Kind of like a blog that has morphed into a book. In foregoing the grid and all of its accouterments she has adopted the attitude of enjoying what we do have, instead of lamenting the things that we don't. She talks about the abundance of having less.

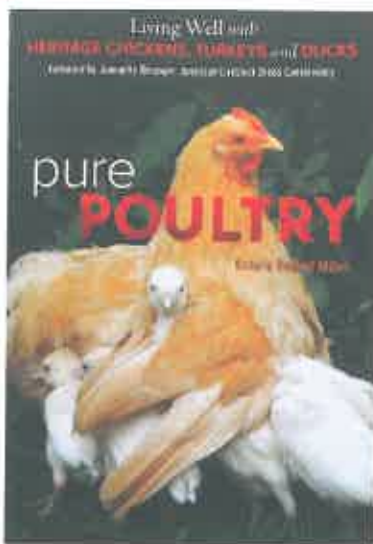
By her own admission this is not a "how to" but rather a "why to" kind of book.

The first parts of the book does deal with raising and living with differing species of poultry but it deals with each on a very personal level, skipping lightly over scientific fact and dwelling on personal observations. If you want to pursue the science of it all she makes many references to recognized tomes that trudge through studies and results and conclusions by reputable authors.

But following her philosophy that life should be fun it is refreshing to just accompany her on this lighthearted journey to fulfilling her dream. Her writing style is unique and a joy to read. Her underlying satisfaction with what she has created shines through constantly and minor frustrations and problems remain just that — minor. Solved, but not being dwelled upon to sully a perfect day. She is no Pollyanna but rather a realist who takes life as it comes, tweaks it gently to provide for her simple needs but does not attempt to wrestle it into submission.

The latter parts of the book deal more with her philosophy of living sustainably with the land, and is a recommended read for anyone with dreams of adopting this lifestyle.

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Victoria Redhed Miller's book is a combination of practical information and philosophical musings.

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