25. Litter reared pullets

All valuations expressed in pence per bird

Age (days)	7	14	21	28	35	42	49
Valuation	99.05	113.97	129.05	141.76	154.95	168.96	183.81

Age	56	63	70	77	84	91	98
Valuation	199.49	215.58	232.00	249.02	266.51	284.32	302.49

Age	105	112	119
Valuation	320.99	340.11	359.70

Litter-reared (or 'floor-reared') pullets are the replacements for laying hens that produce table (eating) eggs. They are generally destined to be used in free range or barn laying farms - it is unusual for them to be transferred to cage houses.

As with cage-reared pullets, the vast majority of birds will be brown feathered, although it is *possible* that a flock of white-feathered pullets may be encountered. The table above is based on brown-feathered birds although it could be used (at least initially) to provide a valuation figure for white-feathered breeds.

The normal rearing period is from day-old to 17 weeks, although occasionally, some pullets may be retained on the rearing farm to 18 weeks or beyond. In this situation, the valuation figure must be extrapolated forward to calculate the pro-rata figure.

For chicks culled during the first week of life, the 7 day valuation figure should be taken. For flock ages that do not exactly match the ages given in the tables, a pro-rata figure should be calculated.

The final valuation figure is less than the starting figure for point of lay pullets on the laying farm because the valuation of the latter includes transport, handling and (usually) additional vaccination costs.

The valuation table is based on the use of conventional (i.e. not organic) rations. If a flock of organic pullets has to be valued, advice should be sought from Contingency Planning Division.