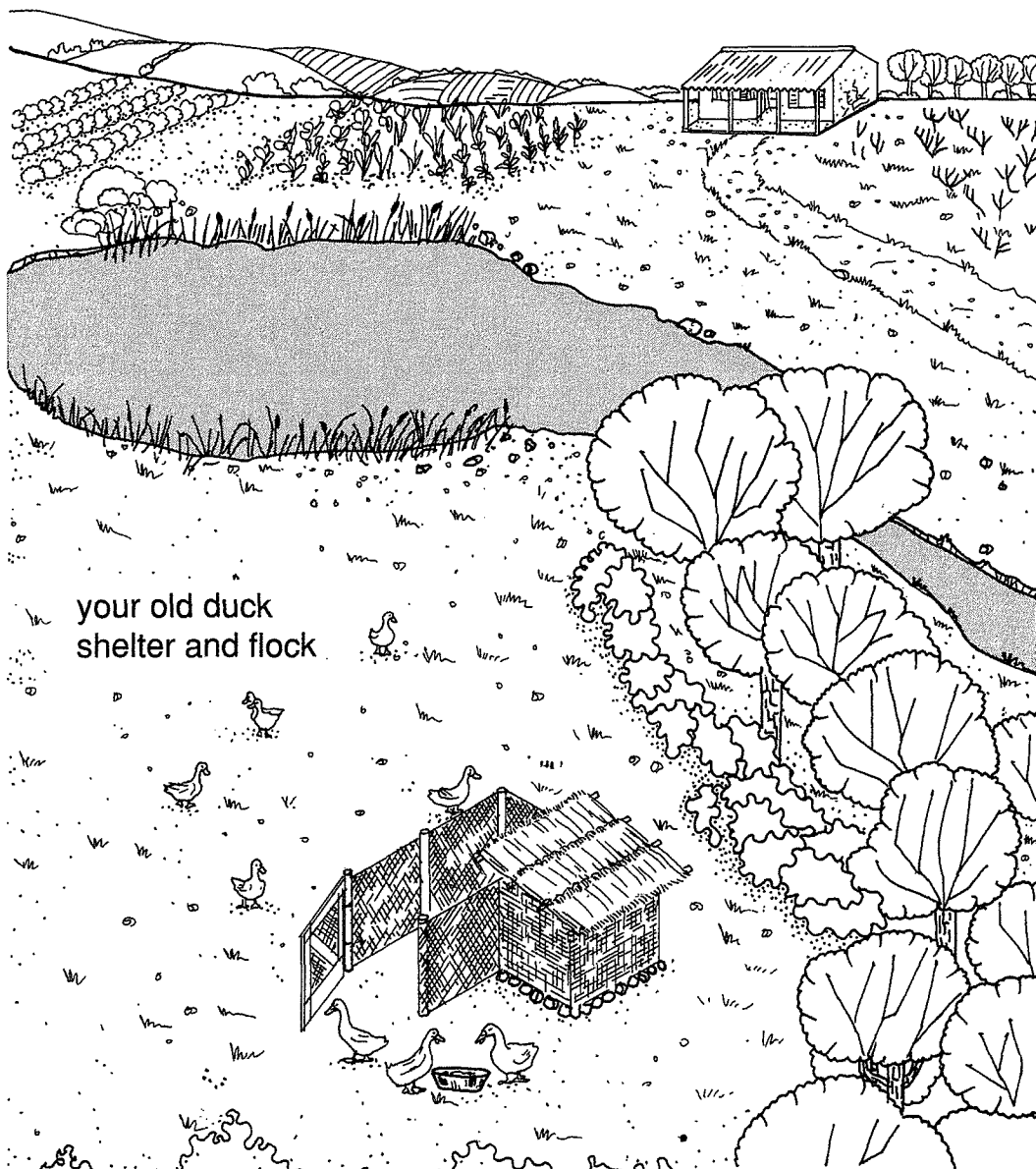


# INTRODUCTION

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1. In the last booklet in the Better Farming Series, booklet No. 39, *Raising ducks 1: how to begin*, you learned how to raise a small flock of ducks.
2. You were told and shown how to raise a flock of from 6 to 24 ducks living by themselves with very little help from you and finding most of their own food.



3. With a small flock of ducks you found that with the eggs and the meat you got you had more to eat and, as a result, you and your family were able to live better.

you and your family



4. You may also have found that you could sell some eggs and meat at the market and make a little extra money to help with other family needs.

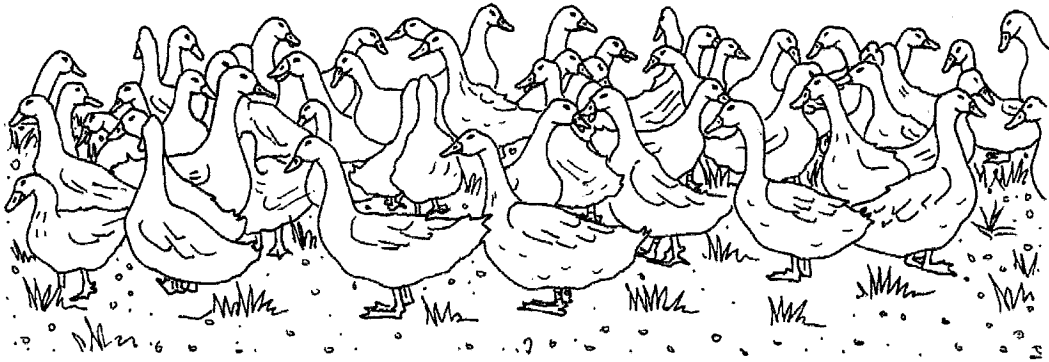
at the market



5. Now that you know more about ducks and how to raise them, you may wish to raise even more.

6. At the end of *Raising ducks 1*, you were told that you can raise as many as 60 ducks in much the same way as you raise a smaller flock.

a flock of 60 ducks

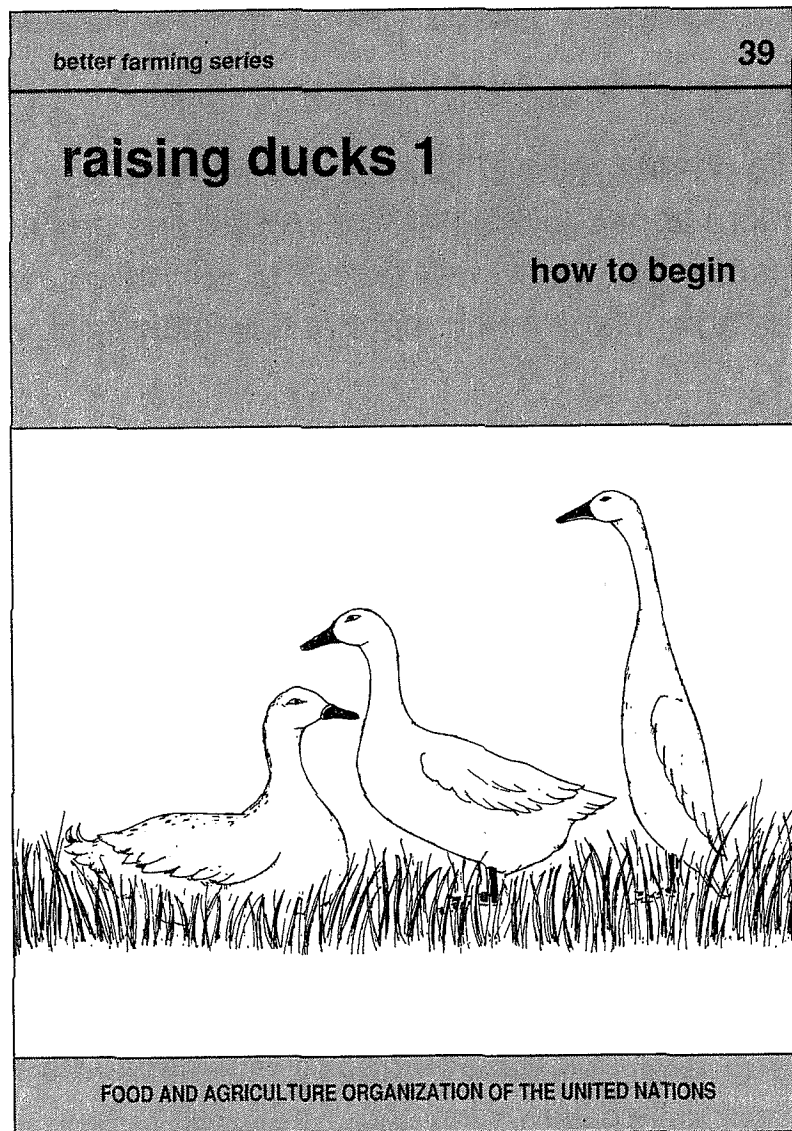


7. To do this you will have to learn a bit more about ducks and work a little harder. However, with 60 ducks you will be able to sell much more at the market.
8. If you think that the job of raising a larger flock is too great for your family alone, try to get a farm family near you or other families in your village to join you in raising ducks.

another farm  
family



9. Now, if you think that you might like to raise a larger flock, let us begin by looking at some other things that you should know.
10. However, first it would be a good idea to read *Raising ducks 1* again. That way, what you have learned earlier will be fresh in your mind.

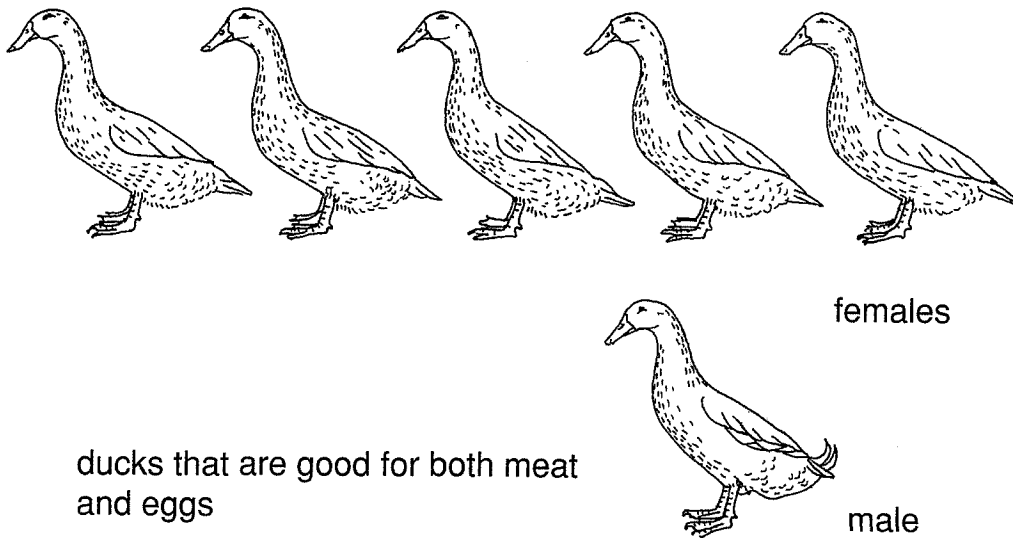


# ABOUT RAISING MORE DUCKS

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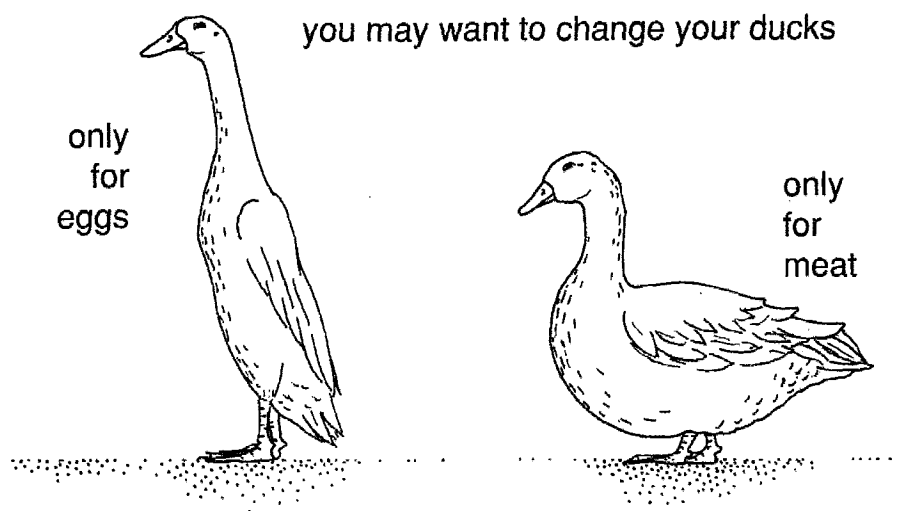
## The ducks

11. In *Raising ducks 1*, you were told that you should begin by raising ducks that are good for both meat and eggs.



12. That was because having both eggs and meat would better serve the needs of you and your family.
13. However, with a flock of as many as 60 ducks you will get many more eggs and much more meat than a single family will need.
14. In fact, the reason for raising so many more ducks is to have enough to sell to your neighbours or at the market.

15. In some places people buy only the eggs from ducks and in other places people buy only the meat.
16. So one of the first things that you must think about is whether to raise the same kind of ducks or start all over with another kind.
17. To help you decide, talk to your neighbours and visit the markets to see what **sells best**.
18. If you decide to raise ducks **only for eggs** or **only for meat**, instead of for both eggs and meat as you did before, you will have to change your ducks completely.



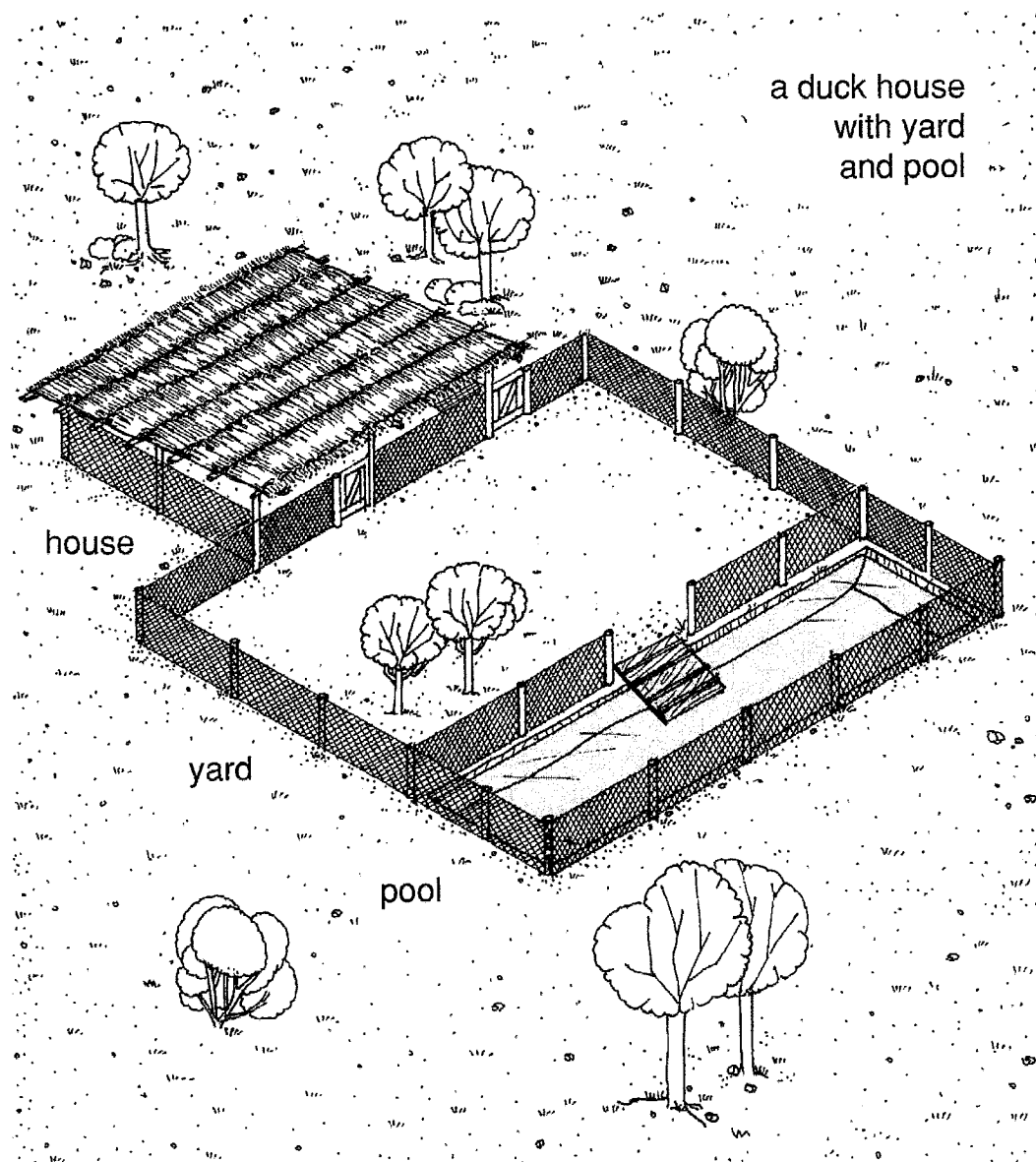
19. In the next booklet in this series, *Raising ducks 3*, you will be told how to:
  - continue with the same kind of ducks as you have now;
  - improve the same kind of ducks as you have now; by adding new, better ducks to your flock;

- start all over again with a different kind of duck.

### **A better shelter and where to put it**

20. Raising a flock with as many as 60 ducks will take much more space. So you will have to find a bigger place near where you live, or near where the families who will work with you live, to raise that many ducks.
21. With your first small flock your ducks were outside by themselves much of the time and you put them inside only at night. So you needed only a small shelter.
22. Now, with a much larger flock that will be kept inside more, you will need a bigger and better shelter or house.
23. You will also need an enclosed yard or run that they can use on the days when you do not let them out.
24. When you do let them out, your ducks will wander about looking for food. So try to find a place for your duck house and yard near where they might go. That way you can watch them better.
25. Remember, ducks need a lot of fresh water **to drink all of the time**. So if you could put their house and yard near good drinking water it would save you time later and make your job much easier.

26. Below is a drawing of a duck house and yard suitable for a larger flock. A small pool is also shown. You will learn how to build this and several others later (see pages 31 to 50 in this booklet).

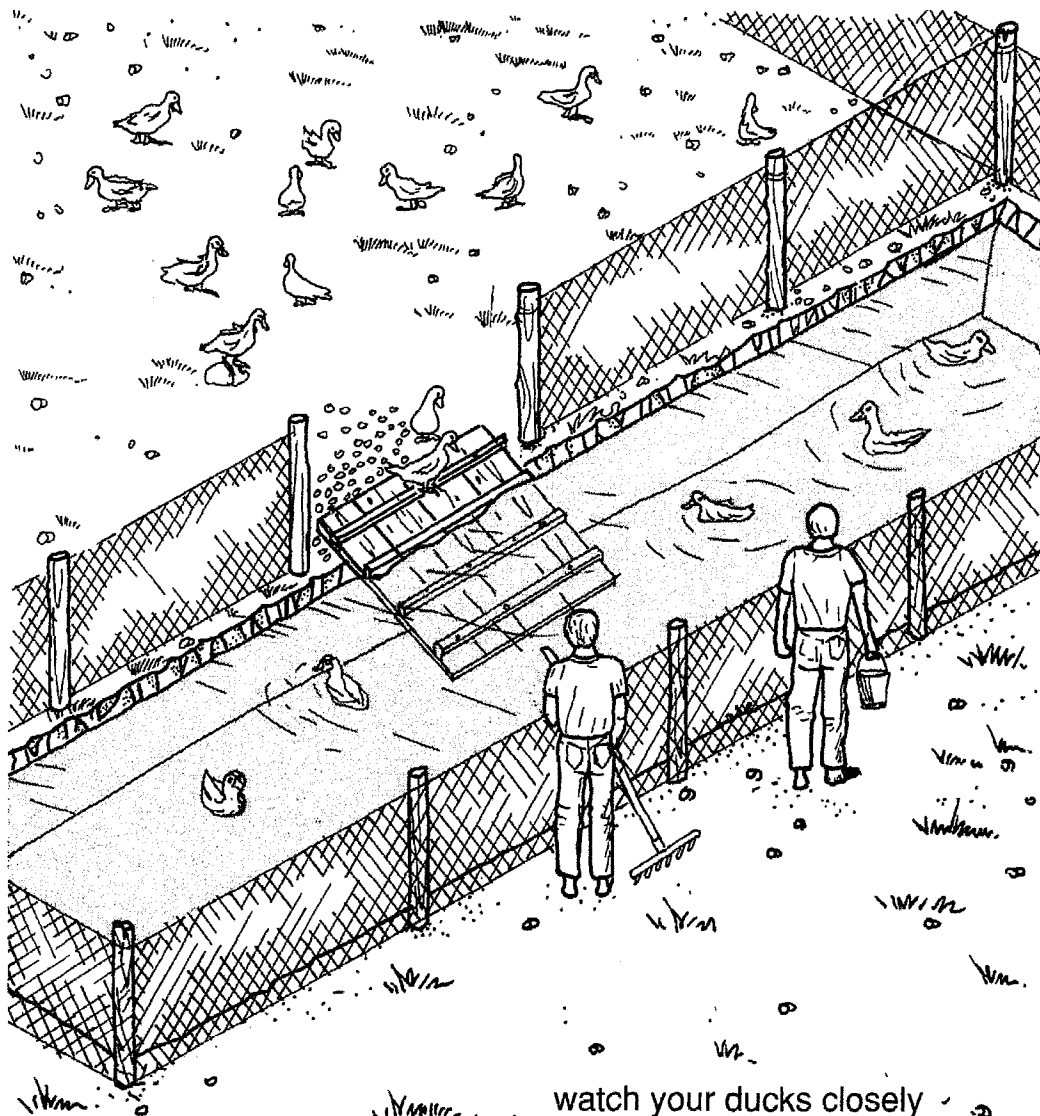


### More food and better food

27. Nearly all of the food that your first duck flock ate, they found for themselves. The only food that you fed them was leftover food from your family.

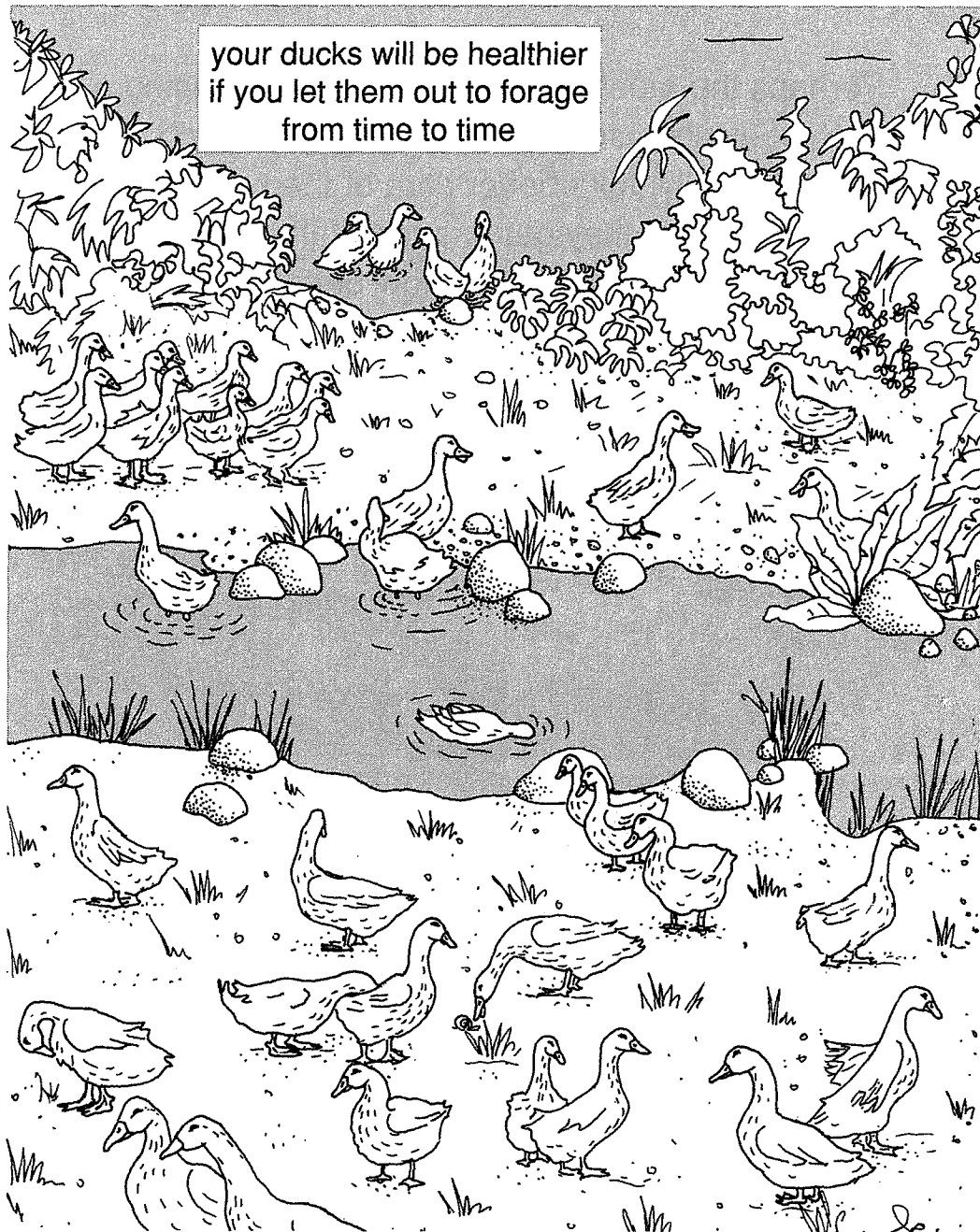


28. If you decide to raise a larger flock, you will have to be prepared to give them all of the food they need on the days they do not go out. Also, the food you give them will have to be a more complete diet than just leftovers from your family.
29. Perhaps the most important reason for keeping a flock of ducks inside is so that you can watch them carefully, take better care of them and make sure that they get enough of the right kinds of food. That way they will grow better and grow more quickly.



watch your ducks closely  
to see that they are well

30. However, it is also important to let your ducks out from time to time. Ducks are foragers by nature and they will be happier and healthier if they can go out.



31. Also, when they are out your ducks will find a lot to eat that is good for them, and what your ducks find to eat for themselves, you will not have to provide for them.

32. As with you and your family, the foods that ducks eat fall into a number of feed groups. The most important of these are:
- **energy feedstuffs:** grains and grain by-products, roots and tubers, oils and sugar-cane by-products;
  - **protein feedstuffs:** oil meals, fish and fish by-products;
  - **vitamins and minerals:** prepared vitamin and mineral mixes are best, but if you cannot get these you can use good-quality fresh forage and, in addition, give your ducks limestone, bone meal, dicalcium phosphate and salt.
33. If your ducks eat the right amount from each feed group every day, they will be strong and healthy just as you and your family are when you eat the right foods.
34. So you need to learn as much as you can about the kinds of duck feedstuffs that you can get where you live so that you can plan a good, balanced daily diet for them.
35. In addition, when your ducks are out, try to see what kinds of food they eat. That way, when they come home, you can give them the feeds needed to balance their diet for the day.
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36. In the first section of the next booklet, *Raising ducks 3, Feeding a larger flock of ducks*, you will learn more about feed groups and the kinds of food in each group.