AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

T RALEIGH

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE AND LIFE SCIENCES

OFFICE OF EXTENSION POULTRY SCIENCE
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November 19, 1975

Enclosed is the report of the growing period for the Seventeenth North Carolina Random Sample Laying Test which you have requested. Please circulate it among your associates in order that maximum use of it may be made. If additional copies are needed, the request should be sent to Mr. T. R. Burleson, Jr., Piedmont Research Station, Route 6, Box 420, Salisbury, North Carolina 28144.

Very truly yours,

Grady A. Martin

Extension Poultry Specialist

Mary a Million

SEVENTEENTH NORTH CAROLINA RANDOM SAMPLE LAYING TEST
Growing Report
March 28, 1975 through August 24, 1975

The North Carolina Random Sample Laying Tests are conducted under the auspices of the Agricultural Extension Service of North Carolina State University and the North Carolina Department of Agriculture. Mr. T. R. Burleson, Jr., is Resident Manager of the Tests and Dr. G. A. Martin is Project Leader. The purpose of the tests is to assist poultrymen in evaluating stocks of commercial layers and management systems.

Two cage management systems are compared to a combination half-litter and half-slat management system.

Samples of 1,080 freshly gathered eggs were taken at randomly selected supply flocks, or by random sampling from egg rooms when nest sampling was not feasible. Public employees in agriculture selected the samples, sealed the cases and sent them to the test site where all eggs were incubated; 360 sexed pullets (when available) were placed for each entry. Two pens of 60 birds each were placed on pine shavings litter-hardwood slat floors at 1.4 sq. ft. per bird for 150 days. Four groups of 60 each were placed in 24" x 20" wire cages. Floor space was 24 sq. in. for the first five weeks and 56 sq. in. from five weeks to 150 days. At 150 days, the litter-slat grown birds were randomly reduced to 50 birds and kept in the same pens at 1.74 sq. ft. per bird for the laying period (Table L). At the same time, two groups of the cage grown birds that had been detoed at day-old (Table K1) were randomly reduced to 50 birds each and housed in 24" x 20" cages at seven birds per cage. The other two groups which were not detoed were randomly reduced to 52 birds each and housed in 10" x 18" cages at two birds per cage (Table K3).



Commercial all-mash rations were purchased on contract. Starting mash (20% protein) was fed at a rate of 2.5 lbs. per bird; then growing mash (16% protein) was fed \underline{ad} \underline{lib} until housing at 150 days. Commercial laying mash is being fed during the laying period.

All birds were vaccinated at day-old for Marek's; Maag and Easterbrooks, Inc., Raleigh, N. C., provided the herpes virus of turkeys grown in duck cells. We express our appreciation to this organization and its personnel. No Marek's mortality was observed during the growing period.

All birds were debeaked at seven days; vaccinated for Newcastle and bronchitis by occular method at one day (LaSota) and with LaSota Newcastle at four weeks; vaccinated for Pox via wing-web at 9 weeks; vaccinated for Avian encephalomyelitis at 12 weeks, and vaccinated with LaSota Newcastle and bronchitis at 17 weeks.

In this test, North Carolina has limited entries to Category I. As in the previous test, Category I-A is stocks fully supported by the breeder or distributor, I-B is stocks acquired with approval of the breeder or distributor but without financial participation, and I-C is stocks acquired without approval of the breeder or distributor. The category of each entry is shown on the stock list and the cooperation column indicates if the breeder entered the stock and provided financial support (Yes), if the distributor made the entry (Dist.), or if the stock was acquired by the management without breeder or distributor request (No).

The facilities released by limiting entries in this test to ten are being used for a series of management research trials. We are attempting to identify the causes of the reduced egg numbers for caged birds when compared to birds housed in litter-slat pens. We express our appreciation to Babcock Poultry Farm, Inc., DeKalb AgResearch, Inc., Hubbard Farms, Inc., their distributors and Central Carolina Farmers, Inc. for providing extra hatching eggs to be used in this research. Research results will be published from time to time as completed.

The tables list, the combined data for the entry (Table 17G-C), the data for the litter-slat housing (Table 17G-L), cage growing for two-bird laying cages (Table 17G-K3), and detoed cage growing for seven-bird laying cages (Table 17G-K1). The entry number was drawn at random. The breeder is fully identified later, with stock identification, entry category, cooperator indication, and source of sample listed. Net pullets at I week excludes first week mortality, sexing errors, and accidental deaths. Mortality 8 through 150 days is average of group data. Average feed per pullet for 150 days is based on bird-days and does not charge against survivors the feed consumed by birds that died. Average body weight at 150 days is average weight of survivors. Feed and chick cost per pullet housed distributes the total cost of the net pullets at one week and the feed which they consumed equally among survivors and, therefore, includes the cost of mortality. Feed costs are based upon three-year averages of monthly price quotations from the N. C. Department of Agriculture. Chick prices are the threeyear average price per 10,000 quoted by distributors. Average eggs per pullet at 150 days indicates general maturity level of the entry at housing.

GROWING PERIOD - TABLE 17G-K1 (CAGES)

	try o. <u>Breeder</u>	Net Pul- lets at One Week	Mortality 8-150 Da.	Av. Pounds Feed/Pullet 150 Days	Av. Body Wt. at 150 Days	Feed & Chick Cost/Pullet Housed	Av. Eggs Per Pullet at 150 Da.
1	DeKalb (231)	111	0.0	15.1	2.83	\$ 1.48	0.22
2	Hy-Line (W-36)	114	0.9	14.8	2.82	1.45	0.06
3	Shaver (288)	105	3.8	15.7	3.08	1.51	0.16
4	Babcock (B-300)	117	1.7	15.4	2.93	1.51	0.53
5	Babcock (B-380)	120	1.7	16.6	3.48	1.61	0.00
6	DeK-Kimber (K-137)	120	0.8	15.0	2.86	1.48	0.03
7	Hubbard (Gld.Comet)	120	0.0	16.4	3.57	1.54	0.08
8	H&N ("Nick Chick")	117	2.5	14.8	2.78	1.46	0.16
9	Davis (Combiner)	108	6.4	18.7	3.96	1.83	0.00
10	Euribrid (Hisex White) 119	0.8	15.1	2.77	1.45	0.53
	Average	115	1.9	15.8	3.11	1.53	0.18
		GROWING	PERIOD - TA	BLE 17G-K3 (C	CAGES)		
1	DeKalb (231)	113	3.5	15.4	2.94	1.52	0.32
2	Hy-Line (W-36)	119	2.5	15.0	2,92	1.48	0.02
3	Shaver (288)	113	3.6	15.3	2.97	1.47	0.17
4	Babcock (B-300)	118	1.7	15.2	2.89	1.50	0.26
5	Babcock (B-380)	120	1.7	16.5	3.56	1.60	0.01
6	DeK-Kimber (K-137)	110	0.9	16.5	2.96	1.59	0.10
7	Hubbard (Gld.Comet)	118	5.9	16.7	3.46	1.64	0.06
8	H&N ("Nick Chick")	121	1.7	15.3	2.78	1.49	0.23
9	Davis (Combiner)	120	4.2	16.9	3.72	1.66	0.00
10	Euribrid (Hisex White	2) 115	0.0	15.4	2.89	1.46	0.91
	Average	117	2.6	15.8	3.11	1.54	0.21

GROWING PERIOD - TABLE 17G-C (AVERAGE)

	ntry No. <u>Breeder</u>	Net Pul- lets at One Week	Mortality 8-150 Da.	Av. Pounds Feed/Pullet 150 Days	Av. Body Wt. at 150 Days	Feed & Chick Cost/Pullet Housed	Av. Eggs Per Pullet at 150 Da.
1	DeKalb (231)	341	1.2	15.3	2.95	\$ 1.50	0.23
2	Hy-Line (W-36)	348	1.7	15.1	2.91	1.47	0.04
3	Shaver (288)	328	3.7	15.6	3.09	1.50	0.21
4	Babcock (B-300)	356	1.7	15.2	2.95	1.50	0.27
5	Babcock (B-380)	356	1.4	16.8	3.61	1.62	0.01
6	DeK-Kimber (K-137)	348	0.9	15.7	2.94	1.53	0.06
7	Hubbard (Gld.Comet)	357	2.8	16.8	3.61	1.60	0.09
8	H&N ("Nick Chick")	356	2.5	15.1	2.81	1.48	0.21
9	Davis (Combiner)	344	3.5	17.6	3.91	1.71	0.00
10	Euribrid (Hisex White)	353	0.3	15.3	2.90	1.46	0.71
	Average	349	2.0	15.8	3.17	1.54	0.18
	GROWING PERIOD - TABLE 17G-L (LITTER GROWN)						
1	DeKalb (231)	117	0.0	15.5	3.09	1.52	0.15
2	Hy-Line (W-36)	115	1.7	15.3	2.98	1.49	0.03
3	Shaver (288)	110	3.7	15.8	3.24	1.52	0.29
4	Babcock (B-300)	121	1.6	15.1	3.03	1.49	0.03
5	Babcock (B-380)	116	0.9	17.2	3.78	1.64	0.01
6	DeK-Kimber (K-137)	118	0.9	15.6	3.00	1.52	0.04
7	Hubbard (Gld.Comet)	119	2.5	17.1	3.82	1.60	0.12
8	H&N ("Nick Chick")	118	3.4	15.3	2.87	1.48	0.24
9	Davis (Combiner)	116	0.0	17.3	4.04	1.63	0.00
10	Euribrid (Hisex White)) 119	0.0	15.4	3.04	1.47	0.70
	Average	117	1.5	16.0	3.29	1.54	0.16

Breeder	Stock Identi- fication	Entry Cate- gory*	Source of Sample
Babcock Poultry Farm, Inc. Box 280 Ithaca, NY 14850	Babcock B-300 WL INX	I-A YES	Babcock Poultry Farm, Inc. Box 280 Ithaca, NY 14850
Babcock Poultry Farm, Inc. Box 280 Ithaca, NY 14850	Babcock B-380 RIRxSYN IBX	I-A YES	Babcock Poultry Farm, Inc. Box 280 Ithaca, NY 14850
Joe K. Davis Hatchery Box 27 Earl, NC 28038	Combiner Sex Link RIRxBPR BX	I-A YES	Joe K. Davis Hatchery Box 27 Earl, NC 28038
DeKalb AgResearch, Inc. Sycamore Road DeKalb, IL 60115	DeKalb 231 IBX	I-A YES	Cornwell Farm Center Clinton, NC 28328
DeKalb AgResearch, Inc. Sycamore Road DeKalb, IL 60115	DeKalb-Kimber 137 WL 4wSX	I-A YES	Moyer Chicks Quakertown, PA 18951
Euribrid B.U. by Pilch, Inc. Box 438, Troutman, NC 28166	Hisex White WL 3wSX	I-A YES	River View Poultry Farm Route 2, Camellton, New Brunswick, CANADA
H&N, Inc., Entry by Owens Hatchery, Inc. Dahlonega, GA 30533	H&N "Nick Chick" WL 4wSX	I-A DIST.	Owens Hatchery, Inc. Dahlonega, GA 30533
Hubbard Farms, Inc. Walpole, NH 03608	Hubbard Golden Comet NHxSYN BX	I-A YES	Hubbard Farms, Inc. Statesville, NC 28677
Hy-Line International 1206 Mulberry Des Moines, IO 50309	Hy-Line W-36 INX	I-C NO	Not Applicable
Shaver Poultry Breeding Farms, Ltd. : Box 400 Galt, Cambridge Ontario, NIR 5W6, CANADA	Starcross 288 WL SX	I-A YES	Delta Hatcheries Lake City, FL 32055

^{*}See Text. Seventeenth Test