Here is a summary of the past year’s Broiler Performance and Condemnation Data by Region and Company.

### Broiler Performance Data (Region)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SW</th>
<th>Midwest</th>
<th>Southeast</th>
<th>Mid-Atlantic</th>
<th>S-Central</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feed cost/ton w/o color ($)</td>
<td>119.59</td>
<td>110.62</td>
<td>129.24</td>
<td>129.80</td>
<td>124.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feed cost/lb meat ($)</td>
<td>11.36</td>
<td>10.78</td>
<td>12.51</td>
<td>12.86</td>
<td>11.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days to 4.6 lbs</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Med. cost/ton ($)</td>
<td>2.54</td>
<td>1.61</td>
<td>2.86</td>
<td>3.07</td>
<td>2.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chick cost/lb ($)</td>
<td>4.05</td>
<td>3.61</td>
<td>3.63</td>
<td>3.60</td>
<td>3.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vac-Med cost/lb ($)</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.12</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td>0.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WB &amp; 1/2 parts condemn. cost/lb</td>
<td>0.22</td>
<td>0.21</td>
<td>0.35</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>0.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% mortality</td>
<td>3.66</td>
<td>3.90</td>
<td>4.69</td>
<td>4.42</td>
<td>4.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sq. Ft. @ placement</td>
<td>0.76</td>
<td>0.74</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>0.74</td>
<td>0.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lbs./Sq. Ft.</td>
<td>6.25</td>
<td>7.62</td>
<td>6.99</td>
<td>7.40</td>
<td>6.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Down time (days)</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data for week ending 12/18/99

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**Year In Review**

September 1998 — September 1999

### Broiler Live Production Data

- **Feed cost/ton w/o color ($)**: 119.59, 110.62, 129.24, 129.80, 124.98
- **Feed cost/lb meat ($)**: 11.36, 10.78, 12.51, 12.86, 11.99
- **Days to 4.6 lbs**: 45, 44, 44, 44, 44
- **Med. cost/ton ($)**: 2.54, 1.61, 2.86, 3.07, 2.68
- **Chick cost/lb ($)**: 4.05, 3.61, 3.63, 3.60, 3.73
- **Vac-Med cost/lb ($)**: 0.05, 0.02, 0.12, 0.08, 0.09
- **WB & 1/2 parts condemn. cost/lb**: 0.22, 0.21, 0.35, 0.25, 0.31
- **% mortality**: 3.66, 3.90, 4.69, 4.42, 4.82
- **Sq. Ft. @ placement**: 0.76, 0.74, 0.75, 0.74, 0.81
- **Lbs./Sq. Ft.**: 6.25, 7.62, 6.99, 7.40, 6.83
- **Down time (days)**: 18, 17, 17, 16, 16

Data for week ending 12/18/99

Continued on page 2

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- Broiler Performance Data (Company) Page 2
- Broiler Whole Bird Condemnations (Region) Page 2
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- Broiler Whole Bird Condemnations (Company) Page 10
- Excerpts... "Broiler Hatchery" "Chicken and Eggs" and "Turkey Hatchery, ... Page 10
- Meetings, Seminars and Conventions Page 11
- Page 12
**Urgent Request**

We can no longer FAX copies of the Poultry Informed Professional Newsletter. To receive copies send your name, address, phone number and E-mail address to Sue Clanton at (706) 542-5630 or E-mail to: sclanton@arches.uga.edu

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**Broiler Live Production Data**

![Graph showing broiler live production data](image)

**Broiler Performance Data (Company)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Live Production Cost</th>
<th>Average Co.</th>
<th>Top 25%</th>
<th>Top 5 Cos.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feed cost/ton w/o color ($)</td>
<td>123.53</td>
<td>117.16</td>
<td>112.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feed cost/lb meat (¢)</td>
<td>12.06</td>
<td>11.39</td>
<td>11.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days to 4.6 lbs</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Med. cost/ton (¢)</td>
<td>2.74</td>
<td>1.80</td>
<td>1.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chick cost/lb (¢)</td>
<td>3.91</td>
<td>3.42</td>
<td>3.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vac-Med cost/lb (¢)</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WB &amp; 1/2 parts condemn. cost/lb</td>
<td>0.26</td>
<td>0.18</td>
<td>0.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% mortality</td>
<td>4.25</td>
<td>3.67</td>
<td>3.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sq. Ft. @ placement</td>
<td>6.78</td>
<td>7.32</td>
<td>7.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lbs./Sq. Ft.</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data for week ending 12/18/99

**Broiler Whole Bird Condemnation (Region)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SW</th>
<th>Mid-West</th>
<th>S. East</th>
<th>Mid-Atlantic</th>
<th>S. Central</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% Septox</td>
<td>0.309</td>
<td>0.341</td>
<td>0.293</td>
<td>0.361</td>
<td>0.333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Airsac</td>
<td>0.093</td>
<td>0.050</td>
<td>0.388</td>
<td>0.147</td>
<td>0.291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% I.P.</td>
<td>0.054</td>
<td>0.072</td>
<td>0.318</td>
<td>0.128</td>
<td>0.177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Leukosis</td>
<td>0.006</td>
<td>0.004</td>
<td>0.003</td>
<td>0.019</td>
<td>0.006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Bruise</td>
<td>0.009</td>
<td>0.006</td>
<td>0.022</td>
<td>0.012</td>
<td>0.017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Other</td>
<td>0.024</td>
<td>0.006</td>
<td>0.038</td>
<td>0.016</td>
<td>0.023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Total</td>
<td>0.495</td>
<td>0.478</td>
<td>1.062</td>
<td>0.683</td>
<td>0.647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% 1/2 parts condemnations</td>
<td>0.379</td>
<td>0.373</td>
<td>0.331</td>
<td>0.310</td>
<td>0.386</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data for week ending 12/18/99
## Broiler Whole Bird Condemnation (Region)

### % Total

- **Sep-98**: 1.8
- **Oct-98**: 1.4
- **Nov-98**: 1.0
- **Dec-98**: 0.6
- **Jan-99**: 0.0
- **Feb-99**: 0.4
- **Mar-99**: 0.2
- **Apr-99**: SW
- **May-99**: Mid-West
- **Jun-99**: S. East
- **Jul-99**: Mid-Atlantic
- **Aug-99**: S. Central
- **Sep-99**: 0.5

### % 1/2 parts condemnations

- **Sep-98**: 0.6
- **Oct-98**: 0.4
- **Nov-98**: 0.2
- **Dec-98**: 0.0
- **Jan-99**: SW
- **Feb-99**: Mid-West
- **Mar-99**: S. East
- **Apr-99**: Mid-Atlantic
- **May-99**: S. Central
- **Jun-99**: 0.1
- **Jul-99**: 0.3
- **Aug-99**: 0.5
- **Sep-99**: 0.6
West Nile Virus

An outbreak of human illness due to a “West Nile-like” virus has been diagnosed in the New York City area that has caused 5 deaths and over 50 additional cases with viral meningitis. West Nile virus is a mosquito-borne virus that has never before been diagnosed in the Western Hemisphere. The outbreak was detected in mid-August, and the last human case was diagnosed on September 16th. Public health officials have encouraged people to take precautions to reduce exposure to mosquitoes, and an intensive mosquito spraying program was implemented.

West Nile virus is within a large group of viral agents that are spread by biting arthropods, hence the classification arthropod-borne virus or “arbovirus.” Originally discovered over 60 years ago in Uganda, West Nile virus has been found in countries throughout Africa, the Middle East, southern Europe, the Mediterranean and Eurasia. Human illness usually manifests as flu-like symptoms such as fever, headache, muscle soreness, sore throat, and rash. Severe cases involve inflammation of the brain and meninges (meningo-encephalitis) and heart (myocarditis). Overall mortality in people ranges from 3-15% and is skewed toward the elderly.

West Nile virus has been isolated from over 40 species of mosquitoes and also some ticks. In nature, the virus cycles between apparently healthy birds and biting mosquitoes, and birds are considered the maintenance vertebrate hosts for the agent. The current problem in the New York area is unique from previous occurrences because wild birds actually are dying from infection. Hardest hit have been American crows; crow mortality events have been seen in New York, Connecticut and New Jersey. The New York Department of Environmental Conservation has examined over 70 confirmed cases. One well-publicized site of recognition occurred at the Bronx Zoo where multiple bird species including a bald eagle, Chilean flamingos, exotic pheasants, and an exotic cormorant died. Native birds with confirmed mortality include American crow, fish crow, bluejay, laughing gull, American robin, rock dove, mallard, sandhill crane and black-crowned night heron.

Wildlife and public health authorities in the region are considering crows to be an “indicator” species for viral activity because of their apparent susceptibility, and diagnostic investigations of bird mortality events are encouraged, particularly for corvids such as crows, ravens and jays. The pattern for death losses in crows is an accumulation of individual bird mortalities over time in contrast to a sudden event such as a pesticide poisoning. Therefore, even the deaths of a few crows may be significant. Necropsy findings are non-specific and include weight loss, heart muscle necrosis, enlarged spleen and liver, hemorrhage in the upper intestine and on liver surface, and occasionally, visible inflammation of the brain.

West Nile virus is not considered infectious to human beings via handling infected birds, but persons are encouraged to avoid bare-handed contact with bird carcasses. Sick crows or crows dead less than 36 hours are considered suitable diagnostic specimens. Carcasses should be double-bagged and refrigerated immediately for submittal to a diagnostic laboratory. If the bird cannot be shipped within 24 hours, the bird should be frozen, preferable on dry ice. If a necropsy is performed, the desired specimens include brain, heart, spleen, kidney, lung, liver and 1 ml of serum, all frozen on dry ice. The National Wildlife Health Center in Madison, Wisconsin, is requesting notification of any unusual bird mortality (Dr. Linda Glaser, 608-270-2446, or Dr. Kathryn Converse, 608-270-2445). If SCWDS can be of assistance, please contact us at 706-542-1741.

Submitted by Dr. Victor Nettles, Director, SCWDS
College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Georgia

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Excerpts from the latest
USDA National Agricultural
Statistics Service (NASS)
“Broiler Hatchery,”
“Chicken and Eggs” and
“Turkey Hatchery” Reports
were up 3 percent from the comparable week in 1998. Cumulative placements from January 3, 1999, through December 25,1999, were 7.26 billion, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

**Broiler Eggs Set In 15 Selected States Up Slightly**

According to the most recent National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports, commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set in incubators 180 million eggs during the week ending December 25,1999. This was up slightly from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 82 percent.

**Broiler Chicks Placed Up 3 Percent**

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 144 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 25,1999. Placements were up 3 percent from the comparable week in 1998. Cumulative placements from January 3, 1999, through December 25,1999, were 7.26 billion, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

**November Egg Production Up 4 Percent**

U.S. egg production totaled 7.02 billion during November 1999, up 4 percent from the 6.72 billion produced in 1998. Production included 5.96 billion table eggs and 1.06 billion hatching eggs, of which 997 million were broiler-type and 61.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during November 1999 averaged 328 million, up 3 percent from the total average number of layers during November 1998. November egg production per 100 layers was 2,139 eggs, up 1 percent from 2,109 eggs in November 1998.

All layers in the U.S. on December 1, 1999, totaled 329 million, up 3 percent from a year ago. The 329 million layers consisted of 270 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 55.8 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.73 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on December 1, 1999, averaged 71.6 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from the 70.8 a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing states produced 6.59 billion eggs during November, up 4 percent from November 1998. The average number of layers during November, at 309 million was up 2 percent from a year earlier.

**Egg-Type Chicks Hatched Up 6 Percent**

Egg-type chicks hatched during November totaled 33.1 million, up 6 percent from November 1998. **Eggs in incubators totaled 30.0 million on December 1, 1999, down 7 percent from a year ago.**

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 282,000 during November 1999, up 30 percent from November 1998.

**Broiler Hatch Down 1 Percent**

The November 1999 hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 674 million, was down 1 percent from November of the previous year. There were 614 million eggs in incubators on December 1, 1999, down 1 percent from a year earlier.


**Turkey Eggs in Incubators on December 1 Up 2 Percent From Last Year**

Turkey eggs in incubators on December 1, 1999, in the United States totaled 31.3 million, up 2 percent from December 1 a year ago. Eggs in incubators were up 9 percent from the November 1 total of 28.8 million. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central, up 2 percent; West North Central, up 4 percent; North and South Atlantic, unchanged; South Central, up 3 percent; and West, down 8 percent.

**Poults Placed During November Up 6 Percent**

The 23.5 million poult s placed during November 1999 in the United States were up 6 percent from the number placed during the same month a year ago. Placements were up 5 percent from the October total of 22.3 million. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central, up 6 percent; West North Central, up 10 percent; North and South Atlantic, up 8 percent; South Central, down 2 percent; and West, down 6 percent.
Meetings, Seminars and Conventions

2000

January

Jan. 6-8: National Turkey Federation Annual Convention, Hilton Walt Disney World Hotel, Orlando, FL. Contact NTF at (202) 898-0100.

Jan. 16-21: Feed Tour 2000 — Watt USA Feed Tour 2000, visiting top feed mills in southeastern states plus IPE 2000 in Atlanta, Georgia USA. Contact: Cindy Ditzler, Feed Tour 2000, 122 South Wesley Ave., Mt. Morris, IL 61054-1497, USA. Fax: +1 815-734-4201; e-mail: wattlefeedtour@hotmail.com; website: www.wattle.net

Jan. 10-15: Southern Poultry Science Society Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia. Contact: Dr. Gene Pest, Department of Poultry Science, Livestock and Poultry Building, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602 USA. Phone: +1 706-542-1321; Fax: +1 706-542-1827.


February


Feb. 22-23: Antimicrobial Resistance Wkshp., DoubleTree Hotel, Rockville, Md. Contact: U.S. Food & Drug Administration, Center for Veterinary Medicine, Office of Management and Communications, HFV-12, 7500 Standish Place, Rockville, Md. 20855. Phone: 301-594-1755.


March

March 4-7: 49th Western Poultry Disease Conference, Capitol Plaza Holiday Inn, Sacramento, CA. Contact: Lina Laykietz at 530-757-3331; e-mail: events@ucdavis.edu. Web site: conferences.ucdavis.edu


March 15-16: 29th Annual Midwest Poultry Federation Convention, RiverCentre, St. Paul, MN. Contact: Laura Ginsburg at 651-646-4553; Fax: 651-646-4545.


March 29-30: Nebraska Poultry Industries Annual Convention, New World Inn, Highway 30 and 81 South, Columbus, NE. Contact: Nebraska Poultry Industries, Inc., A103 Animal Sciences, University of Nebraska, P.O. Box 830908, Lincoln, NE 68583-0908. Phone: 402-473-2051.

April

April 5-7: Food Irradiation 2000, “A food safety process for the new millennium”, will be held at the Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington, Virginia (Washington DC). Contact: Deborah Crommertt, Conference Co-ordinator, Intertech Conferences, 411 US Route One, Portland, Maine 04105 USA, Fax: (207) 781-2150.

April 12-13: Poultry Industry Exhibition, Western Fairgrounds, London, ON. Sponsored by the Ontario Poultry Industry Council. Contact Phone: (519) 837-0284; Fax: (519) 837-3584; e-mail: pic@easynet.ca


May

May 4-5: National Breeders Roundtable, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: U.S. Poultry & Egg Assoc., 1530 Cooledge Road, Tucker, GA 30094. Phone: 770-493-9401.

June

June 1-3: AP&EA Convention, Birmingham, AL. Contact: Alabama Poultry & Egg Association, P.O. Box 240, Montgomery, AL 36101-0240. Phone: 334-265-2732.


July

July 2-6: Xth International Congress on Animal Hygiene, Maastricht, The Netherlands. Contact: Royal Netherlands Veterinary Association, P.O. Box 14031, NL-3508 SB Utrecht, The Netherlands. Fax: +31 30 251 1787.

July 6-14: XXth Gala International Symposium/Workshop on Rapid Methods and Automation in Microbiology, Manhattan, Kansas, Contact: Daniel Y.O. Fung, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506-1600. Phone: 785-532-5654; Fax: 785-532-5681; dfung@oz.oznet.ksu.edu; http://www.dec.ksu.edu/dec/con/microbiology