



FARM and GARDEN NEWS



Turkey Profits Often Depend On Timing Maturity; Faster Feeding Required For Hens

It's this season of the year when marketing is about completed that many turkey producers sit back to size up their check and ask: "My turkey flock averaged a dollar profit per bird; my neighbor's returned \$2—what made the difference?"

Among the host of possible answers, Noel Bennion, O.S.C. extension poultry specialist, says age of the bird at the time it was killed is a profit factor too

often overlooked. He points out that it is a mistake to market turkeys before they are in prime condition; it is also poor economy to hold them after they are ready for market.

Efficient producers, according to Bennion, know that hen turkeys reach prime condition at 24 to 26 weeks of age. Toms are normally two weeks slower—26 to 28 weeks. Marketing plans are made with those facts in mind. Bennion declares, if the utmost profit is to be received.

The amount of feed required to produce a pound of gain gradually increases after market turkeys, both toms and hens, reach prime condition. Figures released by Bennion indicate feeding requirements for hens increase faster than for toms. He cites this example: If hens are ready for market at 25 weeks and are held over, it would take about nine pounds of feed to produce a pound of gain the 26th week; 11 pounds the 27th, and 14 pounds the 28th week.

With toms it takes about 6 1/2 pounds of feed to produce a pound of gain during the 26th week; seven pounds at the 27th week, and 7 1/2 pounds of feed for a pound of gain at 28 weeks. Toms will eat about 50 per cent more feed in a week than

Farm Production Under AG Policy Hangs Up Record

The record farm production of 1948 is but a part of the return on the investment in conservation farming for the past 12 years, says E. Harvey Miller, chairman of the Oregon State PMA Committee. "The Nation's assistance to farmers to help them carry out soil and water conservation practices is really paying off."

Conservation, of course, would not entirely overcome extremely unfavorable weather nor widespread losses from insects and disease but it does make possible increased yields from better strains, more efficient methods and improved insect and disease control. Without the right kind of soil conditions these other improvements would still be ineffective.

Under the Agricultural Conservation Program, the chairman points out, farming of this country have in the past 12 years terraced 14,177,000 acres, about 700,000 miles; constructed 680,000 erosion and flood control dams on farms and ranches; planted 622,000 acres of trees, seeded 102,000,000 acres of crops on the contour; applied 185,947,000 tons of lime to 104,733,000 acres of farmland and applied 15,789 tons of phosphate fertilizer to 123,440,000 acres to make possible the growing of legumes for soil improvement and erosion control; established 62,214,000 acres of strip-cropping for wind and water erosion control; grew and plowed under 198,180,000 acres of cover and green manure crops to add organic matter and build resistance to erosion.

hens, Bennion states, but they still produce the cheapest gains, as they grow more quickly.

It requires from 4 to 4 1/2 pounds of feed to produce a pound of gain with a 25-pound tom while 4 1/2 to 5 pounds of feed is required to add a pound to a 15-pound hen.

Dr. E. W. Carter

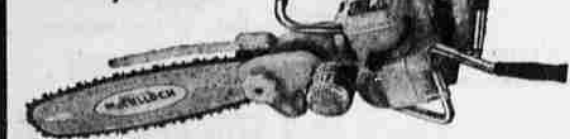
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the FEED BAG

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No. 3 UMPQUA CHIEF FLOUR and Umpqua Brand Poultry and Dairy Feeds

Oh, Yes, That Advice

Like we said last week, we'll take up a subject each week and give you our honest opinion. By the way, have you seen the booklet the County Agent is sending out, called "Oregon Farms"? Shows income from farms in Oregon \$455 million, compared to income from timber only \$380 millions. Even better than we thought.

And poultry ranks very high among the items of farm income. Unfortunately, it is not segregated, but we all know Oregon produces heaps of eggs, turkeys and other poultry products.

We feel no hesitancy whatever in recommending that you maintain or even increase your production of chickens, whether for egg production or meat. Our reason for such high optimism stems from 35 years in, or closely associated with the poultry business.

In all that 35 years, which includes the late lamented "depression" we have never seen a year when a good operator couldn't make good returns on labor and capital in the poultry business. And any business that consistently produced profits during the last 35 years can certainly be counted on to repeat at least one more year.

Besides, we have less risk to assume than would have been possible, let us say 15 years ago. Nowadays we have better breeding, meaning more possible egg production. Better feeds, meaning better efficiency from feed, the greatest item in cost of producing eggs.

Better markets, 20 years ago we sold our eggs in New York, and considerable effort was involved. Nowadays California begs for them, and we save the transportation. In one week ending Christmas day, the equivalent of 77 1/2 cars of eggs crossed California borders in trucks alone. These came from Nebraska, Minnesota and other eastern states. In addition 74 cars loaded came in by rail in the same week. (Plus 13 cars of dressed poultry from way back east.)

And to top it all off, our Uncle Samuel is going to "support" the price of eggs and poultry at 90% of parity. With a deal like we have outlined, how in heck can you lose in the poultry business? As we see it, it looks a heap safer than depending on a job in the woods or a

sawmill. So our advice is to order your chicks today. Come in and talk it over.

Classified Section

EVERYTHING for the baby chick. R.V. Lite, the best in artificial glass for the front of the brooder house—Feeders and water fountains; all sizes, metal and glass, sanitary and convenient. "DAB," the paint that molds your metal troughs and pans, all at the Flour Mill.

HAVE you bought your brooders yet? At the Flour Mill we can furnish you with coal, gas, oil, electric or wood brooder stoves, floor models or upright battery brooders. Just name what you want, and we'll get it for you. And the price will be right. Your choice of several different makes, too.

FOR SALE: 4 used oil brooders, two nearly new, used only once, 500-chick size; one electric 500, fan type. Ask at the Mill, or see Ed Peterson, Brockway.

MARK YOUR BIRDS, Toe punches; leg bands all sizes. Douglas Flour Mill.

Sheep Cubes—Ba-a-h!

Guide: This castle is just like it was 300 years ago! Nothing altered, nothing repaired, nothing replaced.

Tourist: Gosh, they must have the same landlord we have.

The weatherman has been helping us to sell UMPQUA SHEEP CUBES, but we feel sure you have made a profit by feeding them, too. Fact is, we have used up several cartloads of low priced ingredients. We figured to have enough to run through the whole season, but, as we said, the weatherman sided with us, and now we have to go onto some more expensive stuff. Means only one thing. Much as we hate to do it, we are forced to hike the price. The quality will be as good, probably just a teeny mite better, and the price will have to be \$67.00 a ton, or \$3.35 cwt.

As Dad used to say when he took us out to the woodshed: "This hurts me worse than it does you, son." We didn't hardly believe him, and you probably won't quite agree with us either. But we wanted you to know we didn't raise the price just because the weather got so darn bad.

On That Bum Feed

Lon Hunt runs a nice little "breeder-farm-hatchery" up at Sutherland. He has been doing some careful work to eliminate broodiness in his New Hampshires, and he has something to show for it. Out of 160 birds tested in September, he has just removed—(via the chopping block)—the second bird to go broody. Just imagine not having to break up broody hens. We won't take away any of Lon's glory, but he is feeding UMPQUA BREEDER'S MASH. Helps to keep 'em on the job.

Howard Mickelson is a newcomer from Dakota. Down below Umpqua, and started a big broiler plant. Had awful tough luck—big fire cleaned out the brooder house, 1800 chicks, some valuable tools, feed, etc.

Just a day or so before the fire Howard weighed some of the chicks, and found 6-week-old birds weighing as much as one and three-quarter pounds. That HELLO BROILER LATION was sure doing its stuff. Too bad he couldn't have had four more weeks. But he will start again.

Shopper: Aren't pillows rather high?
Clerk: Yes, lady; you see, down is way up.

Green Grass

After this freeze-up we won't see any grass that will be more than just stuffing for a long time. There won't be any real feed value in it till we get all new growth.

In addition to UMPQUA MILKMAKER or O. K. CHOP, why not feed the faithful old cow some beet pulp? Laxative, how they do love it. It is sweet, and serves the same purpose for a cow as candy does for us. Besides, beet pulp has just about the same feeding value as corn, figured on a pound-for-pound basis.

We hope by the time you read this that our "unusual" winter is over. But if not, you can still help your biddies keep in production by taking out warm water every morning. Surprising how much more they will drink. One of our customers finds that his turkeys drink much better when he warms the water containing their medicine. That's a new one for us, but something for you to keep in mind.

He's a Friend to the End



The collie and his pal were romping in Flint, Mich. Then the black dog was hit by a car, and killed. The faithful collie stood guard over his dead friend, at the spot where he was hit. He refused to leave the body until the black dog's owner claimed his body—almost 24 hours later.

Stockmen Warned Against Too Much Federal Aid

PORTLAND, Jan. 17.—(AP)—Stockmen can look forward to good business times, but they should be wary about seeking government aid.

That was the advice of President Ira D. Staggs, Baker, to the Oregon Wool Growers Association here Friday.

He told the group that demand for meat and clothing, plus a downward trend in the amount of livestock, would result in good prices and market conditions. He warned, however, that too much dependency on government aid would lead to socialization. L. H. Douglas, Forest Service employee, urged a campaign for federal funds to improve public ranges for grazing. He said there have been no such appropriations for 30 years.

Excess DDT in Soil Causes Crop Stunting

PULLMAN, Wash.—(AP)—Too much DDT in soil can stunt crops, a preliminary research study at Washington State College indicates.

T. A. Merrill, division chairman, said the study by the horticulture department of the Agricultural Experiment Station was not conclusive. More information is needed, he said.

The early tests showed that

Holstein Cow at Prison Sets Production Record

WALLA WALLA.—(AP)—A cow that set an all-time production record for the state recently bears the number 1053 on the books of the State Prison.

The nine-year-old inmate, formerly known as Strelacoom Yvonne Canary, yielded 1010.8 pounds of butter fat in a 365-day lactation period. M. B. Nichols, extension dairyman at Washington State College, said the Holstein cow's production mark is the largest recorded by the State Dairy Herd Improvement Association.

Stabled at the State Prison, the Holstein produced the record amount in three daily milkings over the entire period.

Experiments in Lamb Feeding Reveal Gains

LUBBOCK, Tex.—(AP)—Experiments to compare results of feeding martin milo and plainsman milo to lambs are under way at Texas Technological College here.

One group of lambs was given a mixture of martin, alfalfa and cottonseed meal. These lambs showed a gain of .52 of a pound a day per lamb.

Another group was fed on a pure of plainsman, cottonseed meal and alfalfa. These lambs showed a gain of .51 of a pound per day. Other lambs started grazing a field of martin milo. Gains averaged .48 pound per head daily.

Development Of Oregon Farms Not Yet at Maximum

Oregon is neither a land of limitless opportunity for developing additional profitable farms, nor is it a state which has reached the peak of its agricultural development, according to a summary of Oregon's agricultural possibilities by Dr. M. L. Upchurch, former associate agricultural economist of the O.S.C. experiment station.

In a new station bulletin No. 459, "Oregon's Capacity to Produce," Dr. Upchurch bases his conclusion on the assumption that any practical expansion will be made with no material increase in the relative per unit cost of production. With unlimited labor and capital, he points out, almost unlimited production could be obtained from any given area of land.

Future expansion of production will come largely from a more intensive job of farming land already used for crop purposes rather than from bringing new land under cultivation, he predicts. About 50,000 to 60,000 additional acres are in sight for future irrigation development, around 10,000 acres might be cleared of timber or brush, and a few thousand acres might be reclaimed by drainage. Balancing these gains might be some decrease in crop acreage, particularly in the Columbia basin where some wheat lands are marginal in nature.

Although Oregon's five million acres of crop land may not be materially increased, wide possibilities exist for changes in the state's agriculture which will depend on various economic factors in the future.

"Less wasteful methods of irrigation can be followed that will permit more production from present water supplies," Dr. Upchurch reports. "Wider use of fertilizers will increase production. Better drainage of present land areas will help greatly. Use of better seeds and better breeding stock will increase the efficiency of production. Definite progress is being made along all of these lines."

Expansion of livestock production through improved ranges in both eastern and western Oregon is pointed to as one of the chief possibilities for future agricultural development.

Plans for Fall Bazaar Made by Azalea Grange

The Azalea Home Economics Club met Thursday at the Grange Hall. A potluck luncheon was served at 1 o'clock to Mrs. Walter Tanner, Mrs. Grace Newman, Mrs. Gertrude Young, Mrs. Betty Lovell, Miss Violet Foreman, Mrs. Anna Scott, Mrs. Clara Sloper,

Mrs. Lueta Rife, Mrs. Virginia Cripps, Mrs. Sylvia Janzer, Mrs. Velma Anderson and Mrs. Frank Hill.

Mrs. Lovell, secretary, conducted the business meeting. Mrs. Mary Mullarkey was appointed Home Economics chairman, and Mrs. Cripps, vice-chairman. Plans were made for the bazaar to be held in the fall.

Less Meat Buying May Mean More For Other Things

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—(AP)—The Agriculture Department reported signs that the nation's appetite for meat may be slipping back toward prewar levels.

The Department said consumers were spending only about six percent of their income for meat by the end of 1948—nearly one percent less than they were spending six months earlier.

Meat bills averaged 6.3 percent of incomes in 1947 compared with around 5.5 percent in the late thirties.

Officials said this easing in demand for meat at a time when the national income still is rising may reflect heavier spending for non-food items, such as automobiles, television sets, household appliances and the like.

Looking ahead, the Department said meat production is likely to decline moderately in the early part of this year, then increase later in the year. A decline in supplies is likely to be matched by some increase in prices. But larger supplies in the fall can be expected to bring lower prices.

The Department said production of all meats combined may be about the same this year as last.

New Officers Installed By Grange at Azalea

Azalea Grange Friday night, Jan. 7, held installation of officers with Jim Croff serving as installing officer. Mrs. Betty Lovell was regalia bearer, Mrs. Clara Sloper, emblem, and Mrs. Violet Foreman, chaplain.

Officers installed were Louis Brady, master; Donald Snyder, overseer; Harold Foreman, steward; Howard Chivaras, assistant steward; Marcella Chivaras, lady assistant steward; Ila Tripp, chaplain; Anna Scott, lecturer; Hiram Hauk, treasurer; Grace Croff, secretary; Frank Robeson, gate keeper; Marilyn Croff, Flora; Marjorie Fisher, Ceres; Priscilla Rife, Pomona. Executive Committee members include Richard Keatinge, Joe Foreman and Roy Snyder.

The retiring Home Economics chairman, Mrs. Glenora Tanner, reported a total of \$571.71 was taken in by the club in 1948. Refreshments were served at 11 p. m. by Mrs. Joe Anderson, Mrs. Ethel Ashcroft and Mrs. Doris Brady.

More Wheat Stored On Oregon Farms This Year

PORTLAND, Jan. 17.—(AP)—Wheat stored on Oregon farms is about 50 percent more than a year ago.

The U. S. crop reporting service estimated the Jan. 1 total on the farm was 3,805,000 bushels. The service added, however, that the total was 21 percent below the 10-year average.

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FARMERS NOTICE

Cometco Brand Ammonium Sulphate now available. Supply of Ammonium Sulphate will be short this spring season. It is advisable to place orders at once with your dealer. If he cannot supply you, telephone or write direct to our plant.

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