

*[Cost of prod. studies]
Pullet*

PULLET REPLACEMENT COSTS 1968

Condensed from report by Don Bell-Farm Advisor
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In 1967, a study was undertaken to determine information about raising replacement pullets. All costs involved of raising replacement pullets were considered. Included are mortality rates, labor requirements, feed consumption and cost and body weight at 8, 16, 20, and 24 weeks of age.

The eight weeks of age showed a 7.7 cents difference in cost which was attributed mainly to labor requirement costs and a higher rate of mortality in the higher cost group.

By 16 weeks of age a 5 cents difference in feed cost per survivor pullet developed. Labor and chick cost made up another 5 cents difference in cost. The higher mortality of the higher cost group contributed to the higher costs involved. Three or four of the ranches at 16 weeks had already experienced severe losses from Mareks disease.

The 20 weeks of age costs are most interesting since this is the age that many started pullets are purchased. These costs do not include a profit or return to operator which the started pullet operator must claim to justify his business. The differences in costs per pullet between the two groups of high and low cost has extended to 20 cents per pullet.

By 24 weeks of age 5 flocks had over 20% mortality of which 4 were attributed to Mareks disease and the remaining heavy loss ranch was due to an early outbreak of laryngotracheitis. The highest user of feed used the most feed due to the method of analysis which is based on all feed used per survivor.

Low costs alone are no measure of the true value of pullets produced. These cost figures provide mainly a guidepost for industry comparisons.

Don Bell concludes his study with the comment that a few cents savings in cost may be offset by improvements in performance.

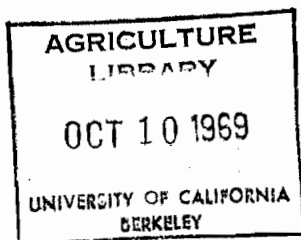
1% higher production is worth 5¢ per hen

5% more large eggs is worth 5½¢ per hen

.1 pound less feed per dozen eggs is worth 6½¢ per hen

Robert H. Adolph

Robert H. Adolph, Farm Advisor
San Diego County
RHA/nls



(over)

DEFINITION OF TERMS

All costs are based on the number of survivors at a particular age. Feed, chicks, fuel, medication, vaccine and labor charged as they occurred. Others are charged proportionately.

1. FEED - This represents net feed cost with discounts taken off, medication costs removed and hauling charges added when necessary.

2. CHICKS - Total cost of chicks including all discounts divided by the total number delivered including extras.

3. FUEL - Brooder fuel only. Actual record, in some cases it represents an estimate. Both natural and bottled gas are included.

4. ELECTRICITY - Estimate based on the total wattage used at a standard 1¢ per KWH. Where separate billing was available we used these.

5. MEDICATION - This included all feed, water or injectable medication (not vaccines).

6. VACCINES - This includes the net cost of the vaccine used for a particular farm's vaccination program. No vaccination labor was included in this item.

7. LABOR - This was based on a careful analysis by the owner for each job. Wage rates were actual. When the owner was involved we used \$1.75 per hour. Fringe benefits would add an additional 10-15% to the labor costs quoted.

8. DEPRECIATION - A new value was used for all buildings and equipment at a 10-year depreciation rate.

9. INTEREST - Buildings and equipment were valued at one-half of new value. Land was valued at market value for bare land in the farm's area. Investment in the pullets was considered to be 70¢ for each pullet at 12 weeks of age. A 6% interest rate was used.

10. TAXES - A 25% assessment rate for the values used in the interest category at a rate of \$8.00 per \$100.

11. MANAGEMENT CHARGE - This item is intended to cover the charge for the management that went into the operation. One cent per original pullet was used.

12. MISCELLANEOUS - This item includes water, repairs, small equipment, veterinary fees, disinfectants, etc. A 1¢ per original chick charge was added for overhead to cover office expenses, supplies, telephone, etc.

13. BODY WEIGHT - The average weight of 100 pullets per strain.

14. MORTALITY - This includes all losses whether by culling or death. Roosters were included in this category.

15. EGG INCOME - The value of eggs is calculated at 15¢ per dozen.

16. AVERAGE - Means a simple average of the individual items. The total may not be the same because of rounding.

PULLET COST STUDY SUMMARY LOW COST TEN, AVERAGE ALL, AND HIGH COST TEN RECORDS

Cost Items per survivor	8 WKS SUMMARY			16 WKS SUMMARY			20 WKS SUMMARY			24 WKS SUMMARY		
	Av. Low Cost	Av. Cost All 30 Records	Av. High Cost	Av. Low Cost	Av. Cost All 30 Records	Av. High Cost	Av. Low Cost	Av. Cost All 30 Records	Av. High Cost	Av. Low Cost	Av. Cost All 30 Records	Av. High Cost
	1/3	1/3	1/3	1/3	1/3	1/3	1/3	1/3	1/3	1/3	1/3	1/3
Feed	15.9¢	16.6¢	17.1¢	45.3¢	46.9¢	50.6¢	61.3¢	63.4¢	66.0¢	80.2¢	80.0¢	81.8¢
Chicks	27.1	28.4	29.9	28.1	29.6	30.8	28.3	30.4	33.1	27.8	31.0	34.1
Fuel	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.0	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.3
Electricity	.3	.2	.2	.4	.5	.5	.6	.6	.6	.6	.7	.7
Medication	.4	.8	1.3	1.3	1.9	2.7	1.5	2.4	3.8	1.7	2.9	4.7
Vaccine	1.6	1.6	2.0	3.5	3.5	3.7	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.9	4.4	4.1
Labor	3.2	4.2	4.7	7.0	8.5	9.6	9.8	10.9	12.7	10.9	12.5	15.0
Depreciation	2.8	2.9	3.2	5.6	6.1	6.9	6.6	7.6	8.6	9.1	9.6	10.9
Interest	1.7	1.7	1.9	3.4	3.6	3.7	4.0	4.5	5.0	5.3	5.8	6.4
Taxes	.5	.5	.6	.9	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.7	2.0
Management	.3	.3	.3	.7	.7	.7	.9	.9	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.2
Miscellaneous	.5	.6	.6	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.7	1.6	1.8	2.2
Egg Income	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-9.5	-5.6	-3.9
TOTALS	55.2¢	59.0¢	62.9¢	\$.982	\$1.047	\$1.128	\$1.202	\$1.287	\$1.393	\$1.363	\$1.472	\$1.605
Body Weight	1.39#	1.36#	1.34#	2.72#	2.64#	2.67#	3.08#	3.05#	3.01#	3.60#	3.54#	3.40#
Feed Consumed	4.00#	4.20#	4.39#	12.54#	12.85#	13.70#	17.13#	17.70#	18.24#	22.63#	22.72#	22.99#
Dollars/100# Feed	\$3.95	\$3.95	\$3.89	\$3.61	\$3.65	\$3.69	\$3.58	\$3.58	\$3.61	\$3.54	\$3.52	\$3.56
Min. Labor/Pullet	1.00	1.31	1.50	2.13	2.75	3.06	2.96	3.48	4.01	3.32	4.01	4.88
Mortality Per Cent	2.98	3.85	5.74	5.90	7.75	8.82	7.25	9.95	14.98	7.64	11.53	17.64
Labor Cost Per Hour										\$2.01	\$1.90	\$1.84

RHA/s-d
9/25/69

PULLET STUDY MANAGEMENT INFORMATION RIVERSIDE COUNTY A.E.S.

Flock Rank*	Brood Size**	Housing			Brooding Frequency	Hatch Date	Cent Chick Cost	Age of Debeak	Move to		% Prod 24th week
		Brooder	Grow	Lay					Grow	Lay	
1	B	Con-W	Con-W	Con-W	3 w	9/67	26¢	3d & 9w	7w	13w	15
2	A	Floor	"	"	16 w	2/68	27	9w & 20w	8w	23w	25
3	A	Floor	"	"	15 w	9/67	31	10w	8w	21w	39
4	C	LTC-W	LTC-W	LTC-W	17 w	12/67	23	17w	--	14w	17
5	A	"	"	"	13 w	2/68	24	16w	9w	20w	50
6	B	Con-W	Con-W	Con-W	17 w	4/68	26	8d	6w	24w	24
7	B	LTC-W	"	"	10 w	3/68	26	---	--	15w	47
8	B	"	"	"	13 w	12/67	27	9w	--	12w	31
9	A	Con-W	"	"	12 w	9/67	26	20w	8w	21w	64
10	B	LTC-W	"	"	13 w	9/67	28	---	--	13w	35
Mid-Cost											
11	C	Floor	Con-W	Con-W	17 w	2/68	27	15w	9w	20w	16
12	B	LTC-W	"	"	13 w	11/67	30	14w	9w	22w	17
13	C	"	LTC-W	LTC-W	17 w	2/68	23	17w	--	14w	13
14	B	"	"	"	52 w	1/68	27	---	--	6w	54
15	A	"	"	"	12 w	8/67	31	14w	8w	22w	8
16	A	Con-W	Con-W	Con-W	6 w	2/68	22	8d & 18w	3w	12w	62
17	B	Floor	Floor	LTC-W	21 w	3/68	30	13w	--	18w	4
18	A	Con-W	Con-W	Con-W	12 w	12/67	26	19w	8w	21w	70
19	A	Floor	Floor	LTC-W	23 w	10/67	28	8d	--	19w	14
20	B	Floor	Con-W	Con-W	9 w	11/67	30	19w	7w	16w	17
High Cost											
21	C	Floor	Floor	Con-W	26 w	2/68	25	6d	--	18w	
22	C	"	Con-W	"	17 w	9/67	28	---	9w	20w	24
23	C	LTC-W	LTC-W	"	10 w	12/67	25	21w	7w	16w	22
24	A	Con-W	Con-W	"	13 w	2/68	28	18w	8w	18w	53
25	B	"	"	"	17 w	11/67	29	9w	7w	20w	31
26	A	Floor	"	"	16 w	10/67	29	8w & 18w	8w	23w	8
27	A	LTC-W	LTC-W	LTC-W	13 w	10/67	31	16w	9w	20w	22
28	A	"	"	"	12 w	1/68	31	12w	9w	18w	27
29	C	"	"	Con-W	10 w	10/67	28	21w	7w	14w	39
30	A	"	"	"	26 w	2/68	29	8d	--	21w	44
Av. 28,711 per brood (861,344 total started)							27¢			31%	

*Ranked according cost

**A = 3000 to 10,000

B = 10,000 to 30,000

C = Over 30,000

LTC - Solid wall-mechanical ventilation

W - Wire cages

Con - Conventional open type housing

w - Weeks d - Days

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