

RIVERSIDE COUNTY  
POULTRY LABOR STUDY  
MAY, 1953

by

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A Summary of the Labor Used  
On 9 Riverside County Poultry Ranches  
For the First Week of May

University of California  
Agricultural Extension Service  
Room 7, Post Office Building  
Riverside County

## RIVERSIDE POULTRY LABOR STUDY - MAY 3 - 9, 1953

	Record Number									Av. per flock	Percent
	94	93	84	100	109	105	104	89	111		
No. Hens	5635	3443	2700	2400	2205	1738	1370	1170	1000	2406	
No. Pullets	6000	4500	3600	1800	2300	1470	400	700	900	2408	
*Type of Laying House	L	C	L	C	C	C-L	L	L	C		
Hours per Week											
Feed Hens	12.5	14.0	14.0	12.25	4.0	10.5	9.75	5.25	4.1	9.6	17
Other Feed Labor	-	-	-	2.0	-	3.75	3.5	-	-	1.0	2
Gather Eggs	17.5	8.0	10.5	9.75	5.25	12.0	4.5	7.75	5.0	8.9	16
Clean, Grade, Pack	21.0	20.0	21.0	19.5	9.0	28.5	7.0	21.0	13.25	17.8	32
Sell	1.0	-	-	.25	-	-	-	-	-	.1	--
Nest Labor						1.75		1.0		.2	--
Cull Hens	1.0	11.0	1.0	3.5	-	.25	-	-	.5	1.9	3
Move Hens	-	-	-	.5	-	.5	-	-	-	.1	--
Sell Hens	-	-	-	.25	-	-	4.0	-	.2	.5	1
Stir Litter	-	-	-	3.5	-	-	-	4.0	-	.8	1
Spray and Fly Control	-	-	-	5.5	-	-	-	-	2.8	.9	2
Cleaning	3.0	-	-	6.75	.5	2.0	3.6	4.0	.7	2.4	4
Repairs	-	-	-	9.0	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	2
Feed Pullets	3.5	7.0	14.0	10.8	2.25	3.5	2.3	3.5	2.9	5.5	10
Cull Pullets	-	2.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	.2	--
Move Pullets	-	12.5	-	2.25	-	-	-	-	-	1.6	3
Vaccinate	-	-	12.0	2.0	-	-	-	-	-	1.5	3
Debeak	-	-	8.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	.9	1
Brooder Labor	-	-	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	.1	--
Bookkeeping	.75	2.0	1.0	4.0	-	-	.3	3.5	2.0	1.5	3
Total Labor	60.25	76.50	81.5	92.8	21.0	62.25	34.95	50.0	31.45	56.5	100
Hours per 1000 hens	10.7	22.2	30.2	38.7	9.5	35.8	25.5	42.7	31.4	23.5	
Hours on construction	-	35.5	-	3.0	-	-	-	-	-	4.3	
No. Feedings per Day	2	2	2	2	1	2	4	1	1		
Hours per Feeding	.9	1.0	1.0	.9	.6	.75	.3	.8	.6	.8	
No. Egg Gatherings	2	1	2	2	2	2	3	2	1		
Hours per Gathering	1.25	1.1	.75	.7	.4	.9	.2	.6	.7	.7	

\* L - Litter, C - Cages

## Summary and Conclusions

Records on one week's activities do not give an adequate basis for making comparisons of labor requirements since not all ranches performed the same operations during the week. Some important factors are brought into focus, however, which can help poultrymen plan their operations.

Poultrymen spent an average of 48% of their time caring for eggs. Two ranches spent 68% of their time caring for eggs. What can be done in the way of better arrangement of nests, cleaner and drier litter, mechanical egg cleaners, or better arranged egg rooms to cut down on this high labor use?

Feeding took 19% of the time, or an average of 10.6 hours per week. Is there any possibility of other ranches duplicating or approaching the 4 hours per week used by two of the ranches?

Ranches averaged 1.5 hours per week on bookkeeping with two ranches reporting no time for this purpose. Bookkeeping is not a money-making operation by itself, but intelligent analysis of adequate records can point the way to greater profits.