

EIGHTH ANNUAL
SOLANO POULTRY
MANAGEMENT STUDY
1953

By

Arthur K. Swenerton

and

Doyle Reed

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COUNTY LIBRARY BUILDING
FAIRFIELD, CALIFORNIA

1953 POULTRY STUDY COMMENTS

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The 1953 Solano County Poultry Study summary shows the year of 1953 was the best yet experienced since its inception in 1946.

This report on five cooperating poultry ranches cannot be considered indicative of the whole egg industry in the county, but it can represent a trend and will be useful to each cooperator in comparing his efficiency with others in the study.

The average egg production per hen of 221 is excellent, and represents an increase of 12 eggs per bird over 1952.

Income per dozen eggs was 2.5¢ higher in 1953 and the feed cost per hundredweight was 79¢ lower.

The average culling percentage was 8% lower in 1953 than in 1952, and it is possible that a heavier culling rate may be necessary for next year if the price of eggs should drop.

In all but one ranch, farm income per bird was raised appreciably in 1953 over 1952. The one exception was largely due to carrying over too many older birds from last year, which increased the percentage of large eggs, but decreased total production and increased mortality.

The most successful record was obtained by maintaining a high percentage pullet flock which produced 246 eggs per bird, 60% of which were large. Feed costs were kept down by buying whole barley at harvest time and storing it in bulk. Automatic feeding devices helped reduce the hours labor per hen.

The lowest feed cost record was the result of utilizing home raised feeds in the mash and grain ration, and of mixing it at home. The highest cost feed record was the result of purchasing and using an all mash ration without grain supplement.

The management problems on each ranch are different, of course, but much good can come of comparing these records with your own and seeing where improvements can be made.

TABLE 1. Income and Expenses Per Hen with Comparisons since 1946.

Ranch No.	Income					Cash and Depreciation Costs						Non-Cash Costs			Management Income
	Egg Sales	Poultry Sales	Manure Sold	Change Stock Inv.	Total	Feed	Chix	Misc.	Depreciation	Hired Labor	Total	Farm Income	Family Labor	Interest	
30	11.28	.59	-	.94	12.81	6.30	.39	.72	.30	.49	8.20	4.61	.86	.31	3.44
18	9.20	.41	-	.02	9.59	3.92	.41	.33	.08	1.51	6.25	3.34	.02	.18	3.14
26	11.46	.60	.02	1.03	13.11	7.98	.85	.70	.25	.42	10.20	2.91	.85	.28	1.78
7	8.80	.32	-	.04	9.16	5.61	.35	.72	.16	-	6.84	2.32	1.92	.19	.21
29	8.99	.51	.07	.30	9.87	6.28	.72	1.06	.21	.01	8.28	1.59	1.78	.21	-.40
Ave.	9.92	.48	.01	.38	10.79	5.48	.51	.57	.17	.84	7.57	3.22	.67	.23	2.32
1952	9.26	.51	.01	.19	9.97	6.64	.57	.85	.27	.46	8.79	1.18	1.34	.28	-.44
1951	8.26	.53	.28	-.10	8.97	4.90	.31	.54	.18	.70	6.63	2.34	.80	.24	1.30
1950	6.31	.42	.18	.07	6.98	4.35	.38	.40	.18	.57	5.88	1.10	1.25	.23	-.38
1949	6.58	.52	.16	.49	7.75	4.15	.60	.39	.14	.68	5.96	1.79	.71	.19	.89
1948	7.88	.62	.07	-.41	8.16	4.39	.26	.32	.12	.62	5.71	2.45	.81	.20	1.44
1947	8.44	.45	.11	-.55	8.45	4.05	.14	.30	.11	.60	5.20	3.25	.76	.22	2.27
1946	5.15	.89	.09	.23	6.36	4.30	.48	.29	.18	.29	5.54	.82	1.85	.22	1.25

These income and cost figures are the total values of those items divided by the average number of hens for the year. The following two tables explain some of the variations in these items.

Farm Income is the net after cash and depreciation costs have been paid. It is the amount the farmer has to live on.

Management Income is the net after all costs have been paid, and is useful in comparing the efficiency of one ranch as compared to another.

TABLE 2. Management Practices and Production Factors

Ranch No.	Size of Flock	Laying Flock			Price per Cull Hen	Hours Labor Per Hen	Returns per Hour Family Labor	Pounds Feed per Hen			% Mash	Cost per Cwt.			% Mortality Chicks
		% Died	% Culled	% Added				Total	Est. for Pullets	Est. for Hens		Mash	Grain	Ave.	
30	2,427	9	84	141	.68	1.5	5.00	155	35	120	62	4.75	2.80	4.03	9
18	6,522	10	51	79	.77	1.2	--	106	20	86	63	3.93	3.17	3.79	6
26	2,802	17	90	160	.81	1.3	3.10	150	40	110	100	5.30	--	5.30	6
7	1,498	18	59	82	.55	1.9	1.11	128	20	108	64	4.69	3.73	4.35	14
29	1,279	45	66	95	.87	1.8	.77	117	24	93	78	5.46	4.63	5.27	19
Ave.	2,906	16	65	106	.75	1.4	2.37	126	26	100	72	4.73	3.24	4.30	10
1952	1,671	16	73	102	.67	2.0	.67*	130	26	104	77	5.50	3.72	5.09	9
1951	2,128	23	56	74	.91	1.6	--	110	--	---	73	4.82	3.29	4.40	12
1950	1,667	22	43	75	.82	1.8	--	113	--	---	65	4.26	2.99	3.81	17
1949	1,692	29	58	94	.83	1.4	--	111	--	---	59	4.17	2.98	3.68	17
1948	1,930	23	63	54	.97	1.6	--	104	--	---	55	4.60	3.59	4.14	13
1947	1,624	18	35	32	.95	1.5	--	101	--	---	57	4.31	3.55	3.98	23
1946	508	20	60	81	.92	2.7	--	113	--	---	56	4.08	3.24	3.71	21

Pounds of feed per hen.

Total is the amount fed, divided by the average number of hens.

Estimated for pullets was figured at 25 pounds per pullet added to the laying flock.

Estimated for hens is the total, minus estimated for pullets.

* Based on returns per hen family labor.

TABLE 3. Egg Production and Sales

Ranch No.	Eggs per Hen	Percent of Eggs Sold			% Fall Eggs	% Fall Hens of Ave.	% Production During Fall	% Added July to October	% Pullets	Value Per Dozen		
		Large	Medium	Small						Ave. Price	Net Cost	Management Income
30	246	60	28	12	39	116	68	70	92	53.2	37.0	16.2
18	216	54	27	19	41	120	61	50	71	49.4	32.5	16.9
26	236	47	36	17	47	133	68	74	68	57.0	48.1	8.9
7	210	58	29	13	29	90	55	0	60	52.3	51.0	1.3
29	171	66	25	9	47	132	50	100	78	61.8	64.6	-2.8
Ave.	221	55	29	16	41	120	61	61	73	52.8	40.5	12.3
1952	209	55	29	16	33	111	38	44	74	50.3	52.7	-2.4
1951	183	56	25	19	35	108	48	48	65	54.0	45.5	8.5
1950	187	50	28	22	32	106	47	39	63	40.2	42.6	-2.4
1949	172	61	23	16	39	121	45	88	66	45.5	39.3	6.2
1948	168	66	21	13	29	103	39	93	40	55.4	45.2	10.2
1947	196	61	25	14	27	102	43	81	60	52.0	38.0	14.0
1946	147	60	27	12	23	108	25	74	56	43.4	53.9	-10.5