

POULTRY MANAGEMENT STUDIES IN CALIFORNIA

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Management studies on egg production have been conducted by the Agricultural Extension Service since 1925. These studies are for the purpose of helping cooperating poultrymen improve their efficiency and profits, and to furnish useful data to others interested. Individual annual records are compiled from detailed monthly reports of production, expenses and income. Here are brief summary results of all record averages over the last six years. Items are figured on average hens for the year on a hen day basis.

POULTRY MANAGEMENT STUDY AVERAGES 1956 to 1961

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Thousands of hens involved	745	666	994	913	1114	1120
Number of records	199	163	203	155	158	111
Average number of hens per flock	3742	4088	4899	5892	7051	10187
Eggs laid per hen, hen-day basis	231	233	233	235	237	239
Dozen eggs sold per hen	19.5	19.4	19.4	19.6	19.7	19.9
Per cent mortality, hens	13	12.5	12.9	12.7	13.6	13.4
Per cent culled or removed	86	75.2	77.6	77.9	65.9	74.9
Per cent added as new layers	--	102.3	103.6	104.0	96.3	99.4
Per cent mortality of chicks to layers	--	--	--	7.5	8.7	7.2
Average price of feed per cwt.	\$3.72	\$3.45	\$3.38	\$3.29	\$3.07	\$3.08
Pounds of feed per hen	128	120	117	116	114	115
Hours of labor per hen	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5
Average price per dozen eggs	39.7¢	36.7¢	37.5¢	30.2¢	34.0¢	31.3¢
Net cost per dozen	35.7	32.6	30.7	29.8	27.5	26.6
Management income per dozen	4.0	4.1	6.8	0.4	6.5	4.7
Income per hen from eggs	\$7.76	\$7.14	\$7.29	\$5.91	\$6.69	\$6.23
Poultry sales	.50	.31	.37	.23	.20	.21
Miscellaneous income, manure	.05	.03	.04	.03	.02	.01
Increase in poultry stock inventory	.18	.16	.22	.16	.21	.15
Total income per hen	8.49	7.64	7.92	6.33	7.12	6.60
Feed cost per hen	\$4.79	\$4.17	\$3.99	\$3.82	\$3.51	\$3.54
Poultry stock bought	.49	.46	.51	.52	.48	.46
Miscellaneous costs	.44	.49	.50	.44	.49	.41
Hired labor	.33	.35	.44	.38	.36	.41
Value of operator's labor	.92	.81	.59	.54	.47	.31
Depreciation	.31	.32	.32	.31	.31	.30
Interest on investment	.26	.26	.25	.24	.24	.23
Total expense per hen	7.54	6.86	6.60	6.25	5.86	5.66
Management income per hen	.95	.78	1.32	.08	1.26	.94
Farm income per hen*	2.13	1.85	2.16	.86	1.97	1.48

\*Farm income per hen is management income plus the value of the operator's labor and interest on the investment. It is the amount the operator makes from his management, labor, and all invested capital.

The 1,120,178 hens covered by these records in 1961 were 4.1% of the total 27,922,000 average hens in California as estimated by the Cal. Crop. and livestock Rep. Service.