

FOURTH BUTTE COUNTY  
POULTRY  
MANAGEMENT  
STUDY  
1952

A Summary of 5 Poultry Flocks

by

M. D. Morse  
and  
A. D. Reed

*C. P. Reed*



University of California  
Agricultural Extension Service  
Butte County  
Post Office Building  
Oroville

UC Cooperative Extension

Table I. Profit Factors, Income and Expense, and Measures of Profit.

	Ranch Number					Av.	1951	1950	1949	
	8	7	16	23	27					
(1) Size of Flock	M	M	M	S	S	1087	775	700	650	
Eggs per hen	236	216	188	207	231	213	214	210	214	
Percent of Flock										
Died	11	19	17	14	14	16	17	21	17	
Culled	60	41	28	43	117	48	70	83	82	
Added	90	80	56	187	--	88	129	108	130	
Value per dozen										
Price	47.8	44.9	45.3	47.7	50.6	46.6	52.1	39.0	46.6	
Net Cost	38.5	36.6	38.7	43.4	73.9	41.7	45.4	42.2	41.9	
Management Income	9.3	8.3	6.6	4.3	-23.3	4.9	6.7	-3.2	4.7	
(2) Income per Hen										
Egg Sales	9.84	8.39	7.11	7.83	9.60	8.36	10.32	9.41	6.80	8.01
Poultry Sales	.51	.23	.14	.25	.85	.32	.43	.64	.72	.85
Manure and sacks	.16	.13	.21	.21	.19	.17	--	.25	.18	.16
(3) Change Stock Inv.	.23	.07	.17	2.59	-1.06	.47	2.81	.60	.09	.63
Total	10.74	8.82	7.63	10.88	9.58	9.32	13.56	10.90	7.79	9.65
Cash and Depreciation costs per hen										
Feed	5.26	5.03	4.49	6.25	6.43	5.25	7.07	5.82	4.95	5.43
Hired labor	.07	--	.76	.07	--	.23	--	.34	.24	.25
(4) Chix	.48	.32	.28	1.63	.78	.60	.90	.67	.55	.65
Misc.	.54	.33	.14	.55	1.37	.45	.68	.48	.35	.32
Depreciation	.25	.12	.08	.36	.41	.20	.41	.31	.29	.27
Total	6.60	5.80	5.75	8.86	8.99	6.73	9.06	7.62	6.38	6.92

(Table I continued on page 2.)

Table I. (cont'd.) Profit Factors, Income and Expense, and Measures of Profit.

	Ranch Number					Av.	1951	1950	1949
	8	7	16	23	27				
Farm Income per hen	4.14	3.02	1.88	2.02	.59	2.59	3.28	1.41	2.73
(5) Family labor per hen	2.05	1.34	.70	1.09	4.63	1.54	1.83	1.75	1.68
Interest on investment per hen	.18	.13	.14	.23	.39	.18	.24	.23	.24
(6) Management Income	1.91	1.55	1.04	.70	-4.43	.87	1.21	-.57	.81
Return per hour family labor	1.93	2.16	2.50	1.65	.04	1.57	1.66	.68	1.48
% return on investment	58	63	42	20	--	29	30	--	22

- (1) Size of flock is based on the average number of hens kept daily over the 12 month period.  
L - over 2000, M - 1000-2000, S - under 1000
- (2) The income per hen is also based on the daily hen average over the 12 month period. For example, the "Poultry Sales" column shows an average of \$0.32 per bird. This is not the price received per cull but is the total value of the culls sold, divided by the average number of hens.
- (3) The "change of stock inventory" shows a gain when the flock size is increased and a loss when the number of birds is decreased.
- (4) The variation in chick cost is much larger than the difference in the price paid for the birds. This figure is increased when mortality is high as the cost of the dead birds must be born by those that enter the laying house. When the flock is being increased this cost is also higher because each hen must bear the cost of more than one chick.
- (5) The per bird interest on investment is based on 5% of the capital investment and does not include the cash expenses of operating.
- (6) Management income is the return per hen above all costs including a charge for family labor.

Table II. Production Factors and Analysis of Egg Prices

	Ranch Number					Av.	1951	1950	1949
	8	7	16	23	27				
Type of House	Litter	Litter	Litter	W & L	Cage	--	--	--	--
Hours labor per hen	2.1	1.3	1.5	1.2	4.6	1.8	2.2	2.0	2.0
(1) Pounds feed per hen									
Total	117	119	95	133	103	113	135	133	131
Estimated for pullets	23	20	14	26	0	22	32	27	32
"      "      hens	94	99	81	107	103	91	103	106	99
Percent mash	72	55	61	78	100	68	71	62	64
Cost per cwt.									
Mash	4.94	4.59	5.06	4.99	6.25	5.03	4.66	4.18	4.56
Grain	3.29	3.73	4.14	3.57	--	3.74	3.28	2.87	2.85
(2) Average	4.47	4.20	4.70	4.67	6.25	4.61	4.26	3.67	3.94
Percent mortality chicks	7	4	11	5	--	6	10	22	14
Av. Price Market Eggs	47.7	45.0	48.8	46.9	50.6	46.6	52.1	39.0	46.6
Percent of Market Eggs sold									
Large	60	66	73	35	83	63	59	62	64
Medium	27	19	18	41	13	24	26	22	24
Small	13	15	9	24	4	13	15	16	12
Percent fall eggs	43	32	24	65	72	37	43	39	43
Rate of production during Fall	63%	54	35	65	60	55	58	54	52
% fall hens of av.	133	105	103	170	23	119	132	123	141
% added July-Oct.	100	99	100	55	0	84	82	88	97
% pullets	79	81	51	93	76	73	81	82	86

(1)-(2) Explanation of footnotes on page 4.

- (1) The pounds of feed per hen is the total weight of all the feed used, divided by average number of hens.  
The estimate for pullets was figured at 25 lbs. per pullet raised, divided by the average number of hens.  
The estimate for hens is the total feed minus the amount estimated for pullets.
- (2) The average price per hundred pounds of feed is determined by the price paid for the grain and mash and the proportion of each that is fed. For example, No. 8 fed 72% mash. Therefore, 72 pounds of each 100 pounds of feed fed was mash. This 72 pounds cost \$3.55. The 28 pounds of grain cost \$0.92 making the total cost for 100 pounds of feed \$4.47. Feed prices can be reduced by feeding grain with a mash that has a sufficiently high protein content to balance the ration.

\* \* \* \* \*