

PY-SC-58-5

1958

Poultry Management  
Study  
Orange County

University of California  
Agricultural Extension Service  
County of Orange

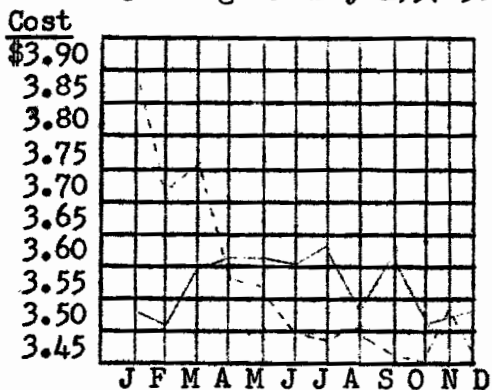
This study was conducted by the University of California Agricultural Extension Service to assist the cooperating poultrymen in analyzing their businesses and to bring to light any management deficiencies they may have on their ranches.

The small number of ranches in this study during 1958 limits the use of this report as one or two extremely high or low individuals will tend to shift the average.

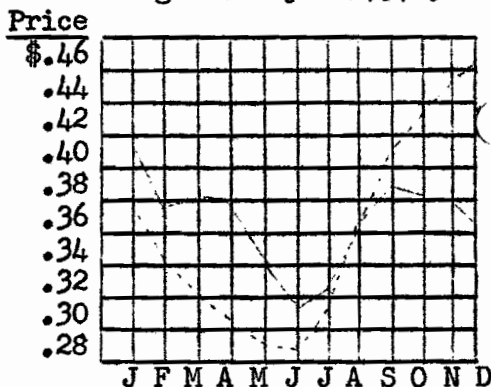
Ranch numbers 21 and 23 have been excluded from all averages due to their large amount of retail business.

- Size of Ranches
- A less than 3000 birds
  - B 3000 - 5000
  - C 5000 - 10,000

\*Average Total Ration Cost Per Cwt. Orange County 1957-58



\*Average Prices Received for Eggs in Orange County - 1957-58



1957 - - - 1958 - - -

\*Based on cooperators' total ration costs

\*Based on average wholesale prices received by cooperators

Lack of fluctuation in both egg and feed prices were the most conspicuous features of the 1958 management study. Average monthly ration costs ranged only 13¢ as compared to 43¢ in 1957.

Egg prices ranged only 9¢ per average dozen in 1958 as compared to 17¢ per dozen in 1957. Egg and feed prices were generally slightly under those in 1957, but due to greater management efficiency in 1958, the average cooperator made more gross income on his ranch.

## EGG SALES AND PRODUCTION

Serial No. and Size	Average Price Received Cents	(1)			Per Cent Large	Per Cent Medium	Per Cent Commercial (2)
		Net Cost Cents	Eggs Per Hen	Per Cent Production			
25B	36.0	27.0	271	74.2	72.0	20.3	7.7
10C	38.6	32.9	254	69.6	83.0	12.9	4.1
7B	34.8	30.4	248	67.9	64.8	20.0	15.2
23A	*43.5	40.1	238	65.2	69.3	21.4	9.6
6C	38.0	34.0	219	60.0	80.7	13.6	5.7
5C	35.7	34.5	224	61.4	62.3	27.9	8.8
21A	*57.2	60.0	203	55.6	--	--	--
Average	36.6	32.5	238	65.2	72.1	19.8	8.1

1. Includes all cash and non-cash costs.

2. Includes all small, cracked and frozen eggs.

\* Mostly retail sales

In all but one case the number of eggs produced per hen was up over last year. The two highest producers, No. 25 and No. 10, had almost identical egg income due to the higher number of large eggs produced by No. 10. This illustrates the need for large egg size as well as high production. 70% large eggs should be a goal for all producers. An item of interest is that both of these producers use the same strain of chickens.

## INCOME AND

## COSTS PER HEN

Serial No. and Size	Income			Cash Costs					Net Cash Income	Non-cash Costs			(5) Management Income
	Eggs	(1) Other	Total	Feed	Chix	Hired Labor	(2) Misc.	Total		Depreciation	(3) Family Labor	(4) Interest on Investment	
25B	8.11	.51	8.62	4.20	.43	—	.38	5.01	\$3.61	.30	1.18	.18	\$1.95
10C	8.01	.62	8.63	4.38	.40	.50	.38	5.66	2.97	.43	1.09	.27	1.18
7B	7.00	.69	7.69	4.38	.58	—	.21	5.17	2.52	.22	1.19	.21	.90
23A	8.14	.21	8.35	4.16	.41	.31	1.21	6.09	2.26	.15	1.39	.09	.62
6C	6.73	.65	7.38	4.02	.42	.72	.55	5.71	1.67	.19	.65	.24	.60
5C	6.82	.82	7.64	4.46	.49	.60	.53	6.08	1.56	.35	.76	.24	.21
21A	8.82	.87	9.69	4.51	.30	.48	1.29	6.58	3.11	.32	2.95	.29	-.45
Average	7.22	.69	7.91	4.30	.46	.45	.44	5.65	2.26	.30	.91	.24	.80

1. Manure sales, change stock inventory, poultry sales, etc.

2. Repairs, taxes, electricity, water, etc.

3. \$1.50 per hour.

4. 5% of average investment.

5. Total income minus all cash and non-cash costs.

1958 total costs were very similar to those in 1957. No's 21 and 23 had higher miscellaneous costs in connection with their retail business.

No's 5 and 7 have higher chick costs due to their high replacement requirements. No. 21 had high feed costs due to the use of red chickens while No. 5 had a high feed cost due to heavy replacement.

Ranches are ranked according to management income.

Management income indicates the net income resulting from the management skill of the operator. Two-thirds of all labor used on these ranches was contributed by the family.

Management income proves to be directly related to egg production per hen. The higher the egg production, the higher the management income.

No. 21 has a minus management income due to his high family labor requirement resulting from his retail sales.

No. 5 has low management income due to his high mortality and resultant high replacement cost. In addition he has below average egg production and per cent large eggs due to a chronic disease problem.

## FEED AND LABOR COSTS

Serial No. and Size	Cost Per Cwt. Feed	Pounds Per Average Hen		Pounds Per Doz. Eggs		Hours Labor Per Hen
		Chick Grower & Layer	Layer Only (1)	Chick Grower & Layer	Layer Only	
25B	\$3.48	120	93	5.3	4.1	.79
10C	3.64	120	92	5.8	4.5	1.08
7B	3.52	125	96	6.2	4.8	.80
23A	3.68	118	93	6.3	5.0	.93
6C	3.30	122	95	6.8	5.3	1.07
5C	3.55	132	94	6.9	4.9	.90
21A	3.52	127	104	8.3	6.7	2.52
Average	3.50	123	94	6.2	4.8	.95

1. Based on 25# to raise a pullet to 5½ months.

Ranch No. 25 has an excellent feed ratio of 4.1 lbs. of feed to one dozen eggs due to his extremely high egg production and his average usage of feed. Lack of disease, ability to raise good pullets and strict replacement program all contribute to this excellent feed conversion.

Egg-feed ratios are excellent measures of a poultryman's ability since egg sales reflect over 95% of all poultry ranch income and feed is the largest single expense on the ranch.

MANAGEMENT

Serial No. and Size	Per Cent Mortality		Per Cent of Average Laying Flock		Price Per Cull	Actual Chick Cost	Per Cent Flock Increase or Decrease
	To 5½ mos.	Layers	Culled	Added			
25B	4.9	6.7	80.4	108.8	\$.43	36.8¢	21.7
10C	1.3	6.0	80.3	111.6	.51	34.9	25.3
7B	11.2	24.2	83.5	116.2	.39	36.7	8.5
23A	9.3	11.4	74.3	100.0	.57	38.6	14.3
6C	16.9	11.3	87.5	106.3	.36	30.0	7.5
5C	5.4	24.2	91.4	142.1	.40	31.9	26.5
21A	4.8	7.0	64.4	73.4	1.37	34.2	2.0
Average	7.7	15.6	85.8	120.0	.41	33.0	19.6

Ranch No's. 5 and 7 have had serious disease problems resulting in higher mortality and culling percentages and also necessitating higher replacements.

Significant increases in size of ranch were made by four of the seven ranches and all of the ranches increased some. As is true in other agricultural enterprises, economic pressures are prompting increased size of operations.

The growth of these poultry ranches is partially due to the general rise in cost of living which has been increasing about 5% a year. In addition farm production costs have been rising while farm prices have remained fairly stable. Since profit margins have thus decreased, larger operations are necessary to maintain a given standard of living.

We would like to express  
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If you are interested in  
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