



# Poultry Patter

Volume 13, Number 7—August 1975

## Program

### WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MINNESOTA'S EGG INDUSTRY

Melvin L. Hamre, Professor and Extension Poultry Specialist

#### Egg Day

An egg day program for egg industry personnel will be held on the University of Minnesota St. Paul campus, Thursday, September 18 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Peters Hall auditorium. With the variety of topics on the program there should be material of interest to personnel involved in all phases of egg production. Time will also be provided to visit the chicken research facilities and discuss the research program at the University.

#### Program

- 9:00 Where Will Poultry Breeding Research Lead Us? R.N. Shoffner, professor, Department of Animal Science
- 9:45 Meeting Protein and Energy Needs of Your Layers Neil Allen, assistant professor, Department of Animal Science
- 10:15 Coffee
- 10:30 Mycotoxins and Poultry—An Update Richard Meronuck, extension plant pathologist
- 11:00 Use and Maintenance of Feeding Equipment Dale Erickson
- 11:30 Lunch
- 1:00 Warm vs. Cool Packing of Eggs M.L. Hamre, extension poultry specialist
- 1:30 Infectious Bursal Disease/Gangrenous Dermatitis Dr. B.S. Pomeroy, College of Veterinary Medicine
- 2:00 The Chicken Research Program and Facilities at the University of Minnesota R.W. Touchberry, head, Department of Animal Science

#### Egg Marketing Seminar

The Seventh Annual Minnesota-Iowa Egg Marketing Seminar is set September 25, 26 at the Sheraton Hanford Motor Inn, Mason City, Iowa. Many Minnesota egg processors and egg handlers attend these educational sessions. The program follows previous formats with a Thursday evening session followed by Friday morning and afternoon sessions. There will be a Thursday afternoon golf tournament before the seminar starts. Registration materials and program details will be mailed to the egg marketing and handling segments of the industry early in September. Others interested in the seminar can get registration materials from the Extension Poultry Specialist, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, 55108.



Thursday, September 25

1:30-5:30 p.m. Golf

5:00 Registration

6:00 — Dinner—Sheraton Dining Room—Speaker: Frank Santo

Breaking Egg Yields and Volume—Owen Cotterill, University of Missouri

Cholesterol in the Avian Egg—Robert Hasiak, Iowa State University

Friday, September 26

8:30 — Registration

9:00 — Opening Session Moderator—Mel Hamre, University of Minnesota

Federal-State Shell Egg Grading and Shell Egg Surveillance—Frank Santo and Ralph Swearingen

Progress in Egg Promotion:

For Iowa—Russ Wells

For Minnesota—Lloyd Stone

Coffee Break

Technological Changes in Egg Products Production—Owen Cotterill

Inter Dealer Handling of Nest-Run Eggs

—The Iowa Egg Law—Thatcher Johnson, Iowa Department of Agriculture

—The Minnesota Egg Law—Roy Carlson, Minnesota Department of Agriculture

12:00 Noon — Luncheon—Meeting Room, Sheraton

1:00 — Afternoon Session—Moderator, L.Z. Eggleton, Iowa State University

The Care and Use of Egg Washers—Robert Morterud, Egg-O-Matic Inc.

Warm vs. Cool Packing of Eggs—Mel Hamre, University of Minnesota

Pricing and Buying Practices of Midwest Dealers—L.Z. Eggleton, Iowa State University

#### Try Your Employee's Job

Many of our Minnesota egg operations are handled by the farm family. Others are large enough so that outside help is hired. Even though family labor is being used, the flock owner should be concerned with the performance of youngsters and others involved in caring for the production unit. Don Bell, farm adviser for poultry in California's Riverside County, offers the following advice to poultry farm owners and managers.

Every successful poultry farm owner or manager has at some time in life performed every job these employees now do. During these many years, the owner or manager has developed tested procedures for every chore and discarded dozens of procedures in day-to-day work.

But, how long has it been since you as an owner or manager have reviewed these procedures with your employees? Are you aware that some of these procedures have been changed or discarded? Do your employees make suggestions about improving a particular task?

Experiencing another person's work for as little as a few hours may give you an insight as to how this work could be simplified or improved. Obviously the employee is more experienced at the particular job than you are now, but this doesn't mean the job is being done correctly or efficiently. The employee may be tolerating correctable situations.

For example, get out with the vaccinating crew once in awhile to work with them. You develop a dull needle—how does the crew handle this problem? You see a pullet hung up in the corner of the cage—how does the crew correct this problem? You break a wing when you're pulling a pullet from the cage—how often does this occur with the regular crew? You notice that you failed to vaccinate the birds in one cage—what can be done to keep your employees from repeating this mistake?

Too often we assume that other people do things the same way we do. Too often we assume that everything is going okay if we don't hear complaints. Most employees on poultry farms spend 8 or 10 hours there and really have little interest in doing a better job. It makes no difference to them if now and then one chicken doesn't get debeaked exactly right. It probably doesn't hurt anything anyway.

Have you ever talked to your employees about the poultry business? Have you ever explained how their job fits into the "big picture" and why it's so important? Do your employees really understand their contribution to the farm's success? Do they understand that their job's continuing depends on the success of the farm?

Try vacuum lifting eggs onto the washer for a few hours. How many eggs do you break because of faulty equipment? Does your back get tired because you have to reach too far? Do you hear eggs cracking when you reach to the rear of the cart and slide the eggs forward? Are these just your problems because you're inexperienced or are they daily problems of your employees?

Bring in an outsider from time to time to scrutinize your operation. One small idea can save you hundreds of

dollars. Exchange supervisors or managers for a week with another farm. Maybe you'll both pick up a few ideas.

A good supervisor of employees must understand the ins and outs of every facet of these jobs. Problems employees face must be discovered and corrected as soon as possible. No problem is so small as to be unimportant. High quality work with satisfied employees can add immensely to the success of any business.

#### Congratulations, Dr. Pomeroy

Dr. Benjamin S. Pomeroy of the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine was named a Fellow by the Poultry Science Association at its annual meeting in Pullman, Washington, August 6, 1975. This honor is granted for professional distinction in the field of poultry science.

Dr. Pomeroy has had a life-long professional career of teaching, research, and service to agriculture, most of it with the poultry industry. He has developed an internationally recognized research program. He has also been a dedicated and outstanding teacher in the field of microbiology and poultry diseases, teaching students from both veterinary medicine and poultry science.

He has served on many industry, government, and scientific panels, committees and advisory boards in recognition of his leadership in research and disease control. Every year he appears on programs of local, state, national, and international scope on some aspects of avian diseases. Despite his busy schedule of teaching, research, and industry service, he is never too busy to counsel an individual with a problem or go out into the field to check on a possible disease outbreak.

Dr. Pomeroy was appointed diagnostician in the division of veterinary medicine, University of Minnesota, in 1934. Since then, he has earned his Ph.D. degree and advanced to professor. He has served as head of the Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Public Health and as Associate Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine.

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Roland H. Abraham, Director

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