

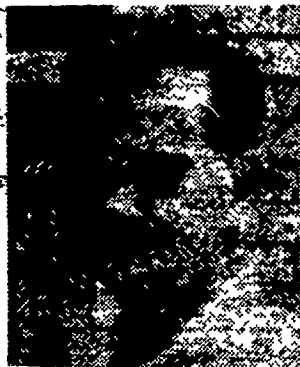
## 8 Independent Broiler Growers Tell About HORNCO Feed

# "We Lowered Our Feed Cost Per Pound Of Meat When We Changed To Hornco Feed"

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### ● Egg Washing

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that this is not necessarily true. He says his company has not had any problems with farmer-washed eggs. He believes there are certain problems of sanitation in plant washing which are not encountered on the farm.

Burkholder believes the number of stained eggs will increase because soil on the shells is not removed while the egg is still warm. Stains, of course, push the egg into the "B" grade and consequently is of less value to the producer.

John Snader, procurement manager for Hess Brothers, Ephrata, does not agree with this opinion and points to preliminary results of the washing operation in their plant

Hess Brothers, who process in excess of 7,000 cases a week, began washing a limited number of eggs in the plant this week "We have been getting excellent cleaning on the eggs which have been oil sprayed," he said.

Oil spraying has also been pointed out as one of the disadvantages of in-plant washing. Unless eggs are picked up every day, they must be sprayed with a mineral oil mist while they are still warm. However, Sauder says this is a very minor cost and the labor is more than offset by the change in method of gathering that the in-plant washing makes possible.

Sauder says the producer can now gather eggs right in the case filler-flat instead of a basket. The oil spray can be misted on the eggs in about one second per filler-flat and the eggs can be cased without ever handling them individually.

Julius Bauerman, Extension Food Technologist from the Pennsylvania State University, says however, this raises some problems too. Disease and bacteria problems will probably increase from this multiple use of the cardboard filler-flats.

Cost of the oil used in spraying is almost nil, Sauder believes. He reports that one of his producers with a 10,000 hen flock uses approximately a quart of the oil a week at a reported cost of approximately 75 cents a gallon.

Burkholder believes that there will be increased breakage in the plant in addition to the increased stains. He says the shell is not as crystalline when the egg is first laid, and therefore will stand washing machine pressures better.

Snader refutes this contention by saying they are reducing the number of cracks with in-plant washing. He agrees that cracks do show up when the cold egg goes into the 110 degree water necessary to the cleaning job, but he maintains that most of these eggs were cracked earlier and only show up when the contents expand in the hot water.

"Many of these eggs would have been picked out by the producer when he washed and packed his eggs at home," he says.

Snader says increased pick up costs are not a factor. With oil spraying, he says, the eggs are still picked up only twice a week.

However, Bauerman says, oil spraying is not intended to

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