

# Recycled garbage is fine poultry litter

NEWARK, Del. - Recent studies at the University of Delaware have again shown that broilers grown on composted municipal garbage (CMG) perform as well or better than birds raised on conventional litters. The studies were conducted by veterinary pathologist Dr. Robert J. Eckroade, formerly of the department of animal science and agricultural biochemistry, and George W. Malone, poultry research associate at the University's Georgetown Substation. The results of their work are especially significant because the type of material used in this research may become available in large volumes in northern Delaware when a new trash processing facility is built in New Castle County

sometime in the near future. According to Malone, the CMG used in the recent series of tests is produced by the "wind-row" method, a different process from that used to produce composted garbage (by an aerobic digester) used in a previous University study.

In the latest evaluation of new litter materials, researchers at the Substation raised four flocks totaling 12,800 broilers over a one-year period in a comparison of their performance on wood shavings, spent mushroom soil and CMG. Birds were raised in a 40 foot by 96 foot clear span structure with concrete floors. Treatments were randomly distributed among eight 15 foot by 20 foot pens (allowing .75 square feet of

space per bird). Four hundred chicks were placed in each pen on an initial litter depth of approximately four inches, with subsequent clean-out only to remove caked litter.

Performance of birds on the different litters was evaluated in terms of four and eight week body weight, feed conversion and mortality; total disease condemnations, breast blister and conformation downgrades; litter moisture content; microbiological assay of the litter; heavy metal and pesticide residue analysis of the litter and body tissue (abdominal fat and liver).

The CMG used in the study is a dark, humus-like material consisting of granular type particles

roughly a fourth of an inch or less in diameter. The material is basically a composted paper product with a small amount of plastic and glass cutlets in it. Spent mushroom soil has a somewhat larger particle size and contains various amounts of hay, corn cob, decomposed mushrooms, topsoil and small stones. The shavings used were pine.

The researchers concluded that "wind-row" CMG is equal to, if not superior to, both shavings and mushroom soil as a broiler litter material, particularly in respect to body weight and feed efficiency. Preliminary tests for pesticide and heavy metals residue in both the litter and bird tissue revealed no unacceptable levels.

## G.C. Delp honored

NEW HOLLAND, Pa. - George C. Delp, retired past president of Sperry New Holland, has been awarded an honorary life membership in the Farm and Industrial Equipment Institute (FIEI)

A director of FIEI, Delp served as president of the organization in 1966. It was under Delp's leadership that Sperry New Holland joined FIEI in 1941, only one year after the company then known as the New Holland Machine Company, was purchased and reorganized by Delp and several other men.

The award was presented at a recent FIEI annual convention in Boca Raton, Fla. In making the presentation, Morris W. Reid, chairman of the Board of FIEI, recognized Delp for his long and distinguished service to the farm and industrial equipment industries.

Delp was general manager, secretary and



G. C. Delp

treasurer of Sperry New Holland from 1940 to 1947. He then became president of the company, a position he held until 1969. Though now retired, he continues as an advisor to the present management of Sperry New Holland.

## Farm Credit Service holds annual meeting

BIRD-IN-HAND, Pa. - The board of directors for both the Lancaster Production Credit Association and Federal Land Bank Association of Lancaster have both described the past budget year as "very excellent." Based in Lancaster, Pa., the two branches of Farm Credit Service do business in Lancaster, Lebanon, and Dauphin Counties.

The fiscal report was released at the annual meeting held here on Wednesday at the Plain and Fancy Farm Restaurant. Approximately 400 people from the area were in attendance.

Carl A. Brown, general manager of the Federal Land Bank, here, announced that business was good, but cautioned against the continuing escalating prices of farmland in the area. "We're seeing an awful lot of farms in the \$3000 to \$4000 per acre range in certain sections of the county," he said.

It was reported that "loans have continued to increase steadily and now stand in excess of \$82 million." While most of the increase in business was due to expansion of operations, it was also noted that membership increased by 14 per cent this past year.

Know Where the Activities Will Be? Read the Farm Women Calendar.

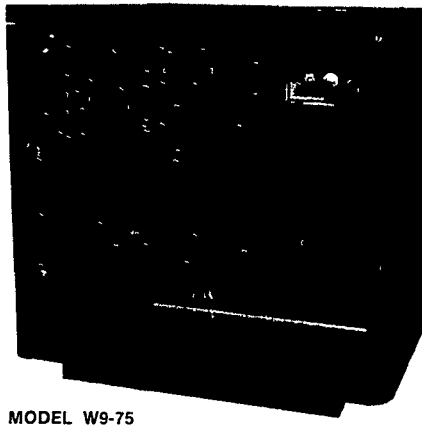
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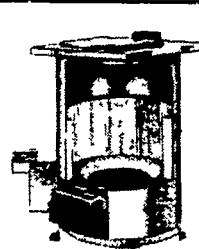


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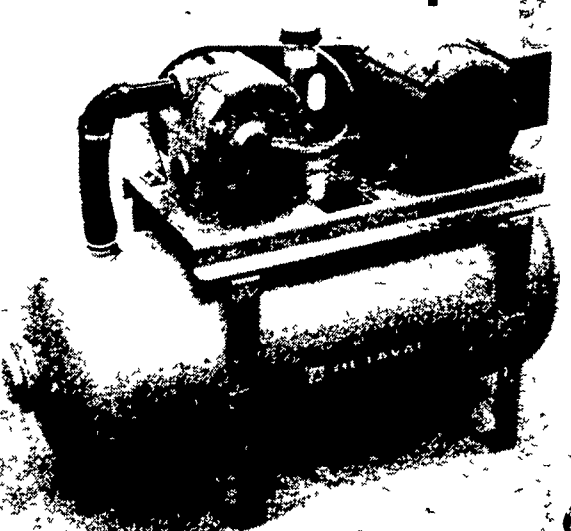
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