

Poultry feeding lecture aimed for peak output

By DIETER KRIEG

LANCASTER - Poultry feeding - more specifically nutrition and management during peak production - was just one of numerous areas explored last week during a Poultry Management Seminar organized by the Ralston-Purina Company. With close to 200 poultrymen in attendance, the day-long event was billed as an opportunity for farmers to catch up on the latest developments on nutrition and management.

Participants included Dr. Bill Ragland, poultry nutritionist at Purina; Dr. Leo Eldridge, poultry health specialist with the Company; and Gary Anderson, sales representative. Held at the Landis Valley Resort, the various programs lasted throughout the morning and afternoon.

According to a British study, a one per cent higher peak in production signifies an overall one per cent increase in production. Purina researchers, who have verified these results, therefore urge producers to

coordinate their feeding and management programs to bring about higher peaks in their production graphs.

Showing graphs and figures, Ragland pointed out that pullets come into production at various age levels. That variation can be as much as eight weeks, which, "in an eggshell," does not make poultry feeding as simple as one might think. The variation in maturity must be taken into consideration.

Figures displayed by Ragland indicated that an average of four per cent of the flock goes into production at Week 21. Average flock production at that point is only two per cent. By Week 27 average flock production has increased to 92 per cent, when all birds have passed the "first egg stage." Most hens reach their peak production in a matter of days, then decline slowly as the weeks progress.

"Remember, it's the flock as an average, not the individual hen, that requires eight to nine weeks to reach peak production," says Purina.

Ragland recommends altering the layer ration at five per cent production intervals, taking special consideration of calcium and phosphorus requirements.

Pullet records, which were stressed earlier in the program (see related stories elsewhere in this issue of Lancaster Farming) play an important part in managing for peak production as well. Purina researchers maintain that the lighting program and type of housing the pullets were grown in will have an effect on performance once they go to the laying facilities. A farmer may therefore want to consider adjusting his lighting to those the birds were used to as youngsters.

Purina research results indicate that lighting pullets at 18 weeks of age, rather than 20, will cause earlier sexual maturity, lower early egg weights, and shift the peak production period within the laying cycle. The total number of eggs laid (comparing initiating of lighting periods at either 18 or 20 weeks of age) will likely be the same, however, Purina studies indicate.

Ragland told his audience that the nutritional needs of the pullet will change because of the influence of the lighting program on the hen's sexual maturity. That's why he endorses a concept of feeding a layer ration by five per cent production intervals, rather than some chronological age.

Body weights of the hens should be considered in attempting to maximize production, Ragland offered. Deciding how to feed for increased body weights can be a bit confusing however, if producers don't take time to take a close look at the facts. It's true for example, that pullets gain considerable weight during the first few weeks that they're in their new surroundings. It is not necessarily true, however, that they are in need of specially fortified rations at that time. The reason for that deduction, Purina research explains, is that most of the pullet growth takes place prior to the time that the first egg is laid. It is not necessary to feed for both egg production and growth of the pullet at the same time.

Purina research has also revealed that approximately 80 per cent of the post peak production gain in body tissue is fat, not protein. This further influences the feeding program, Ragland showed. Exceptions may arise within these generalizations, the nutritionist points out, if the flock came into the layer house at unusually low average weights due to disease or management stress. In this case, extra fortification is in order, Ragland advised.

Ragland and Purina advocate using a layer ration to build calcium reserves in pullets, as opposed to a pullet ration with extra calcium. "It is not just a percentage of calcium or phosphorus in the layer ration that is

important but the actual intake of available calcium or phosphorus that is critical," the Purina scientist says. In periods of low feed intake, which may occur due to high housing temperatures or other management stress, it's vital that proper nutrient intake levels be maintained.

Rations with high calcium levels should not be fed to pullets prior to 18 weeks of age because it could result in kidney damage.

In choosing a ration designed for peak production, feed intake of both layers and non-layers are taken into consideration to give a "house average."

A final and important point

egg producers may want to consider is that each change of one degree Fahrenheit in house temperature results in an approximate change of 1/2 per cent in feed intake. It points out the need to adjust nutrient levels according to temperature.

In conclusion, the Purina seminar emphasized the necessity of starting with high quality pullets on which thorough feeding, health, and management records have been kept. "Nutritional programs and management practices during housing and through 36 weeks of age can have considerable effect on peak and subsequent performance," the Purina nutritionist affirmed.

Safe play

HARRISBURG - Because of the supervision, major injuries are not commonplace in Pennsylvania's State Parks.

Minor injuries caused by falls are perhaps most common and parents are urged to watch their youngsters at all times.

Also, they should never allow the children to play in or around fire rings for there

is always the possibility that a few hot coals may remain from a previous user.

The Department urges hikers to wear the proper type of footwear which is made for this purpose and soled to prevent slipping and falling, to stay on the established trails and by pass rock ledges where one slip could result in a serious injury.

DAIRY HERD DISPERSAL

Fred & Charlotte Bosworth
Homer, N.Y.

THURSDAY EVENING, JUNE 2, 1977
7:00 P.M.

Selling at the farm located on East River Rd., 7 mi. east of Cortland, N.Y., 5 mi. west of Truxton, 1 mi. from East Homer, N.Y. Turn off Rt. 1. Ohio Youngs crossing to East River Rd. Auction arrows.

73 REGISTERED & HIGH GRADE CATTLE 73

This is a stylish, good uddered, young herd. There are 55 cows of which 3 were fresh in March, 3 in April, 6 in May, 3 are due in July, 9 due in August, 7 in September, 7 in October, 4 in November, 5 in December, 7 due January, balance in various stages of lactation; 8 registered heifers due Sept. on, 9 registered started heifer calves, 1 reg. service bull. 46 head are registered. Many of the cattle trace to an Ivanhoe Son that did a fine job here. There are some fine daughters of a Sealing Rockman Son. A son of Black Bart has some lovely young cows. Some top A-I animals include a very fancy Astronaut due in July; 2 Lassie leader, very dairy; a nice black eagle due December; a milky Robbie due November; a fancy Marge; a hard working Cornerset Centurion medalist; a nice Vinedale Frasea pilot due in Oct. to 55 Rockman. You'll be pleased with the quality. Necessary cattle Vet examined. Vaccinated with Leptomune - G.H.P. Accommodations for interstate shipment.

Owners,
FRED & CHARLOTTE BOSWORTH
PHONE - 607-756-5093

Terms: Cash or good check. Lunch available.

NOTE: Mr. Bosworth says if anyone wishes to see these cattle milked they are welcome to do so, milking starts at 4 A.M. & 4 P.M.

Jack Woods Livestock & Auction Service
Cincinnati, N.Y.
Phone days - 607-863-2435
Evenings - 607-836-6312

PUBLIC SALE SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1977

2:00 PM
REAL ESTATE

14th South 18th Street Harrisburg, Pa.

Terms by
K. & G. STONE, JR.

AUCTIONEERS:
Stone and Kilmer
Phone 71-367-3220

PUBLIC SALE

FRIDAY NIGHT, JUNE 3, 1977

at 6:00 PM

Clearfield County between Glen Rickey, Clearfield Brown Crest Farm will offer complete disposal of farm machinery.

FARM MACHINERY

Massey-Ferguson tractor 180 gas; 12 ft. Pittsburgh disc. new; McConnell grain drill; single disc 16 hoe; New Holland haybine; New Holland hay rake, year old; New Holland baler Model 78 with Wisconsin motor; Hay elevator; corn elevator; 3 New Idea flat bed hay wagons; 2 self-unloading New Holland wagons; single row New Idea corn picker; super 717 New Holland harvester with corn head; 2 ensilage blowers with pipe; fertilizer spreader; one Cobey wagon hydraulic; small manure spreader; self-propelled Massey-Harris combine Model 82 with 10 ft head; 8 rolls of barb wire; one wagon of miscellaneous items

This machinery is ready to go to the field. Was never left to sit outside

Terms - cash or good check

Auctioneer - Carper

Owner:

BROWN CREST FARM.

OFFICIAL NOTICES OF

CANADIAN LAND UNPAID TAX SALES

Sheriff's notices of land and properties (many with buildings) to be sold by PUBLIC AUCTION for UNPAID TAXES plus cost. CLEAR DEEDS, some as low as \$50.00 full price. Vacation property City & Town lots, houses, farms, many to choose from. Good investment opportunities. We LIST FULL DETAILS of property location, total amount owing for unpaid taxes and where to buy. . . . NEW SPRING 1977 EDITION now available, copies limited. . . . Send \$6.00 for your copy to Canadian Publications. P.O. Box 712, Belleville Ontario, Canada.

RAUB

COMPLETE DISPERSAL

Located just out of Austinville, Pa., 6 miles from Col. Cross Roads, 9 miles from Troy, 12 miles from Mansfield, Pa. Watch for auction arrows off Route 14 at Col. Cross Rds. and off Route 6 between Troy and Mansfield.

TUESDAY, MAY 31, 1977

At 1:00 P.M. Sharp
42 HIGH GRADE HOLSTEINS 42

Herd consists of 35 mature cows, 3 bred heifers, 4 from 3 months to 6 months, several fresh cows, one due June, one July, four August, 14 due from September through December. Balance in various stages of lactation. Sire Power breeding for years, service sires represented, Shrine, BB Lad, More, Birch, Jewel, Aim High, Astro, Galaxy, Pencor, Interstate tested, preg. ex., charts day of sale.

MACHINERY

Oliver 1555 gas tractor only 1700 hours, a real nice tractor; Cockshutt 550 tractor w/3 pt. hitch; JD 420 crawler; WD45 tractor w/loader and side mount mower; NH 68 baler w/thrower; NI mow-ditioner. Papec chopper w/pick-up and one row corn heads; Gehl self-unloading box w/heavy running gear and flotation tires; 2 hay wagons w/kicker racks; White 508 semi-mounted spring loaded plows (new last year); IHC 4 row corn planter; Cockshutt 8 ft. disc; JD 2 row corn planter; NH 23 hopper blower; Ontario 15 hoe grain drill; Hawk barrell spreader; 7 ft. rotary mower; NH 327 spreader; Oliver 5 wheel rake; weed sprayer w/tank; 4 section harrows; 50 ft. elev. w/PTO; Shaver hyd. post driver; 3 pt. hitch cultivator; cast iron land roller; fertilizer sower; farm trailer; 3 sets of ring tractor chains; cattle oiler; locust fence post; hyd. cylinders; 2 and 3 hp. motors; log chains; grabs; binders and a few other small items.

Milk House - Barn - Silo Equipment

400 gal. Girton bulk tank w/compressor; Boumatic pipeline complete w/milker pump 4 units, washer, vat and 285 ft. line 2 years old; Badger silo unloader presently in 14 ft. silo w/elec. wench (new last year); Badger 16 ft. elev. w/9 ft. trough (new last year); Patz silo unloader fits 12 to 16 ft. silo; 670 bu. metal corn crib.

Sales Mgr. Note: Due to health problems, Mr. Raub must discontinue his farming operation. A good producing herd w/good udders; just went on DHIA 2 months ago so records won't be complete but will be a good guideline. Selling order machinery at 1:00 sharp, cattle at approx. 2:00. See you Tuesday, May 31, 1977.

Terms: Cash or good check. Lunch Available. Sale under cover.

Owners,
PRESTON AND HELEN RAUB

Auctioneer - Arlow Kiehl
Sales Mgr: Gordon Wood, Mansfield, Pa.
717-549-4901

For the most in advertising coverage and preparing your sale, call Wood's Auction Service.