

Receives poultry research grant

UNIVERSITY PARK -Roland M. Leach, professor of poultry science at Penn State, has received the American Feed Manufacturers' Association Award of \$1000 for achievements in research into poultry nutrition.

A top national award for poultry research, the selection was announced at the 69th annual meeting of the Poultry Science Association held recently at University, Purdue Layfayette, Ind.

The thrust of Leach's research has centered on three areas - mechanisms of egg shell formation, trace elements and the food chain,

and leg weakness in turkeys and broiler chickens.

"Research by Leach has contributed in a major fashion to an increased understanding of leg weakness in broilers and thin egg shells among laying hens-both major problems of the poultry industry," stated Kenneth Goodwin, head of the Department of Poultry Science in Penn State.

Under Leach's direction, studies of egg shell formation have examined early events in shell formation and properties of shell gland fluid. A major contribution of his laboratory was to define the role of copper in shell membrane formation. This led to a better un-

derstanding of the chemistry and described by Leach. of shell membrame protein.

Leach and his students have studied the relationship between cadmium and nickel content of the diet and tilage metabolism. He is the the mineral content of meat and eggs.

They also have investigated copper metabolism in sheep, since these animals are extremely sensitive to increases in the copper content of plant materials and thus serve as indicators of toxic levels. The research analyzed the toxic metal content of animal tissues used as human food.

Extensive studies by Leach and associates have contributed to an understanding of leg weaknesses in broiler chickens and turkeys. Research focused on the biochemical changes associated with leg abnormalities known as perosis and tibial dyschondroplasia. The latter malady was first observed

Throughout his career, his primary research interest has been in the role of trace elements in bone and carauthor or co-author of 55 scientific articles.

Well recognized among his peers, he has been invited to participate in several symposia dealing with research in trace elements and mineral metabolism.

In addition to his scientific papers, Dr. Leach has presented a number of papers to industry groups, summarizing the state of knowledge in his areas of interest. He also serves as a consultant to poultry industry leaders.

Leach is a graduate of the University of Maine. He received a master's degree in nutrition from Purdue University and the doctor of philosophy degree in nutrition from Cornell University. He has been a faculty member at Penn State since 1968.

Delmarva poultry meeting sets record

DELMAR, Md. -- The 15th National Meeting on Poultry Health and Condemnations, held at the Del-Mar-Va



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Convention Hall in Delmar, Md. last week, was attended by a record number of 451 people who came from 29 states, the District of Columbia and three foreign countries.

This was 21 more than the previous high record attendance which was posted last year.

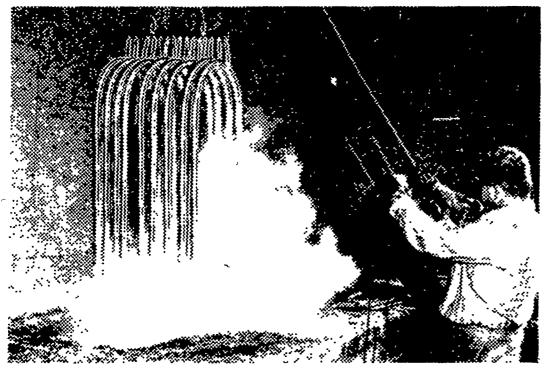
This national meeting was sponsored by Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc., the regional trade association which is the voice of the area's huge broiler industry, in cooperation with the Universities of Delaware and Maryland.

The program featured 37 participants who covered numerous topics concerned with disease and condemnation problems in the grow-out and processing phases of the poultry industry.

Paul V. Twining, Jr., DPI president, and G. Thomas Holder, chairman of the DPI Poultry Health Committee and general chairman of the conference, both commented that this event is considered the leading meeting of its kind, which is borne out by the increasing attendance each year.



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