

Study reveals no significant difference in feeding DDG

GOLDEN, Co. — In a recent report of the Solar Energy Research Institute, there was no significant differences in weight gains, feed efficiency, or general health observed between steers fed dried distillers' grains in place of corn at rates of 0 percent, 15 percent and 30 percent.

The study, conducted at Colorado State University and supported by the Biomass Energy Systems Branch of the U.S. Department of Energy, looked at the feed value of a protein-rich by-product of a process to produce ethanol fuels from grains.

In the trial, steers were randomly assigned to six pen treatments with each treatment being replicated. Along with there being no significant difference in weight gains, feed efficiency, or general health, there were also negligible differences in carcass quality.

At the time of the study, DDG was valued at \$113 per ton. However, if its full value as a protein supplement had been credited, it would have had a value of \$131 a ton. The market price for DDG at the time was \$150 per ton.

Prior to this study, there was no information about animal responses to levels of DDG in the diet other than low levels used to balance protein requirements in rations. Because a diet containing 30 percent DDG provides about 50 percent more protein than an animal requires and increases the

fiber content of the diet, the study was designed to determine the effects these increases would have on performance.

Eighty-four steers, averaging 760-pounds were weighed, tagged, wormed, and implanted with Synovex-S before entering the trial. The major rations components were corn silage, flaked corn grain, beet pulp, and protein supplement.

At the start of the trial, the cattle were fed a 40 percent concentrate ration which was later raised to 80 percent concentrate. The cattle received 0.75 pound per head per day of protein supplement.

The DDG mixture obtained from Midwest distilleries had 29 percent protein, 10 percent crude fat, 10 percent crude fiber, 4 percent ash, and 47 percent nitrogen-free extract.

At the end of the four-month trial, the cattle were slaughtered and the following measurements were calculated: feed intake; feed efficiency; total weight gain; average daily weight gain; hot carcass weight; dressing percentage; backfat thickness; kidney fat as percentage of body weight; ribeye area; marbling score; yield grade; USDA quality grade; and condemned livers due to abscesses.

The study found there were no important differences due to nutritional treatments between the cattle.

Steers fed the 30 percent

DDG diet gained about 0.2 pounds per day more than other groups. This fact was not statistically significant, they pointed out, because those steers ate more feed.

making the feed efficiency essentially the same.

Only two statistically significant differences were found:

Spent hens

(Continued from Page A1)

afternoon portion of the day-long meeting included efforts to expand both markets and processing capacity for spent hens.

Principal guest speakers during the marketing discussion were Robert R. Coleman, who heads up Membership Services for the Farm Bureau's national fowl marketing program; and Michael Arcidy, who directs the FACTS program for PACMA in Pennsylvania.

Coleman's presentation was a combination sales pitch for the national program and a passing criticism of the FACTS operation.

Coleman distributed a number of reports showing progress in signing up new states and producers in the national program during the past year. One report listed total AAMA fowl sales of 10,117,462 hens for 1980, an increase of 49 percent over 1979. This is the highest number of hens sold since the program's start in 1971. The report also listed a 25 percent increase in membership with five new states joining in 1980.

In answer to a question, Arcidy stated that just less

than one-fifth of the available spent hens in Pennsylvania are marketed through FACTS.

Nationally, more than 200 million spent hens are marketed annually.

The greater emphasis on the national marketing program is an attempt to gain more clout in combatting the Number One customer for spent hens — the Campbell Soup Co.

Also speaking at the session were Marlin Miller, PACMA manager; and Joseph Buck, Director, PACMA's Poultry Division.

Before going into executive session, further exploration and fact finding on the marketing situation was directed to be conducted between Miller and John Hoffman, of the Pa. Poultry Federation.

Concerning the need for more processing plants for spent hens in the Northeast (there are only four), it was explained that a new large plant may be located in Massachusetts, which would require 250,000 hens a week. This plant would be entirely for export.

In relation to expanding markets, two major efforts were mentioned.

—the 15 percent and 30 percent DDG diets produced a thicker fat cover, and

—marbling scores were higher for the control pen and 30 percent DDG diets

than for the 15 percent DDG diet.

These statistics, however, are not expected to affect beef quality, the report stated.

Higher loan levels for reserve grain

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Producers placing 1980-crop grains in the farmer-held reserve Wednesday became eligible for special higher loan levels and interest on those loans will be waived as a result of President Carter signing the Agricultural Act of 1980.

Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland said wheat producers placing this year's crop into reserve will receive a \$3.30-per-bushel loan, compared to the \$3.00 loan level for wheat not in the reserve program. 1980-crop corn going into reserve will receive a \$2.40 loan, compared to the \$2.25 loan for non-reserve corn.

Producers placing 1980-crop barley in reserve will receive a 12-cent premium

above the \$1.83 loan level for non-reserve barley.

Producers with 1980-crop wheat, corn and barley already in reserve may request the higher price supports at their local county ASCS office, Bergland said. Reserve release and call prices are not affected by today's action.

The act also provides for a 7-cent reserve premium to the current oat loan level of \$1.16 per bushel and 14-cent premium to the \$2.14-per-bushel loan for non-reserve sorghum. However, oats and sorghum have already been called from reserve.

Bergland said the new higher loan levels for reserve commodities will help strengthen the reserve program.

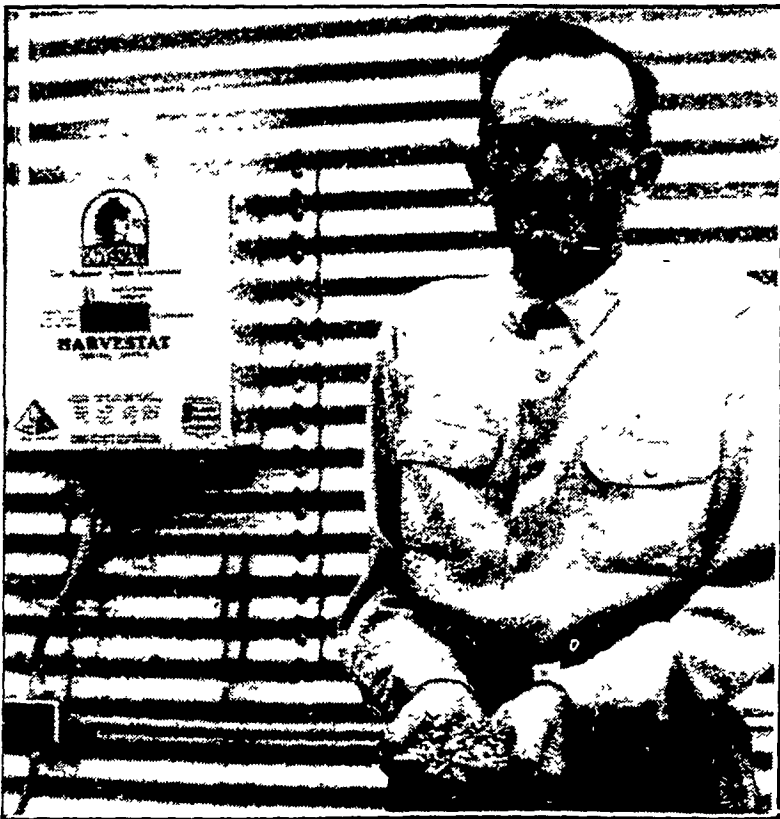
First, efforts would be continued to increase the percentage of chicken in soup due to the two-thirds market domination by Campbell's.

Another effort is centered on gaining acceptance for spent hen minced chicken patties. The USDA is now conducting a test program of

using some 504,000 pounds through the school lunch program.

It has been pointed out that if marketing of spent hen patties could capture just two percent of the hamburger market, that would be enough to utilize all of the spent hens throughout the country.

"Harvestall Chillcuring works.

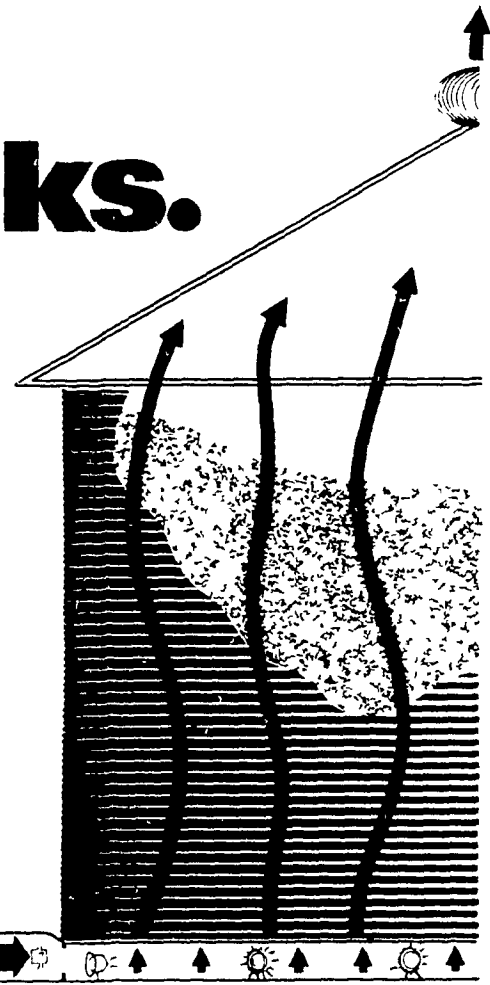


Clarence Harnish, Lampeter, Pa.

This was my first year with the Harvestall. When my corn was dried commercially last year it cost me 27¢ per bushel. With the Harvestall it didn't cost over 6¢ per bushel and the test weight was 58 to 59 lbs.

I'm pleased with the quality corn I get and I'm pleased with the savings. I would recommend the Harvestall system to farmers who are looking for storage or drying, because it has done for me the job it was designed to do.

I get better quality corn for less cost."



The Harvestall Chillcuring System

It's simple. When grain comes out of the field it's a living seed. So instead of destroying the seed with high heat, moisture is removed with natural air ventilation. The grain keeps all its feed value, there is less shrinkage than with heat drying because only moisture is removed, not dry matter. You'll never see white dust in Chillcured corn. You actually save half of what you're used to losing in heat shrink.

There's no gas or oil to buy. Natural air carries away heat and moisture as the corn releases it.

Harvestall Chillcuring is a back-to-basics system that just simply makes good sense. Find out more about it.



Advanced Ag Systems

R.D. 2, Box 174
Elverson, Pa. 19520
215-286-9118

Ken Sauder Milford Mast
717-656-6519 215-286-9118