

Storing Eggs Improves Hatchability

Excerpted from the UFL *Poultry Letter*

Researchers at the North Carolina State University have been studying the effects of long storage times of fertile eggs on hatchability. They have discovered that storing fertile eggs for 5 days at exactly 64.4F (75% relative humidity) actually increases the hatchability when compared to eggs that were set fresh. Their findings proved the hypothesis that a thicker albumin (what most fresh laid eggs have) creates a barrier that restricts the flow of oxygen from the shell membrane to the developing embryo. Stored eggs have a thinner albumin which allows more oxygen to reach the developing embryo.

Politics

Famous Quote:

"If Lincoln were alive today, he'd roll over in his grave." - President Gerald Ford

Political Wisdom:

1. Resolved, by this council that we build a new jail.
2. Resolved, that the new jail be built out of the materials of the old jail.
3. Resolved, that the old jail be used until the new jail is finished.

- resolution of Board of Councilmen, Canton, Miss., mid 1800's

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\$1⁰⁰



\$1⁰⁰

YES, ITS REAL

This month we get a special treat. The Nutrena Feeds company allowed us to print a coupon good for up to \$2.00 if you use it to purchase two 50 lb. bags of Nutrena feed at the Red Barn or the South Florida Hay Exchange. Nutrena is the first company to allow us to print their coupon in our newsletter.

Pasteurization of Eggs in the Shell

Excerpted from the UFL *Poultry Letter*

Researchers at Purdue University have developed a procedure that results in a significant reduction in *Salmonella enteritidis* concentrations in shelled eggs without affecting taste or internal quality. The procedure involves first washing the eggs in the normal way to remove surface contaminants. Then the eggs are heated to 131F by one of several methods and held at that temperature for up to 30 minutes. The 131F was chosen because it is the temperature at which bacteria inside the eggs will die but yet is not hot enough to cook the egg.

The simplest heating method involves bathing the eggs in water heated to 131F. After 15 minutes, the eggs are removed and bathed in cooler water. Any longer than that will result in the partial cooking of the egg.

A more complex heating method involves exposing the eggs to microwaves using specially controlled power levels and durations. The advantage of using microwaves is that the yolk (the usual location of the bacteria) gets heated more than the egg white. Although the microwave method is preferable for com-

mercial processing plants, it is not recommended for home use because eggs usually explode when improperly microwaved.

Poultry Show Winners

Best Pullet	Richard Greggs
Best Cockerel	Lee Salmon
Best Hen	Wade Taylor
Best Cock	Lee Salmon
Best Waterfowl	Wade Taylor
Best Exotic	Kaitlin VanHeusen

Copper Reduces Cholesterol

Excerpted from the UFL *Poultry Letter*

Researchers at the University of Georgia have discovered that the addition of Copper Sulfate or Copper Citrate to the feed of broiler chickens will increase the growth rate of these birds while simultaneously reducing the cholesterol found in their meat. Copper Citrate was found to be the best and required much weaker concentrations than Copper Sulfate to produce the same effect.

4-H News

The 38th annual PBC 4-H awards banquet was held October 10, 1996. Many of our poultry club 4-H members received special recognition.

* Amanda Case - Outstanding Senior

* Keevey Schwartz - Outstanding Junior

Special Awards for Achievement Clubs went to Buzy Bees II ("BB"), Fancy Feathers ("FF"), and Heritage Farms ("HF"). The winners are as follows:

4-H Week Activities: Heritage Farms
Honorable Mention Buzy Bees II

Outstanding Community Service: Heritage Farms
First Runner Up Heritage Farms
Second Runner Up Buzy Bees II
Honorable Mention Heritage Farms
and Buzy Bees II

Outstanding Club Scrapbook: Heritage Farms
Second Place Buzy Bees II
Fifth Place Fancy Feathers

Outstanding Senior Secretary Rpt: Fancy Feathers

Outstanding Junior Treasurer
Honorable Mention Heritage Farms

4-H Project Pin Recipients

Poultry: Keevey Schwartz - BB
Horse: Keevey Schwartz - BB
Leadership: Amanda Case - Voyagers
Rebekah Davidson - HF
Health: Will Barhite - FF
Rebecca Spyrka - FF
Photography: Ben Hoover - HF
Computers: Amanda Case - Voyagers
Horticulture: Matt Fechtmeyer - HF
Adam Nagele - HF
Fashion Revue: Keevey Schwartz - BB
Rebekah Davidson - HF
Amber Benedetti - HF
Alicia Coady - HF
Josie Brawer - HF
Micha Brawer - HF
Vicky Trezkowski - HF
Julie Harris - HF
Nicole Badurek - HF
Rebecca Spyrka - FF
Matt McClelland - FF
Puppy Raiser: Diana Mazzella - HF
Cara Nagele - HF

Cat: Teresa Dufek - BB
Discovery 4-H: Casey Kebler - BB
Rabbit: Keevey Schwartz - BB
Teresa Dufek - BB
Leisure Arts: Rebekah Davidson - HF
Cara Nagele - HF
Matt Fechtmeyer - HF
Clothing & Textiles: Rebekah Davidson - HF
Josie Brawer - HF
Ben Hoover - HF
Marine Science: Rebekah Davidson - HF
Public Speaking: Rebecca Spyrka - FF
Eric Downes - HF

Achievement Winners

Heritage Farms:
Diana Mazzella
Teresa Mazzella
Rebekah Davidson
Josie Brawer

Voyagers:
Amanda Case

Buzy Bees II:
Ashby Boyd
Adrienne Brackett
Patricia Dufek
Keith Lane
Thomas Cane
Jennifer Dufek
Keevey Schwartz
Gloria Lane
Teresa Dufek
Casey Kebler

Fancy Feathers:
Rebecca Spyrka

PBC Poultry Fanciers - Thank you for All your support!

Obituary

Dr. Helene C. Cecil suffered a massive heart attack and passed away on October 17, 1996. Helene started work with the USDA in 1953 as a GS-3 technician. Attending the University of Maryland part-time, she was awarded her BS degree in 1963 and her Ph.D in 1968. Her career advanced from technician, to research biologist in 1965, to Research Leader of the Avian Physiology Laboratory in 1976-77 and 1988-90. During her career she had co-authored 169 scientific presentations and has served on numerous advisory committees. In 1987, she became the first woman to be elected President of the Poultry Science Association, an international organization with nearly 3,600 members from academic, government, and industry.

Symptoms of Crop Impaction

Crop Impaction is where the crop of a chicken fills with material that will not pass through the birds digestive system. Most of the time it is caused from eating certain weeds that bulk up when swallowed. A chicken with an impacted crop will stand around, maybe sit on its roost, and look depressed. When you pick it up, the crop may be hard and distended, or liquid and distended. The real clue is that if you hold the mouth open and smell, there's a nasty, sour smell, not the usual chicken breath smell at all.

Chickens often have full crops, but will be active and always ready to eat 'one more thing', with no foul odor on their breath. With a slightly impacted crop, sometimes a little mineral oil will lubricate things enough for the mass to pass through. In more severe cases, surgery is required to open the crop and remove its contents.

The Far Side Debut

The folks who distribute the comic strip *The Far Side* have graciously allowed our club to print *Far Side* comics in our club newsletter. Starting with this issue, the strip will appear in the newsletter on a quarterly basis. Special thanks to Universal Press Syndicate for allowing us to do this.

Marek's Disease

Range paralysis is another name for Marek's disease. Some people believe that culling infected birds that are lame from this disease is better for the birds and might prevent infection to the rest of the flock. However, the way Marek's works is that if one bird in your flock has it then the entire flock has already been exposed. Some birds will get signs of the disease regardless of whether or not you cull other birds, but only a small percentage will typically contract the disease. Some birds can actually recover from the signs of lameness, so if it is not severe and the birds can still access the feeders and waterers, it may not be bad to keep them for a little while to see how they do. If you bring new birds into your flock and you want to try to prevent them from getting the disease, you can vaccinate them for Marek's (which is not 100% effective) or you could keep them completely isolated from the other birds because they all could be carriers.

Thanks Dr. Porcher

Special thanks go to Dr. Porcher who was the poultry judge for our in-house poultry show. We really appreciate it!

SCAM WARNING!!!

The National Fraud Information Center has reported that a new scam has been reported whereby the victim receives some kind of message requesting a return call to the 809 area code. The message usually comes on a pager, email, or even an answering machine and will say just about anything to get you to call the 809 number. The messages have been known to say: "Your account has gone to collection", "A friend of yours was involved in a traffic accident", and sometimes just "Call ...". The thing that they all have in common is that they all give an 809 area code number for you to call. Because 809 looks just like a regular US number, many unsuspecting victims call the number only to be charged as much as \$25 per minute. There is no warning about the cost, and the number is usually answered by an answering machine.

Here is why you should not call numbers in the 809 area code. Certain numbers in the 809 area code are set up to work the same way that 900 numbers do in the US. The 809 area code is primarily used by the Bahamas and other Island nations in the Atlantic. Because they are a foreign country, they can do whatever they feel like with their own phone system. As a result, calls to the 809 area code are not regulated as are 900 number calls. This means that, unlike a 900 number, your phone can be disconnected if you refuse to pay for the call.

Therefore, it is a good idea to check the area code out with the phone company before returning any calls to an area code that you do not know exactly where it is.

Correction

Last month it was incorrectly reported that the club was going to raise the selling price of all the chicks sold at the fair to \$3.00 each. This is only partially true. The price for straight run chicks will remain at \$2.00 each. Starting with the next fair, we will also be selling sexed pullets. The price of the pullets will be \$3.00 each. The price of ducklings is expected to remain at \$5.00 each.

Fair Incubator Retrofit

Richard Okerson, our Vice President, has agreed to install new electronic thermostats in the display incubators that we use at the fair. These new thermostats have been needed for several years because the old wafer thermostats would not keep the correct temperature. The new electronic thermostats will generally keep the temperature to within 1/10th of a degree of what it is supposed to be. They are also more difficult for vandals to sabotage and cannot be mal-adjusted by children reaching over the railing and turning the knob.

The Far Side by Gary Larson



Scene from *Dinner on Elm Street*

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Chick Selection at Next Meeting

At the November meeting, we will decide about issues concerning our acquisition of chicks to sell at the fair. We will have to decide how many chicks total and how many out of those that will be sexed pullets. We will also need to decide on the variety of breeds that will sold. There are issues concerning ducklings as well such as how many and the kind of breeds. Currently we have no plans to sell sexed ducklings.

Classified

FOR SALE:

PBCPFA T-Shirts, excellent quality, beautiful logo. Small, Medium, Large, and X-Large sizes are available for \$10.00 (members), \$12.00 (non-members). Contact Richard Greggs (561) 433-8157. Don't be chicken, get yours today.

Baseball caps with our PBCPFA logo on them. They look fantastic and sell for a low \$5.00! Contact Richard Greggs (561) 433-8157.

Free rooster to a good home. Ameraucana with Columbian plumage is a good breeder but has crooked toes. If interested, call 795-2067.

FOR LOAN OR RENT:

Don't let your flock fall victim to predators! The poultry club owns a trap that members may use free of charge. Your neighbors may rent the trap for a small fee. To reserve your time to use the trap, contact Richard Greggs (561) 433-8157.

WANTED:

Newsletter articles for the PBCPFA newsletter. The deadline is the fourth Friday of the previous month. Submit articles to the editor by mail, email, or in person at the meeting.