



The Poultry Informed Professional

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How Long do Mycoplasma Live?

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There are many diseases in commercial poultry that we do a good job of preventing or eradicating or at least minimizing their effects on production costs. However, the mycoplasmas seem to always elude our best efforts for both prevention and eradication. It is hard to imagine a bacteria that is so host adapted (avian only for MS, MG, MI, MM), fragile (no cell wall), and requires specialized growth nutrients (i.e. NAD for MS) could even be a mild problem for the modern sophisticated poultry industry. In an effort to help us understand how the mycoplasma survive, two researchers studied the survival times of MS, MG, and MI outside the host birds. We have summarized their work into these tables. We urge you to read the articles to fully understand the strengths and weaknesses of their research.

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Broiler Performance Data (Region) Live Production Cost					
	SW	Midwest	Southeast	Mid-Atlantic	S-Central
Feed cost/ton w/o color (\$)	121.89	113.32	126.03	126.28	125.58
Feed cost/lb meat (¢)	11.05	10.67	11.77	12.33	11.44
Days to 4.6 lbs	45	44	44	44	43
Med. cost/ton (¢)	2.63	1.79	2.93	2.52	3.13
Chick cost/lb (¢)	4.00	3.71	3.92	3.64	3.78
Vac-Med cost/lb (¢)	0.05	0.03	0.12	0.05	0.11
WB & 1/2 parts condemn. cost/lb	0.22	0.19	0.20	0.22	0.20
% mortality	4.03	3.26	3.27	3.98	3.49
Sq. Ft. @ placement	0.80	0.78	0.81	0.81	0.84
Lbs./Sq. Ft.	6.00	6.63	6.47	7.16	6.37
Down time (days)	18	16	18	17	17

Data for week ending 10/21/00

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Survival of MG on Various Substances			
Cotton	4 days	Feathers	4 days
Rubber	2 days	Hair	3 days
Straw	2 days	Ear	4 hours
Shavings	8 hours	Nose	1 day
Wood	1 day	Skin	<4 hours
Feed	4 hours	Buffer	1 day

Investigations into the survival of *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*, *Mycoplasma synoviae*, and *Mycoplasma iowae* on materials found in the poultry house environment. N.H. Christensen, Christine A. Yavari, A.J. McBain, and Janet M. Bradbury, Avian Pathology (1994) 23:127-143.

Survival of MS on Various Substances			
Cotton	2 days	Feathers	3 days
Rubber	8 hours	Hair	8 hours
Straw	12 hours	Ear	4 hours
Shavings	4 hours	Nose	12 hours
Wood	12 hours	Skin	0 hours
Feed	0 hours	Buffer	NT

Shimizu, T., Nagatomo, H., and Nagahama, K. Zentralblatt fur Bakteriologie (1990), Supplement 20, 950-952.

Survival of MG under Various Conditions	
Sunlight	<15 to 120 min
UV light	30 - 90 min
Well water with 1% serum	7 days
Well water	4 - 5 days
50% soil extract	1 - 3 days
Dry at 4° C	61 days
Dry at 20° C	10 - 14 days

Survival of MS under Various Conditions	
Sunlight	30 to 120 min
UV light	30 - 60 min
Well water with 1% serum	1 - 2 days
Well water	1 - 2 days
50% soil extract	1 - 2 days
Dry at 4° C	51 - 77 days
Dry at 20° C	10 - 21 days

Excerpts from the latest USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) "Broiler Hatchery," "Chicken and Eggs" and "Turkey Hatchery" Reports and Economic Research Service (ERS) "Livestock, Dairy and Poultry Situation and Outlook" Reports

Broiler Eggs Set In 15 Selected States Up 1 Percent

According to the latest National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set in incubators 167 million eggs during the week ending October 21, 2000. This was up 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 82 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Broiler Chicks Placed Up 1 Percent

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 140 million chicks for meat production during the week ending October 21, 2000. Placements were up 1 percent from the comparable week in 1999. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2000, through October 21, 2000, were 6.09 billion, up 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Turkey Eggs in Incubators on October 1 Up 7 Percent From Last Year

Turkey eggs in incubators on October 1, 2000, in the United States totaled 30.1 million, up 7 percent from October 1 a year ago. Eggs in incubators were down 1 percent from the September 1 total of 30.3 million. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central, up 3 percent; West North Central, up 4 percent; North and South Atlantic, up 9 percent; South Central, up 5 percent; and West, up 19 percent.

Poults Placed During September Up 6 Percent From Last Year

The 23.2 million poults placed during September 2000 in the United States were up 6 percent from the number placed during the same month a year ago. Placements were down 7 percent from the August total of 24.8 million. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central, up slightly; West North Central, up 9 percent; North and South Atlantic, up slightly; South Central, up 5 percent; and West, up 36 percent.

September Egg Production Down Slightly

U.S. egg production totaled 6.84 billion during September 2000, down slightly from the 6.86 billion produced in 1999. Production included 5.80 billion table eggs and 1.03 billion hatching eggs, of which 973 million were broiler-type and 61.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during September 2000 averaged 325 million, up 1 percent from the total average number of layers during September 1999. September egg production per 100 layers was 2,101 eggs, down 1 percent from 2,128 eggs in September 1999.

All layers in the U.S. on October 1, 2000, totaled 326 million, up 1 percent from a year ago. The 326 million layers consisted of 270 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 53.5 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.67 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on October 1, 2000, averaged 69.2 eggs per 100 layers, down 2 percent from the 70.6 a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 6.40 billion eggs during September, down 1 percent from September 1999. The average number of layers during September, at 305 million, was up 1 percent from a year earlier.

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched Down 8 Percent

Egg-type chicks hatched during September totaled 36.3 million, down 8 percent from September 1999. Eggs in incubators totaled 32 million on October 1, 2000, down 10 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 277,000 during September 2000, up 22 percent from September 1999.

Broiler Hatch Up 1 Percent

The September 2000 hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 705 million, was up 1 percent from September of the previous year. There were 587 million eggs in incubators on October 1, 2000, down slightly from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 6.47 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during September 2000, down 6 percent from September 1999.

Slowing Production, Higher Exports, Strengthen Broiler Prices

According to the most recent Economic Research Service (ERS) reports, third-quarter 2000 broiler production is estimated at 7.6 billion pounds, only 1.5 percent higher than a year earlier. At the end of the third quarter and the beginning of the fourth, the number of broiler chicks placed for growout have been averaging between 1 and 2 percent higher than the previous year. The slower growth in domestic production, an expanding export market, and lower stock levels (September 30 broiler stocks in cold storage were 8 percent lower than a year ago) are expected to combine to strengthen prices for dark meat parts.

Broiler exports continue to be strong, as shipments in August totaled 501 million pounds, up 25 percent from a year earlier. In 2000, total broiler exports are forecast at 5.3 billion pounds, up 6.8 percent from 1999. Exports to Russia continue to be one of the strongest segments of the export picture. In August shipments to Russia (and the Baltic countries) totaled 169 million, 26 percent higher than a year earlier. With broiler production in Russia expected to only slowly expand, broiler parts shipments to Russia are expected to remain strong through the rest of 2000 and into 2001.

Turkey Production Higher, but Whole Bird Stocks Lower in September

Federally inspected turkey production for fourth-quarter 2000 is expected to total 1.4 billion pounds, 2.3 percent higher than the previous year. Over the first 8 months of 2000, production has been 3.6 billion pounds, up 4 percent from the same period in 1999. Whole bird stocks at the end of September were 339 million pounds, down 15 percent from a year earlier. Stocks of turkey parts were also down 3 percent from September 1999. The relatively low rate of production in the second half of 2000 (1 percent higher than the same period in 1999), along with a strong export market, and lower stocks for whole birds is expected to strengthen fourth quarter prices in the whole bird market, as the holiday season approaches. However, as of September the three-region price for whole birds was identical to what it was in September 1999.

Even if whole bird prices strengthen at the wholesale level, consumers may not notice much change compared to a year ago. Many grocery chains feature turkeys in an effort to attract holiday shoppers and hoping they will make the rest of their holiday food and related purchases in the same store. Some chains advertised free turkeys to consumers who spend a specific amount during the pre-holiday period.

The same markets (Mexico, Russia, and China/Hong Kong) registering strong increases in broiler shipments have also imported increased amounts of U.S. turkey products over the first 8 months of 2000. Exports so far in 2000 have totaled 270 million pounds, an increase of 19 percent. Turkey exports to Mexico, Russia, and China/Hong Kong have accounted for 76 percent of all shipments so far in 2000. While total turkey exports have increased strongly, the gain in exports has only a small impact on whole bird prices in the United States. Whole bird exports over the first 8 months of 2000, were only 19 million pounds, 7 percent of total shipments.

Higher Exports, but Low Prices for Eggs

Expectations are that table egg production will increase 2 percent in 2000 to 6.0 billion dozen and exports of shell eggs and egg products are likely to almost the same as the previous year. As a result, apparent U.S. egg consumption for 2000 is expected to reach the equivalent of over 259 eggs per person, an increase of just over 19 eggs per person since 1997. A leading cause in the higher egg consumption is the higher amounts of eggs going to the breaking egg market. This means higher consumption of eggs in prepared bakery products and other prepared foods. The larger amounts of eggs entering the breaking egg market is also a result of more eggs being pasteurized for use in the food service market.

Even with higher production and stable exports, egg prices are about the same as in 1999. Wholesale egg prices are expected to average approximately 65 cents a dozen in 2000, almost identical to a year earlier. This extends the run of low egg prices, which began 3 years ago. In August, egg exports totaled the equivalent of 16.5 million dozen, up 29 percent from a year earlier. During the January to August period, egg exports have totaled 109 million dozen, 6 percent higher than in 1999. Higher shipments of shell eggs have accounted for most of the increase. Exports of egg products to Mexico are beginning to recover from their strong drop in 1999, but are still below their year-earlier levels. In 1998, shipments of egg products to Mexico accounted for 35 percent of all egg products shipments. Then in 1999 with a surplus of eggs in Mexico, the market for egg products fell off. In 1999, shipments of egg products to Mexico were only 10 percent of U.S. total egg exports.

**Broiler Performance Data (Company)
Live Production Cost**

	Average Co.	Top 25%	Top 5 Cos.
Feed cost/ton w/o color (\$)	124.22	119.19	112.63
Feed cost/lb meat (¢)	11.49	10.90	10.23
Days to 4.6 lbs	44	44	45
Med. cost/ton (¢)	2.74	2.42	1.69
Chick cost/lb (¢)	3.95	3.69	3.45
Vac-Med cost/lb (¢)	0.08	0.04	0.05
WB & 1/2 parts condemn. cost/lb	0.21	0.18	0.14
% mortality	3.66	3.38	3.43
Sq. Ft. @ placement	0.81	0.80	0.80
Lbs./Sq. Ft.	6.39	6.28	6.40
Down time (days)	17	16	19

Data for week ending 10/21/00

Broiler Whole Bird Condemnation (Region)

	SW	Mid-West	S. East	Mid-Atlantic	S. Central
% Septox	0.284	0.327	0.182	0.302	0.238
% Airsac	0.081	0.058	0.148	0.112	0.075
% I.P.	0.071	0.046	0.079	0.056	0.106
% Leukosis	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.006	0.002
% Bruise	0.007	0.006	0.014	0.011	0.014
% Other	0.029	0.008	0.017	0.018	0.007
% Total	0.474	0.446	0.442	0.504	0.443
% 1/2 parts condemnations	0.395	0.318	0.373	0.350	0.347

Data for week ending 10/21/00

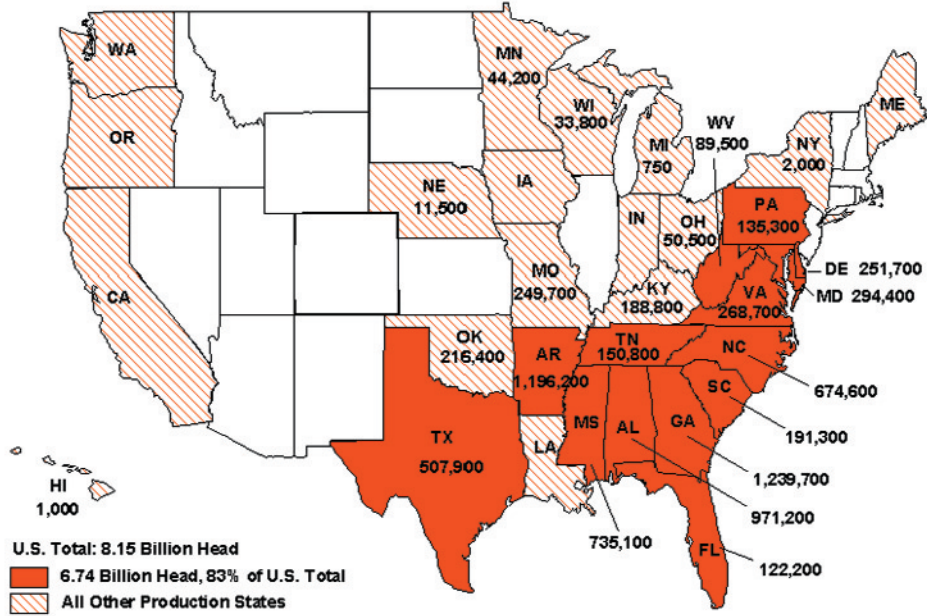


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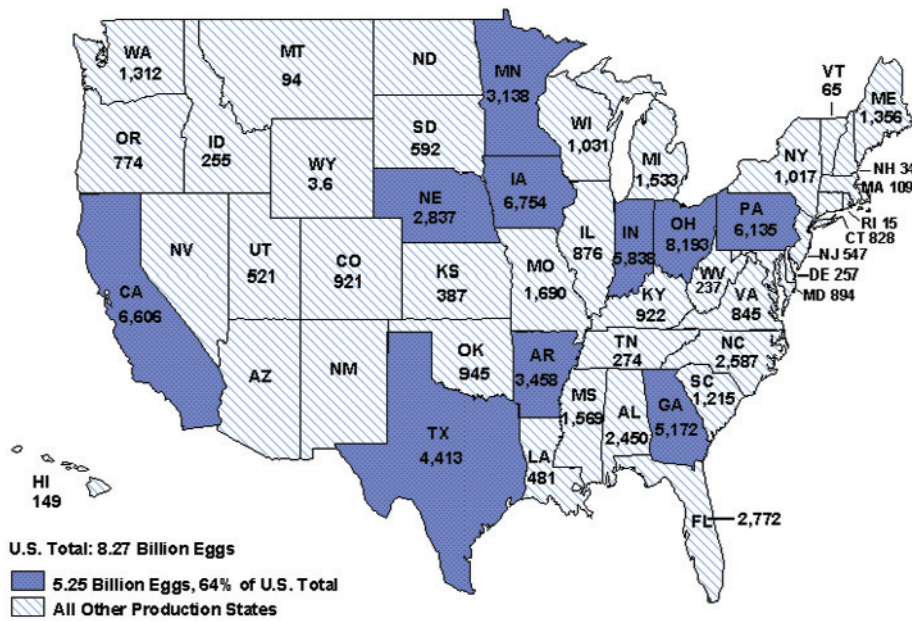
Prepared by: USDA-National Agricultural Statistics Service

**BROILER PRODUCTION BY STATES
NUMBER RAISED (000), 1999**

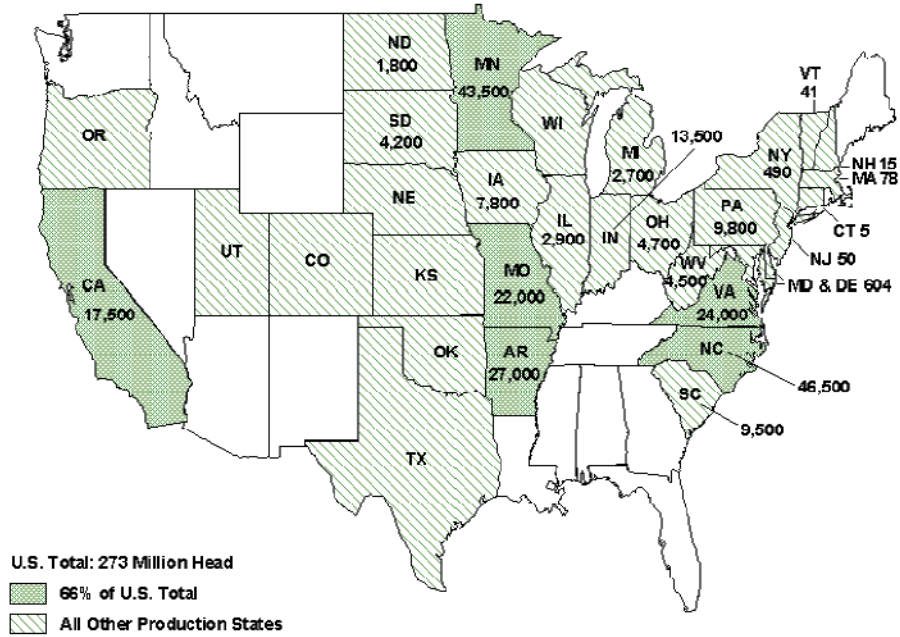


Prepared by: USDA-National Agricultural Statistics Service

**EGG PRODUCTION BY STATES
NUMBER PRODUCED, MILLION, 1999**



**TURKEY PRODUCTION BY SELECTED STATES
NUMBER RAISED (000), 1999**



Broiler Whole Bird Condemnation (Company)

	Average Co.	Top 25%	Top 5 Co.'s
% Septox	0.261	0.249	0.229
% Airsac	0.100	0.056	0.028
% I.P.	0.079	0.034	0.028
% Leukosis	0.003	0.002	0.003
% Bruise	0.011	0.008	0.006
% Other	0.015	0.006	0.002
% Total	0.470	0.356	0.296
% 1/2 parts condemnations	0.360	0.348	0.265

Data for week ending 10/21/00

Meetings, Seminars and Conventions

2000 November

Nov. 14-15: Breeder/Hatchery Workshop, Auburn University, Auburn, AL. Contact: Alabama Poultry & Egg Association, P.O. Box 240, Montgomery, AL 36101-0240. Phone: 334-265-2732.

Nov. 15-17: XVI Central America Poultry Congress, Hotel El Panama, Ciudad de Panama, Panama. Contact: Dr. Evelio Quiroz, Presidente APECA, Apartado No 6-3994, Estafeta El Dorado, Panama. Fax: +507 261 1352

Nov. 16: CFIA Poultry Nutrition Conference, Sheraton Imperial Hotel, Research Triangle Park, NC. Contact: Owen Robertson, Carolina Feed Industry Association secretary-treasurer, 2116 N. Shoreline Drive, Sanford, NC 27330. Phone: 919-776-3054

Nov. 22-25: Mexican National Poultry Congress (UNA), Fiesta Americana Coral Beach Hotel. Contact: Leonard Viajes SA de CV, Cesar Gomez. Phone: (52) 5557-2744.

Nov. 27: Coccidiosis 2000, Hannover, Germany. Contact: Elaine Robson, Conference Organizer, Positive Action Conferences, P.O. Box 4, Driffield, East Yorkshire YO25 9D1 England. Phone: +44 (0) 1377-256316; Fax: +44 (0) 1377-254663.

Nov. 8 - Dec. 1: EUROTIER International Exhibition for Livestock & Poultry Production, Hannover, Germany. Contact: Daniel M. Koning, DLG, Eschborner Landstrasse 122, D-60489 Frankfurt, Germany. Fax: +49 69 2478 8113.

2001 January

Jan. 7-9: 2001 National Turkey Federation Annual Convention, Westin Hotel, Long Beach, Calif. Details from Cherie Proctor, Phone: 202-898-0100, ext. 229; Fax: 202-898-0203; E-mail: cproctor@turkeyfed.org; Internet www.eatturkey.com

Jan. 17-19: 2001 International Poultry Exposition, Georgia World Congress Centre, Atlanta, Georgia, USA. Contact: US Poultry & Egg Association, 1530 Cooledge Road, Tucker, Georgia 30084, USA. Fax: +1 770-493-9257.

2001 February

Feb. 7-9: Australian Poultry Science

Symposium, Sydney, NSW Australia. Contact: Dr. D. Balnave, Dept. of Animal Science, University of Sydney, Camden, NSW 2750 Australia. Phone +61 2 4655 0677; fax: +61 2 4655 0693; E-mail: derickb@camden.nsyd.edu.au

Feb. 11-16: 2nd International Poultry Broiler Nutritionists Conference, Rutorua, New Zealand. Contact: Bob Diprose, Executive Director, Poultry Industry Association, 96D Carlton Gore Road, Auckland, New Zealand.

Phone: +64 9 520 4300; Fax: +64 9 520 1533
Feb. 26-28: Food Irradiation Conference, Washington, D.C. Details from Janine Scheld, Conference Director, Intertech, 19 Northbrook Drive, Portland, Maine 04105. Phone: 207-781-9617; Fax: 207-781-2150; E-mail jscheld@interechusa.com

2001 March

March 14-15: MPF Convention, Touchstone Energy@Place, RiverCentre, St. Paul, Minn. Contact: Midwest Poultry Federation, 2380 Wycliff St., St. Paul, Minn. 44114-1257. Phone: 651-464-4553.

March 14-16: VIV Asia, Queen Sirikit National Convention Center, Bangkok, Thailand. Contact: VIV Secretariat, Royal Netherlands Industries Fair, PO Box 8500 NL-3503 RM Utrecht, The Netherlands. Phone: +31 20 295 5662; Fax: +31 30 295 5709.

March 23-26: American College of Poultry Veterinarians Workshop and the 50th Western Poultry Disease Conference, University of California, Davis. Contact: Conferences & Event Services. Phone: 530-757-3331; Fax: 530-757-7943. Website: conferences.ucdavis.edu (click on Academic Conferences).

March 28-29: NPI Annual Convention, New World Inn, Hwy. 30 & 81 S., Columbus, Nebraska. Contact: Nebraska Poultry Industries Inc., A103 Animal Sciences, University of Nebraska, P.O. Box 830908, Lincoln, Nebraska 68583-0908. Phone: 402-472-2051.

2001 April

April 6: AP&EA Processors Meeting, Auburn University. Contact: Alabama Poultry & Egg Association, P.O. Box 240, Montgomery, AL 36101. Phone: 334-265-2732.

April 17-18: Health & Management Seminar, Airport Clarion Hotel, Roanoke, VA. Contact: Rockingham Poultry Serviceman's Committee, Virginia Poultry Federation Inc., 333 Neff Ave., Suite C, Harrisonburg, VA 22801. Phone: 540-433-2451.

April 24-26: Victam Europe 2001 "The Global Event Supplying the Feed & Food Chain" Utrecht Trade Fair, Utrecht, The Netherlands. Contact: Phone: +31 33 246 4404; Fax: +31 33246 4706 or Email expo@victam.com

April 24-26: Agro-Foodtech China 2001 International Exhibition for Agriculture, Animal Breeding and Food-Processing Industries in China, Contact: Florence Mouscadet. Phone: +33 149 685677; Fax: +33 149 685299.

April 25-27: 24th Technical Turkey Conference, Shrigley Hall Hotel near Macclesfield, UK. Contact: Fax: +44 1969 6637644 or Email: Turkeys@Compuserve.com

2001 May

May 3-4: National Breeders Roundtable, St. Louis, MO. Contact: U.S. Poultry & Egg Association, 1530 Cooledge Road, Tucker, GA 30084-7303. Phone: 770-493-9401.

May 7-11: Pepa Annual Convention, Double Tree Hotel, Monterey, Calif. Contact: Pacific Egg & Poultry Association, 1521 I St., Sacramento, Calif. 95814. Phone: 916-441-0801.

2001 September

Sept. 1-4: 6th European Symposium on Poultry Welfare, Zollikofen, Switzerland. Contact: Alois Mettler, WPSA Symposium 2001, Burgerweg 24, CH-3052 Zollikofen, Switzerland. Fax: +41 31 911 64 60.

Sept. 9-12: IX European Symposium on the Quality of Eggs and Egg Products & XV European Symposium on the Quality of Poultry Meat, Contact: Dr. S. Yalcin, Secretary of WPSA Turkish Branch, Ege University, Faculty of Agriculture, Dept. of Animal Science, 35100 Izmir-Turkey. Phone +90 232 388 4000/1449 (ext). Fax: +90 232 388 1864. E-mail: yalcin@ziraat.ege.edu.tr