



# The Poultry Informed Professional



Published jointly by the  
 Department of Avian Medicine, University of Georgia  
 and Bayer Corporation, Poultry Business Unit

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## Professional Prospective

by Greg Stewart, Director  
 Poultry Business Unit  
 Bayer Corporation

### Help us help you.

This is our trial issue.  
 Please phone or fax  
 comments on how we can  
 improve future issues.

Work smarter...this means using less energy to accomplish more meaningful tasks that generate better results.

*"In these days of information overload it is important to know what is significant cutting edge information, what is secondary or trivial."*

The *Poultry Informed Professional* newsletter is the authoritative information disseminator that takes into account all of the important aspects of this business and blends information gleaned from government, economic, scientific and diagnostic sources to keep you abreast of the latest regulations and developments.

Additionally experts will evaluate seminars, meetings, papers and statistics to give you insights into important trends and management practices worthy of your consideration.

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### Broiler Performance Data (Region)

	SW	South	Mid-Atlantic	West
Feed cost/ton w/o color	213.87	221.93	222.17	221.85
Feed cost/lb meat	20.89	21.52	22.53	20.02
Days to 4.6 lbs	47	46	46	44
Med. cost/ton	4.82	4.12	3.26	4.24
Chick cost/lb	4.39	4.28	4.13	5.05
Vac-Med cost/lb	0.08	0.08	0.06	0.12
WB & 1/2 parts condemn. cost/lb.	0.32	0.27	0.26	0.38
% mortality	3.69	3.84	3.68	4.24
Sq. Ft. @ placement	0.81	0.81	0.78	0.70
Lbs./Sq.Ft.	5.94	6.18	6.67	6.75
Down time (days)	15	13	14	11

Data for week ending 10/05/96.

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## Professional Prospective...

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### The Poultry Informed Professional newsletter will provide:

- Government makes regulations by notice and comment rulemaking with short response times (90-120 days). The editors will survey Federal Publications, i.e. Federal Register, 9CFR, and Economic Sources within the USDA, to bring timely news about a proposed regulation or events. It may give the profession virtual capabilities to respond to regulatory pressures or initiatives.
- News travels fast but not always accurately. The *Poultry Informed Professional* editors will review news wire poultry stories appearing on the Internet. There will be quarterly reports from publicly traded companies in the industry. The story about the Russians "cutting us off" and adding tariffs was on the Internet two to three days before it hit the papers.
- The *Poultry Informed Professional* will appear on the Internet and also be electronically transmitted Sunday evening to your office or home. It may take a little time to become proficient in the electronic medium.
- A menu of pertinent and current data will appear in each issue. The newsletter will show current spot market ingredient prices and keep track of broiler live cost breakdowns. The editors are working to get similar useful statistics for eggs and turkeys. There will be regular turkey and egg news, and condemnation statistics by region. If you can help provide this information, call Sue Clanton at (706) 542-1904.
- Our industry is in need of a list and server for enhancing efficiency of communication. "Virulent avian influenza type H7N7 just crossed the border of..." The Poultry Diagnostic and Research Center (PDRC) will use this list for alerts if necessary. Overseas information can be integrated if you wish.
- Public perceptions: Food safety and HACCP, animal welfare, and the environment. The newsletter will provide input directly from policy groups, and important councils and committees of the AVMA, the AAAP, USAHA, NBC, NTF, USPEA, UEP, NPIP, and other federal policy groups.
- The *Poultry Informed Professional* will have announcements and news from meetings. The editors will pose problems and ask if research dollars should be directed to these areas.
- The *Poultry Informed Professional* will have guest editorials and topics of special interest in poultry meat and egg production.
- The editors will monitor drug susceptibility data and the latest foodborne pathogen data. Anybody looking for DT 104 Salmonella outside of the European Union? Variants in bronchitis....condemnations linked to it?
- The *Poultry Informed Professional* will also provide you with a calendar of pertinent events and meetings.

Too much trivial information is being generated, which becomes a waste of your valuable time and energy. The *Poultry Informed Professional* will provide the essential information ingredients to keep you aware of major developments and trends in the poultry industry.

Professional networking leads to communication. Communication leads to relationships. Relationships create trust. Trust forms partnerships. There is strength and comfort in partnerships. The newsletter will have several contributors and reporters working on this effort. Help us build a partnership. Use the "Call for News" form, at the end of this newsletter to send your thoughts and ideas. Or, you may e-mail comments to [avianmed@uga.cc.uga.edu](mailto:avianmed@uga.cc.uga.edu).

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

	Average Co.	Top 25%	Top 5 Co's
Feed cost/ton w/o color	220.23	210.56	200.68
Feed cost/lb meat	21.64	20.10	19.25
Days to 4.6 lbs	46	46	46
Med. cost/ton	32.92	31.11	30.12
Chick cost/lb	4.31	4.33	4.14
Vac-Med. cost/lb	0.08	0.07	0.07
WB & 1/2 parts condemn. cost/lb	0.30	0.28	0.32
% Mortality	4.01	3.45	3.49
Sq. Ft. @ placement	0.80	0.78	0.78
Lbs/Sq. Ft.	6.31	5.98	6.24
Down time (days)	14	15	15

Data for week ending 10/05/96.

**Broiler Whole Bird Cost of Condemnation (Region)**

	SW	South	Mid-Atlantic	West
% Septox	0.357	0.248	0.346	0.775
% Airsac	0.175	0.174	0.136	0.069
% I.P.	0.151	0.206	0.123	0.115
% Leukosis	0.007	0.003	0.033	0.011
% Bruise	0.026	0.027	0.018	0.036
% Other	0.040	0.038	0.029	0.062
% Total	0.756	0.696	0.685	1.068
% 1/2 parts condemnations.	0.533	0.368	0.369	0.466

Data for week ending 10/05/96.

# Do Darkling Beetles Cost You Money?

by *Dr. Charles Hofacre*  
*Manager Professional Services*  
*Poultry Business Unit*  
*Bayer Corporation*

***As you evaluate the darkling beetle's economic impact on your operation consider the points listed in the published information below. When evaluating the damage caused by poultry insect pests often only flies and mites are considered. Although darkling beetles and their larvae, the lesser mealworms, are seen, they are rarely considered one of the costliest insect pests, because their destructive impact is evident only in subtle ways.***

- The darkling beetle larva, the lesser mealworm, is omnivorous and will feed on dead and moribund poultry, as well as, poultry feed, manure and any other organic material in a poultry house.
- Dr. Axtell, in North Carolina, considers the lesser mealworm to be the best adapted scavenger in a poultry house.
- Turkey poults, when given a choice between starter feed and darkling beetle larvae, ate between 175 and 221 larvae per poult per day.
- Beetle larvae, which had consumed turkey feces from a flock with enteritis, were fed to poults. The results showed both growth depression and increased mortality (enterovirus and reovirus were also isolated from the poults).
- Adult beetles fed feces positive for *Salmonella typhimurium* (S.T.), shed S.T. in their excrement for 28 days; similar results were obtained with *E. coli* (McAllister, University of Arkansas).
- Infectious Bursal Disease (IBD) (Gumboro) was isolated from "inside" the digestive tract of beetles 14 days after they were fed the IBD virus in their feed.
- Dr. Eidson, at Georgia, found the darkling beetle to be a reservoir for the herpes virus causing Mareks.
- *Coccidia* oocysts rarely survive in poultry litter beyond six days, but can survive much longer in beetles, causing carryover into the next flock.
- Dr. Pomeroy, in Minnesota, found 48 different *E. coli* serotypes and five different *Salmonella* species from beetle larvae found in broiler houses.
- Mycotoxin F-2 toxin, *Fusarium roseum*, *Aspergillus flavus*, *Penicillium* sp. and *Candida* sp. can be isolated from beetles and larvae.
- Larvae can transmit both Newcastle disease virus and Pox virus for seven days after the larvae have been exposed.
- Darkling beetles are intermediate hosts for tapeworms (*Choetaenia* and *Raillenia* sp.).
- Infectious Bursal Disease virus and other pathogens can survive inside the beetles as they molt from larvae to adult and still be infective to poultry.
- In 1990, Dr. Nolan estimated darkling beetles cost the Georgia broiler industry nearly \$6 million.
- In 1980, Drs. Grover and Craun estimated the loss to the Virginia poultry industry attributable to the darkling beetle was \$15 million annually or .626 cents/lb./year for broilers, .679 cents/lb./year for turkeys and 1.353 cents/dozen/year for layers.
- In a 10-year period (ending in 1980) the tunneling of beetle larvae in poultry house insulation was estimated to cause an 8-31% decline in R-value, with an estimated \$20,000 replacement cost in a high rise layer house. Consider the affect this loss of insulation has on the feed efficiency of the birds in these houses during cold weather and the additional electricity needed for fans in the hot summer months.
- Larvae have an insulation preference, Polystyrene is their first choice, followed by polyurethane and last, fiberglass, however none of these insulation types are safe from darkling beetle damage.
- When litter containing beetles is spread on fields these beetles can invade neighboring homes by the hundreds, causing a public nuisance and complaints.

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## Do Darkling Beetles Cost You Money...

(continued from page 3)

Many times producers must deal with, and subsequently waste precious resources on, a house or farm that continues to have the same disease problem flock after flock. Darkling beetles may be one source for pathogen carryover. By knowing just how much these pests can affect your bottom line, you can design and implement a darkling beetle control program between flocks, regardless if you clean out or not.

To help design an effective darkling beetle control program consider these six steps:

- Identify darkling beetle infestation sites; don't forget to check areas around feed bins, compost pits and exterior house perimeters.
- Clean the house thoroughly and haul litter away immediately.
- Use a pesticide and a formulation which is suitable for the type and location of the treatment.
- Follow label rates. This ensures proper application and subsequent pesticide efficacy.
- High chronic (historical) populations may require multiple applications to reduce populations to manageable levels.
- Consider spot treating areas that darkling beetles prefer, such as under feed and water lines and interior perimeters.

**Broiler Whole Bird Cost of Condemnation (Company)**  
**Live Production Cost**

	Average Co.	Top 25%	Top 5 Co.'s
% Septox	0.327	0.298	0.279
% Airsac	0.158	0.175	0.207
% I.P.	0.179	0.168	0.174
% Leukosis	0.026	0.016	0.013
% Bruise	0.027	0.021	0.017
% Other	0.040	0.037	0.017
% Total	0.744	0.716	0.706
% 1/2 parts condemnations	0.447	0.421	0.596

Data for week ending 10/05/96.

**Bayer Corporation, Poultry Business Unit  
received FDA approval 10/04/96 for  
Baytril® (enrofloxacin)  
for chickens and turkeys.**

# Meetings, Seminars and Conventions

## 1996 October

**Oct. 9-10: Missouri Poultry Federation Fall Convention**, Sheraton Hawthorn Park, Springfield, MO. Details from Johanna E. Derda, Missouri Poultry Federation, 225 East Capitol Avenue, Jefferson City, MO 65101-3001, Phone (573) 761-5610.

**Oct. 9-11: National Broiler Council Annual Conference**. To be held at the Ritz-Carlton (Pentagon City), Arlington, VA. Contact: NBC, The Madison Bldg., Ste. 614, 1155 Fifteenth St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005 USA, Phone (202) 296-2622, FAX (202) 293-4005.

**Oct 10-11: California Poultry Federation Annual Meeting and Conference and Quality Assurance Seminar**, Red Lion Hotel, Modesto, CA 95354. Contact: Bill Matos, Phone (209) 576-6355, FAX (209) 576-6119.

**Oct 11-12: Poultry By-Products Seminar**, Radisson Hotel Downtown, Atlanta, GA. Contact: U.S. Poultry & Egg Association, 1530 Cooledge Road, Tucker, GA 30084, Phone (770) 493-9401, FAX 770-493-9257.

**Oct. 15-16: Georgia Poultry Conference**, Classic Center, Athens, GA. Contact: Dan Cunningham, Department of Poultry Science, Four Towers Building, The University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-4356, Phone (706) 542-1325, FAX (706) 542-8383.

**Oct. 21-22: 1996 National Poultry Waste Management Symposium**, University Park, PA, Penn State University. Cooperative Extension, University of California. Contacts: Dr. Julian Brake, Phone (540) 231-5087 or Dr. Kenneth Anderson, Phone (540) 231-5087 or 919-515-2621.

**Oct. 22-23: National Broiler Council. Growout Committee Meeting** (facility not known to date), Washington, DC. Contact: NBC, The Madison Bldg., Ste. 614, 1155 Fifteenth St., N.W., Washington, DC 20005 USA, Phone (202) 296-2622, FAX: (202) 293-4005.

**Oct. 23-26: Central American Poultry Congress**, El Salvador. Contact: LIC. Carlos Molina Calderon, Asociacion de el Salvador, El Salvador, Calle Nueva No. 2, Casa 249, Colonia Escalon, San Salvador, El Salvador, CA, Phone +503-224-3356, 223-8973 or 279-2716; FAX +503-279-2715.

**Oct. 23-25: 31st National Meeting on Poultry Health & Processing**, Ocean City, MD. Contact: Sharon Webb, Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc., R.D. 6, Box 47, Georgetown, DE 19947-9622, Phone (302) 856-9037, FAX (302) 856-1845.

**Oct. 30-31: North Carolina Broiler Breeder and Hatchery Management Conference**, Statesville, NC. Contact: Mike Wineland, Extension Poultry Science, North Carolina State University, Box 7608, Raleigh, NC 27695-7608, Phone (919) 515-5529.

## 1996 November

**Nov. 5-7: Processor Workshop**, Clarion Inn, Fayetteville, AR. Contact: Judy Kimbrell, Arkansas Poultry Federation, P.O. Box 1446, Little Rock, AR 72203. Phone (501) 375-8131.

**Nov. 7: 1996 Poultry Institute one-day seminar for poultry industry personnel**. Washington State University Avian Health Laboratory, Puyallup, WA. D.F. Allmendinger Conference Center. Contact: Avian Health Lab, Phone (206) 840-4537.

**Nov. 12-13: Alabama Breeder/Hatchery & Egg Conference**, Auburn University Hotel and Conference Center. Contact APEA, Box 240, Montgomery, AL 36101, Phone (334) 265-2732.

**Nov. 14: USP&EA Grain Forecast/Economic Outlook Seminar**, Sheraton Colony Square Hotel, Atlanta, GA. Contact: Larry Brown or Marie Lyle, U.S. Poultry and Egg Association, 1530 Cooledge Road, Tucker, GA 30084-7303. Phone (770) 493-9410, FAX (770) 493-9257.

**Nov. 12-15: EuroTier '96 International Exhibition for Livestock and Poultry Production**, Hannover, Germany. Contact: Daniel M. Koning, DLG, Eschborner Landstrasse 122, D-60489, Frankfurt, Germany, Phone 069-24788-309, FAX 069-24788-112.

## 1996 December

**Dec. 4-5: Carolina Feed Industry Association 1996 Poultry Nutrition Conference**, Radisson Plaza Hotel, Charlotte, NC. Contact: Carolina Feed Industry Association, 2116 N. Shoreline Drive, Sanford, NC 27330, Phone (919) 776-3054.

**Dec. 10-12: North Dakota Poultry Industries 50th Annual Convention**, Holiday Inn, Fargo, ND. Contact: Dave Meuhler, chairman, 16450 Highway 11, Hankinson, ND 58041-9706, Phone (701) 224-2231, FAX (701) 224-4567.

## 1997 January

**Jan. 12-16: 59th Annual National Turkey Federation Convention**, Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, CA. Contact: National Turkey Federation, Phone (202) 898-0100.

**Jan. 20-21: Southern Poultry Science Society Annual Meeting**, World Congress Center, Atlanta, GA. Contact: Dr. Gene Pesti, Department of Poultry Science, Livestock and Poultry Building, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia 30602., Phone (706) 542-1371.

**Jan. 22-24: 1997 International Poultry Exposition**, Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta, GA. Contact: Larry Brown or Marie Lyle at the U.S. Poultry and Egg Assoc., 1530 Cooledge Road, Tucker, GA 30084, Phone (404) 493-9401, FAX: (404) 493-9257.

