



The University of Georgia

Cooperative Extension Service

College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences / Athens, Georgia 30602-4356

MAY 2000



HATCHERY/BREEDER TIP...

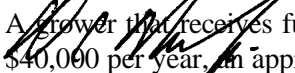
VALUE OF MANURE

During the past six months, most of the Georgia poultry producers, both eggs and broilers, have received training on methods of applying manures and litter in ways that will not cause harm to the environment.

A portion of the training addressed the value of manure. Egg producers should realize that each house produces fertilizer with significant value. Recent studies conducted by the University of Georgia showed that a 100,000 bird house will produce about 500 tons of dry weight manure per year. The manure contains 2% nitrogen, 8% phosphorus as P005, 5% potassium as K20 and 40% lime as CaCo3.

If nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium and lime have a value of 30 cents, 25 cents, 12 cents, and 2 cents per pound, respectively, a 100, 000 bird house will produce \$40,000 worth of fertilizer per year.

The challenge to egg producers is to find markets for the products so that the full value can be gained. The horticultural industry is growing rapidly in Georgia. Layer manure that can be incorporated into potting soil mixes that can be considered "organic" can be a possible outlet for layer manure. Based on the recent University of Georgia studies, the layer industry produces only 35,000 tons of dry weight layer manure per year. Successful integration of layer manure into products can create a situation where demand exceeds supply so that the market for layer manure will be profitable.

 A grower that receives full economic value of this fertilizer will increase the profitability of the house by \$40,000 per year, an approximate 40 percent increase in profitability.

William C. Merka
Extension Poultry Scientist

Extension County Coordinator/Agent

PUTTING KNOWLEDGE TO WORK

The University of Georgia and Ft. Valley State College, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and counties of the state cooperating.
The Cooperative Extension service officers educational programs, assistance and materials to all people without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex or disability
An equal opportunity/affirmative action organization committed to a diverse work force..

****Consult with your poultry company representative before making management changes.****

“Your local County Extension Agent is a source of more information on this subject.”

PUTTING KNOWLEDGE TO WORK

**The University of Georgia and Ft. Valley State College, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and counties of the state cooperating.
The Cooperative Extension service officers educational programs, assistance and materials to all people without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex or disability
An equal opportunity/affirmative action organization committed to a diverse work force..**