

NOTES TECHNIQUES

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Poultry production in hot climates**(4th International DLG-Symposium / Hameln / Germany, June 1922, 1989).**

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Keywords: Poultry production — nutrition — breeding marketing — extension.

The symposium was meant to be an international forum for all those interested in developing poultry production as a source of income.

The Section I of the symposium was developed for owners, managers, veterinarians, poultry officers and companies involved in poultry production in large units.

The Section II was meant for extension officers, veterinarians, research- and development workers engaged in small-scale poultry production in developing countries.

Main conclusions and recommendations of Section II are listed below.

Marketing of poultry and poultry products

The underlying theme was that most marketing criteria can best be served by the establishment of co-operative marketing schemes with proper government help, realistic funding, and where necessary, education coupled with both institutional and extension services.

Feeding poultry in developing countries

The availability of locally grown feedstuffs and agro-industrial by-products is a major constraint of poultry production in developing countries. Pulses (such as pigeon peas, lupins, vicia faba) are promising local resources of protein-rich raw materials. However, antinutritive components are sometimes limiting their inclusion rate in poultry diet. In order to improve the nutritional quality of pulses and agro-industrial by-products, concerned action is needed of plant breeders (to lower the level of antinutritive substances of the varieties concerned), of poultry nutritionists and of poultry geneticists (with regard to the eventual development of strains resistant to toxic substances). Utilization of appropriate technology for treatment of these feedstuffs should be encouraged.

The economics of poultry production also vary according to local situations. For instance, energy supplementation in scavenging systems can lead to a drastic increase in productivity. Results have shown that economically interesting results can be achieved, even with rations differing considerably from standard recommendations developed in temperate climates.

Poultry production in rural areas

It was apparent that the problems of rural poultry production were very much the same in all countries with hot climates, being due to diseases, poor nutrition, management and genetics indicative proposals were developed regarding these constraints. It also became apparent that there are no existing channels for communication of ideas between people (producers, extension officers, researchers) involved in rural poultry production. Therefore it was recommended that:

- 1) A directory of people involved be established.
- 2) A data bank be established.
- 3) A regular newsletter be produced that will keep rural poultry production people in contact with each other, and supply simplified information for immediate application or consideration.
- 4) Existing publishers be approached to consider producing a journal dealing exclusively with village poultry.

Applied poultry research

In the first part of the session various breeding and management measures were presented as examples for approaches in applied research. Based on the tropically-oriented breeding research work at the Technical University of Berlin, possibilities were proposed for more rapid and longterm genetic improvement of tropical layers.

During the second session the areas of research for developing poultry production were discussed in the following disciplines: nutrition, management, breeding, hygiene, marketing and extension. The Working group agreed that the items developed should be the basis for formulating of future programs. Also special consideration should be given to national and international activities to promote research and development.

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Received and accepted for publication on the 04.08.89

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