UNIT C: FIELD RECORDS

Lesson 3: Poultry Production and Record Keeping
Breeding stock
Broilers
Chicks
Layers

Mortality
Poults
Pullets
WHY IS RECORD KEEPING IN POULTRY PRODUCTION IMPORTANT?

- Record keeping is extremely important to successful poultry production
  - Financial decisions – Before creating a budget or making important and costly financial decisions, records need to be analyzed.
  - Feeding decisions – Records are useful in deciding what types of feed rations, the quantity of feed rations, and the effectiveness of a specific feed ration.
WHY IS RECORD KEEPING IN POULTRY PRODUCTION IMPORTANT? Con’t.

- Breeding decisions – When deciding which birds to mate, past breeding records can be put to use.
- Productivity of birds – Records should be kept on the productivity of birds (eggs, reproduction, pounds of meat, etc.) to be used when the flock must be culled.
What systems of record keeping are used in poultry production?

- These systems vary by many factors.
  - Species raised – The records kept for different species are going to differ because of the different uses of species, e.g. chicken records are going to be different from turkey records.
What systems of record keeping are used in poultry production? Con’t.

• Breed raised – Certain breeds are raised for a specific purpose (laying, broilers, breeding), and therefore need different records.

• Type of bird – The type of bird raised is going to determine the record keeping system. Some chickens are raised for egg production (for consumption), egg production( for repopulating), meat production, etc.
There are different records to keep for chickens.

- *Chicks* – chicks are young birds before the growth process has started. The records for chicks may include date hatched, date moved to pullet/broiler house, feed consumption, and water consumption.
**Records to Keep for Chickens** Con’t.

- **Pullets** – pullets are birds growing to become layers. Certain records to be kept for these birds include feed consumption, water consumption, and light-dark hours.

- **Layers** – layers are female birds that are in the stage of laying eggs. Records needed include feed consumption, water consumption, and egg production.
**RECORDS TO KEEP FOR CHICKENS CON’T.**

- **Broilers** – Broilers are raised to be harvested for chicken meat to consume. Specific records may include feed consumption, water consumption, weight, average daily gain, days on feed, and harvesting date.

- **Breeding stock** – Breeding stock are used to produce birds to repopulate the flock. Breeding date, birds mated, and hatching date are examples of important records.
Records to Keep For Turkeys

Turkeys require specific records.

- **Poults** – Poults are young birds that will be raised to be harvested for consumption. Specific records may include feed consumption, water consumption, weight, average daily gain, days on feed, and harvesting date.

- **Breeding stock** - Breeding stock are used to produce birds to repopulate the flock. Breeding date, birds mated, and hatching date are examples of important records.
HOW DO YOU COMPLETE RECORD KEEPING FORMS USED IN POULTRY PRODUCTION?

Whenever you begin a record keeping system, you must learn the information requested on each form.

- **Mortality** (death) of birds – Every day a record should be taken of any birds that did not survive.
- Feed used – Daily records need to be taken of quantity of feed fed to birds.
HOW DO YOU COMPLETE RECORD KEEPINGFORMS USED IN POULTRY PRODUCTION? CON’T.

- Cost – Financial records must be kept of any items bought or sold, e.g. feed, veterinary costs, equipment, supplies, birds, etc.

- Vaccinations – Specific vaccinations may be needed, depending on the bird and location of production facility. An accurate record must be kept to insure sufficient withdrawal times.
HOW DO YOU COMPLETE RECORD KEEPING FORMS USED IN POULTRY PRODUCTION? CON’T.

- Hens removed – Periodically hens must be removed from the flock when their productivity is too low. Be sure to keep record of which bird, when she was removed, and the reason for removal.

- Eggs produced – Eggs must be collected and recorded daily. Be sure to include any inconsistency noticed.
Why is record keeping poultry production important?

What systems of record keeping are used in poultry production?

How do you complete record keeping forms used in poultry production?