Summary

Three different high energy type turkey starting rations were fed to poults from 10 to 56 days of age. Ration A contained 28 percent protein with a metabolizable calorie-protein ratio of 42:1. Rations B and C contained 30 percent protein with a metabolizable calorie-protein ratio of 43:1. Diet B gave approximately 7 percent and 15 percent greater efficiency of feed utilization than did rations A and C, respectively.

Acknowledgements

Sincere appreciation is expressed to Consumers Soybean Mills, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota; Nopco Chemical Company, Harrison, New Jersey, and Distillation Products Industries - Division of Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, New York, for contributing materials used in this feeding trial.

GROWING ECONOMY WILL INCREASE DEMAND FOR FARM PRODUCTS

Demand for farm products in this country by 1975 may be 40 to 45 percent more than in 1953, estimates the USDA. Use of livestock products is expected to increase more than use of crops.

The estimate is based on assumptions of a growing population, labor force and employment. It also assumes that the world trend is toward peace.

Figures projected to 1975 point to a need for 125 million head of cattle if there is little change in average weights and death loss of the animals. In 1955 there were 96½ million on American farms. The pig crop should increase from 95 to 130 million head, sheep from 27 to 33 million, the number of broilers by 80 percent, chickens almost 20 percent and turkeys about 50 percent.

Crop consumption might rise more than 35 percent by 1975. Food grain and potato demand will probably change slightly, but larger increases in demand are predicted for vegetables, citrus fruits, feed concentrates, fats and oils, cotton and tobacco. Feed concentrates, hay and major feed grains, including corn, oats, barley and sorghum, might expand 40 to 45 percent unless concentrates fed per livestock production unit decline.

High production in recent years has accumulated wheat, rice, cotton and feed grain surpluses, so a 40 percent increase in demand by 1975 might require a production increase of farm products of less than one third.

The figures are based on the 1953 projection for a 1975 population of 210 million.Recent estimates by the United States Census Bureau place the figure nearer 220 million, which would hike the predictions another 5 percent.

WET METHOD OF INOCULATING LEGUME SEED FOUND BEST

The wet method of inoculating legume seed has been found best by USDA. Dry inoculation has much appeal because it eliminates some extra handling of seed and inoculant. The inoculant is added directly to the dry seed in the planter or drill box. A disadvantage of this method is the rapid sifting of inoculant. Field tests on dry soybeans showed the first seeds drilled from a freshly filled planter box received more than twice their fair share of inoculant, while seeds drilled a few rounds later received only about a third of their fair proportion. Wet inoculation calls for moistening seed before adding the inoculant, or making a paste of inoculant and water and mixing it with the seed.