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Progress Report

FARM STRUCTURES

Major emphasis was given to planning and development of swine and poultry housing systems, waste management and the revision of the Farm Service Buildings and Equipment Notebook.

SWINE HOUSING

The housing systems under study continued to be well received by swine producers with millions of dollars being invested in new construction.

Circular 481, Ventilation of Swine Buildings, is being printed which details ventilation procedures for all types of swine buildings and places heavy emphasis on the widely acclaimed North Carolina Under Slat Ventilation System.

ASAE paper 73-4511 presented at the winter meeting recorded the success of controlled environment in facilities for the breeding herd.

One new building plan 530, Sow Gestation House, was added to the plan service.

POULTRY HOUSING

The second Poultry Housing Environmental Seminar was held in Greensboro, October 10, 1973 with over 125 in attendance. Industry supports this effort by their attendance and subsequent interest in another seminar scheduled for October 9, 1974.

Major emphasis has been directed to structurally stable poultry housing and control of the environment. An article, Recommendations for Preventing Structural Weaknesses in Poultry Houses, was published in Poultry Digest in January, 1974. Two presentations were given at the Housing Seminar. This specialist was an invited panelist to discuss the role of the environment in egg production at the Southeastern International Poultry convention in January, 1974.

Cooperative efforts with research personnel enhance our opportunities. Efforts to date show significant potential for improved housing through better bird performance and fuel savings.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Efforts in waste management were considerable with all the public interest in this and related areas. Four publications were joint authored and directed specifically to dairy, beef, swine and poultry. Through a series of training sessions with extension agents and personnel from local and state health departments, Farmers Home Administration, Soil Conservation Service, and others with interest in this subject, direction was given to the use of available subject matter in handling waste management problems. These sessions along with the publications and individual contacts have had a considerable educational impact.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Farm Service Buildings and Equipment Notebook was revised and sent to each county office. Also, copies were made available to each FHA office and each Vocational Agriculture department.