ESTIMATED COSTS OF PRODUCING EGGS, NEW YORK STATE, 1926-52

Includes Formulas for Making
Current Monthly and Annual Estimates of Costs

By

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

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INTRODUCTION

New York poultrymen have undoubtedly felt the pinch of low egg prices and high production costs many times during the past twenty-five years. At other times, however, cost-price relationships have been generally favorable for relatively profitable egg production. What actually has happened to the yearly costs of producing eggs? How have egg production costs varied from month to month throughout the year? What does it cost currently to produce a dozen eggs, on the average? How have costs compared with prices received for eggs?

Poultry farmers in general do not keep enough cost records to enable them to answer the above questions. They cannot determine their costs of egg production at any particular time. These costs can be obtained by farm management surveys, but this method is expensive, time-consuming and the results are out-of-date by the time they are presented. What poultrymen need, then, is a method that will enable them to determine costs simply and quickly, and with a reasonable degree of accuracy.

Such a method is presented in this report. Through the use of formulas, estimates can be made of current costs in producing eggs both by months and on an annual basis. The formulas and estimated costs derived from these formulas can be helpful to poultrymen in planning their own operations and to economists by providing cost data for the years during which farm management surveys are not made.

The series of estimated costs in producing eggs developed in this study go back to 1926 by years, and to 1940 by months. They were designed to represent state or area averages and were based on data from a large number of poultry farms. Thus, their value lies in the fact that they can be used as a gauge of the profitableness of a poultryman's business. Current monthly cost data and forecasts of costs can also provide flock owners with a basis for making logical management decisions in planning their poultry farm production.

Poultry farming in New York has undergone many changes during the past twenty-five years. Any formulas developed for estimating costs, and the estimated costs themselves should reflect these changes over time. What have been some of the more important changes that have taken place during this period?

CHANGES IN POULTRY FARMING

Five changes have occurred in poultry farming in New York during this period, which have had a great impact on costs and have also created problems in the development of satisfactory formulas for estimating costs.

First, the annual rate of egg production increased from an estimated average of 126 eggs per bird in 1926 to 187 eggs per bird in 1951. Production rates so far in 1952 are running even higher than for the corresponding period in 1951. This remarkable increase in average egg production per bird resulted in a sharp increase in the amount of feed required per bird. However, the amount of feed required per dozen eggs at present is about the same as in 1940-41.

Second, the amount of labor required to care for layers declined sharply from 2.1 hours per bird in 1926 to 1.7 hours at the present time. With the increase in egg production, the labor required per dozen eggs was reduced to an even greater extent. During this period, New York poultry farmers did a magnificent job of increasing labor efficiency through the use of labor-saving equipment, improvements in housing, and improved management practices. The estimated annual average egg production and feed and labor required per bird are presented in the Appendix, Table A.

Third, mortality rates declined from 24.4 per cent of the average number of layers on hand during the year in 1926 to 15.7 per cent in 1947. A survey made in 1950-51 gave a mortality rate of 18.6 per cent— a slight increase since 1947. The greatest reduction in mortality rates took place from 1940 to 1947 and resulted in lower depreciation costs during this period.

Fourth, a change in the make-up of the laying flocks in terms of breeds of chickens kept occurred during World War II. Heavy breeds were widely adopted by New York poultry farmers during this period. Prior to this time, the majority of the flocks on New York farms were Leghorns. Since World War II, there has been an increase in Leghorn flocks and a decrease in the popularity of the heavy breeds. Heavy-breed flocks require more feed and labor per bird and per dozen eggs than do Leghorn flocks but suffer less from losses due to depreciation. During the war years in particular, the change in composition of the laying flocks in the state had a marked effect on costs, particularly feed, labor, and depreciation.

Fifth, the average size of the laying flock increased over this period. This resulted in more efficient management and operation of poultry farms and a reduction in some of the cost factors, particularly labor.

The above-mentioned changes in poultry farming in New York resulted in changes in the amounts of the various cost factors involved in egg production. To show these changes accurately, it was impossible to develop a single formula with constant factors. It was necessary to adjust the formulas, and consequently the estimated costs from time to time to bring them in line with changing conditions.

THE STUDY

Purposes

The objectives of this study were to:

1. Establish formulas for estimating annual average costs in producing eggs in New York, and from these formulas to develop a series of annual egg production costs for the period, 1926 to date.

2. Establish formulas for estimating the average monthly costs in producing eggs and thus to develop a series of monthly egg production costs for the period, 1940 to date.

Sources of Data

Two main sources of data were used in the development of the estimating formulas and the calculation of estimated annual and monthly costs. They were (1) the results of eight different poultry farm management surveys made in New York and (2) a summary of the cost account records kept by a large number of poultry farmers in cooperation with the Agricultural Economics Department at Cornell University. Extensive use was also made of data published by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, United States Department of Agriculture--particularly, data concerning agricultural prices.

Procedure

The first step in this study was the determination of the major items of expense in producing eggs. Data from both farm cost accounts and farm management surveys showed that feed, labor, and depreciation were the three most important cost items. For the sake of simplicity, such minor costs as use of buildings and equipment, horse and machine labor, interest on the flock, electricity, and miscellaneous costs were grouped together under "other costs". These four factors--feed, labor, depreciation, and other costs--were then used in developing the estimating formulas.

Next, the actual physical values or amounts of these four cost items were calculated on an annual basis from 1926 to date, and by months beginning with 1940. The values of the feed and labor input factors used in both the yearly and monthly formulas were the average pounds of feed and minutes of labor required to produce a dozen eggs. Depreciation factors were expressed as a percentage of the average meat value per bird, live weight. Other costs were computed as a percentage of the total feed, labor and depreciation costs. As the final step, a series of annual and monthly prices were developed, which were then combined with the amounts of the various cost factors to obtain the estimated average annual and monthly costs in producing eggs. Details of the methods used in determining the amounts of the cost factors and in developing the series of prices used are presented in the Appendix, Page 16.

ESTIMATED ANNUAL AVERAGE COSTS IN PRODUCING EGGS, 1926-52

The estimated annual average costs in producing a dozen eggs in New York State, as presented in this report, were computed by combining the amounts of the various cost factors for each year with their respective prices.

Amounts of Various Cost Factors

The amounts of the various cost factors, by years, showed considerable variation during the period covered by this study (Appendix, Table B). With the low egg production per bird in 1926, the feed per dozen eggs was high at 7.4 pounds. It declined gradually until 1930 with the increase in egg production and then remained relatively stable during most of the thrities as the increase in egg production and feed consumption per bird offset each other. In 1938, feed per dozen eggs started to increase and reached a relatively high level of 7.3 pounds from 1942 - 1948, due primarily to the marked increase in heavy-breed flocks. Since 1948, with the trend toward more Leghorn flocks and a high rate of egg production, feed required dropped to 7.2 pounds per dozen eggs, the same as in prewar 1941.

Labor required per dozen eggs has shown a steady trend downward throughout most of the period except for the early thrities. This is consistent with the increase in egg production and the use of labor-saving equipment and improved management practices. The decline in labor required per dozen eggs from nearly 12 minutes in 1926 to 6.6 minutes at the present time shows a truly remarkable increase in labor efficiency on New York poultry farms.

Depreciation costs were a relatively high percentage of the average live weight value per bird for meat at the farm during the early part of this study. This was due primarily to the small size of birds kept and the low price of chicken. From 1935 on, depreciation costs as a percentage of the average farm value per bird live weight declined sharply reaching a low of 2.5 per cent in 1945 and 1946. This can be attributed to the increase in egg production, increase in the size of birds kept, and the favorable prices for chicken sold as meat.

Other costs as a per cent of the total of feed, labor, and depreciation costs were high during the first ten years of the study. Since many of these costs are relatively fixed, they did not fall as fast or as far as did feed and labor costs during the depression, so were high percentagewise. From 1935 through 1941, they remained at 16 per cent of the total of these three costs. During the past decade, although other costs have increased to some extent in cents per dozen eggs, they have held at 13 per cent of the total of feed, labor, and depreciation costs. In other words, the changes in other costs have kept pace with the variations in the three main costs in producing eggs.

Prices Paid

The prices paid for both feed and labor by New York poultrymen
(Appendix, Table C) were relatively high during the late 1920's, low
during the thirties, and then increased rapidly to new highs during
the 1940's. The peak in feed prices for the period came in 1948 when
100 pounds of ration cost $4.58. Hourly wage rates were at a high in
1951 with 72 cents per hour, but this figure is expected to be exceeded
in 1952 with an hourly rate of 76 cents.

Even with an increase in the size of birds kept, the annual average
farm value per bird sold live weight for meat was low from 1930 through
1941 because of the low prices of chicken per pound (Appendix, Table D).
Chicken prices were favorable during the late 1920's resulting in a
higher average farm value per bird than during the thirties. With the
marked increase in size of bird kept and the relatively high price of
chicken per pound during the 1940's, the average farm value per bird
sold was high. The values during the more than 25 years covered by
this study ranged from a low of 59 cents per bird in 1933 and 1934 to
a high of $1.98 in 1948.

Estimated Annual Average Costs

The estimated costs of feed, labor, and depreciation, as well as
other costs, and the net cost of producing a dozen eggs for each year
from 1926 through 1952 are presented in Table 1. Feed costs averaged
approximately 19 cents per dozen eggs from 1926 through 1929, higher
than for any of the years during the 1930's. They increased rather
rapidly from 1941 to 1948, decreased sharply in 1949, and have increased
steadily since then. Variations in feed costs during this period were
due to changes in the amounts of feed required per dozen eggs and
changes in the prices paid for feed, with variations in feed prices the
most important factor. Labor costs per dozen eggs were at a peak of 9
cents in 1926; declined gradually until 1940, rose gradually to 8 cents
per dozen in 1945, and have remained approximately at this level until
the present time. It is expected, however, that labor costs will
reach the 1926 level for 1952. Even with the great increase in labor
efficiency, labor costs have been relatively high in recent years
because of higher wage rates.

Depreciation costs were also higher in 1926 than in any of the years
covered by this study due primarily to the low egg production per layer.
These costs declined one cent per dozen eggs every five years until 1937
when they reached 4 cents and held at this level until 1943. They have
remained at approximately 6 cents per dozen eggs for the past 6 years.
The decline in mortality rates during the early 1940's, increase in
size of birds kept, and favorable prices for chicken have helped to
keep depreciation costs down during the past decade. Other costs
declined one cent per dozen eggs every five years until 1936. From
1936 through 1944, a nine-year period, they remained at approximately
4 cents per dozen eggs. Since 1944, these costs have been slightly
higher—5 cents for four of the eight years and 6 cents per dozen for
the remainder of the period. Other costs have tended to change rather
slowly over time since many of them are relatively fixed in nature.

The estimated total costs of producing a dozen eggs on New York poultry farms were relatively high in 1926, declined gradually until 1930, and took a sharp drop in 1931 and 1932. Costs were low all during the 1930's but increased rapidly from 1941 to 1948 when the total costs of producing eggs reached a peak of 53 cents per dozen. Costs declined in 1949 and 1950 but increased in 1951. It is estimated that the cost of producing a dozen eggs in 1952 will reach the peak of 1948--the highest level in any of the years since 1926. Variations in the average annual costs of egg production during this period were due to changes in the amounts of the various cost factors used (particularly feed and labor) and variations in the prices farmers had to pay for cost items. Price changes, particularly changes in feed prices, had a greater effect on costs than did the amounts of the various cost factors employed--but the latter were still very important.

Table 1.   ESTIMATED COSTS IN PRODUCING EGGS
                         New York State, 1926-52

Year	Feed	Labor	Depreciation	Other	Net cost
			Cents per dozen		
1926	18	9	8	6	41
1927	19	8	6	6	39
1928	20	7	6	6	39
1929	19	7	6	6	38
1930	17	7	6	6	36
1931	13	7	6	5	31
1932	10	6	5	5	26
1933	12	5	5	5	27
1934	14	5	5	5	29
1935	14	5	5	5	29
1936	15	6	5	4	30
1937	17	6	4	4	31
1938	13	5	4	4	26
1939	13	5	4	4	26
1940	13	4	4	4	25
1941	15	5	4	4	28
1942	17	5	4	4	30
1943	20	6	5	4	35
1944	22	7	5	4	38
1945	23	8	4	5	40
1946	28	8	5	5	46
1947	32	8	6	6	52
1948	33	8	6	6	53
1949	27	8	7	5	47
1950	28	7	6	5	46
1951	30	8	6	6	50
1952(Prelim)	32	9	6	6	53

Comparisons with Survey Costs and Costs from Cost Accounts

A comparison of the total costs in producing eggs, estimated from the formulas, with the costs from surveys, and from cost accounts is presented in Table 2. In general, the formula costs are below the survey costs and above the costs from cost accounts. It is interesting to note that both the estimated costs for 1951 from the formula and the net cost of producing eggs for 51 market egg flocks included in a survey made for the period from September 1, 1950 to September 1, 1951 were 50.4 cents per dozen. During this period, the costs estimated by use of formulas are in close enough agreement with both the survey and cost account costs to warrant the use of formulas for estimating costs in producing eggs in New York.

Table 2. COMPARISON OF THREE METHODS OF ESTIMATING
THE COSTS IN PRODUCING EGGS
New York State, 1926-52

Year	Cost from formulas	Cost from cost accounts	Cost from surveys	Difference between formula and cost accounts
	Cents per dozen			Per cent
1926	41	41	40	0
1927	39	37		5
1928	39	37		5
1929	38	38	39	0
1930	36	34	37	6
1931	31	31	32	0
1932	26	27	28	4
1933	27	27	25	0
1934	29	29		0
1935	29	27		7
1936	30	29		4
1937	31	29		6
1938	26	26		0
1939	26	25		4
1940	25	26		4
1941	28	26	28	7
1942	30	28		7
1943	35	34		3
1944	38	38		0
1945	40	39		3
1946	46	44		4
1947	52	50	53	4
1948	53	51		4
1949	47	45		4
1950	46	46		0
1951	50	--	50	--
1952(Prelim)	53	--		--

Physical Costs vs. Total Costs

As shown in Figure 1, physical costs or the amounts of the various
cost factors have declined throughout the period included in this study
with the exception of a slight rise in the early 1930's. Total costs
have tended to vary with the prices farmers have had to pay for the
cost items and the variations, in general, are similar to changes in
the general price level. Total costs in producing eggs, however, have
not increased as much since 1940 as have the costs in some other types
of farming in New York, because of the reduction that has taken place
in physical costs, particularly labor. The indexes of the various
cost items and combined index of physical costs are presented in the
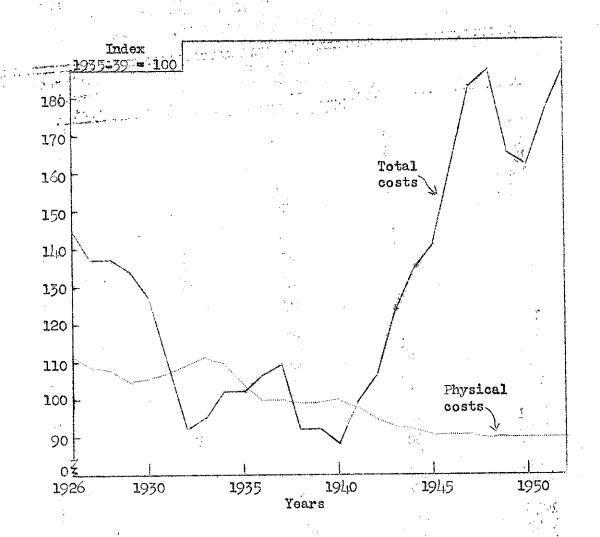Appendix, Table E.

Figure 1. INDEX OF ESTIMATED PHYSICAL AND TOTAL COSTS IN
PRODUCING EGGS
New York State, 1926-52

Cost - Price Differences

In general, average cost of producing eggs and average prices received for eggs by years, were about the same during most of the period from 1926 to 1940 (figure 2). However, in 1929, prices were well above costs and in 1932 and 1933, prices were substantially below costs. From 1940 through 1951, both prices and costs showed a marked increase but prices rose faster than costs and average annual prices were above average costs in every year.

Prices below costs indicates that poultry farmers were working for low wages and also that they received less than estimated for some of the non-cash cost items. Prices above costs may be interpreted as meaning that poultrymen are making prevailing wages plus a profit. During years such as 1932 and 1933, some poultrymen probably paid for the privilege of producing eggs since they did not make enough money to pay cash costs and leave anything for their labor. Cost-price relationships since 1940 suggest that New York poultrymen, on the average, have received good wages for their labor.
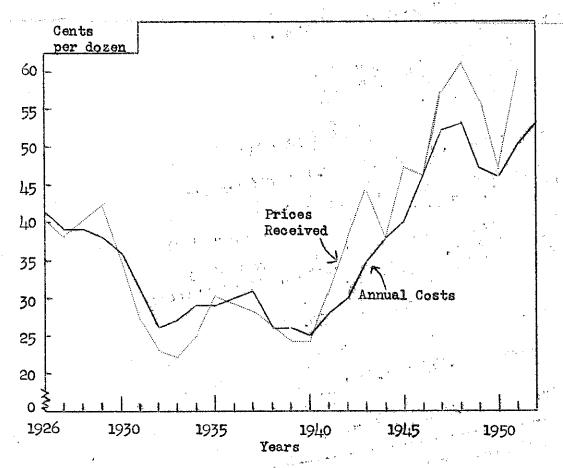

Figure 2.   ESTIMATED ANNUAL AVERAGE COSTS AND
PRICES RECEIVED PER DOZEN EGGS
New York State, 1926-52

Example of Formula Used for 1951

The formula used in estimating annual average costs in producing eggs for 1951 is given below:

Feed: 7.2 pounds x _____ price per pound   = _____

Labor: .11   x _____ value per hour   = _____

Depreciation: .035   x _____ farm value per bird, = _____
                                        live weight

Other costs: 13% of total of feed, labor, and   = _____
                                        depreciation costs

Annual average cost of producing 1 dozen eggs = _____

The following prices prevailed in 1951:

Feed: Laying mash   = $4.83
                Scratch feed   = 4.38
                Poultry ration = 4.61 less 8% or $4.24

Labor: Farm wages:
                    January = $102 x 3 = $306
                    April   = 104 x 3 = 312
                    July   = 113 x 3 = 339
                    October = 113 x 3 = 339
                                      $1296 ÷ 12 = $108

$108 x 12 ÷ 2700 = 48¢ x 1.5 = 72.0 or 72¢ per hour

Depreciation: Average price of chicken per pound = 31.4¢
                5.6 lbs. x 31.4¢ = $1.76 (average farm value per bird)

The combining of these prices with the formula factors yielded the estimated annual costs of feed, labor, depreciation, and other costs as well as the total costs for 1951 shown below:

Feed costs   7.2 x 4.24¢   = 30.5¢

Labor costs: .11 x 72¢   = 7.9¢

Depreciation costs: .035 x $1.76 = 6.2¢
                                    44.6¢

Other costs: .13 x 44.6¢   = 5.8¢

Estimated total costs for 1951   50.4¢ or 50¢

Formula for Current Use and Forecast for 1952

Results of the recent survey made in New York State which included
51 market egg flocks, indicate that revisions of the formula factors
established for current use are unnecessary. Thus, the formula for
current use in estimating annual average costs is the same as the one
developed for 1951 (page 10).

For the first five months of this year, the average price of
laying mash was $5.20 per hundred pounds. Scratch grain was $4.51. A
ration of 50 per cent mash and 50 per cent scratch cost approximately
$4.86 retail. An allowance for cash discount, return of feed bag, and
use of cheaper feeds and home-grown grains reduced this price to $4.48.
What happens to feed prices the remainder of the year will depend to a
large extent on the 1952 grain crop. Labor is expected to average
about 76 cents per hour for 1952. Chicken should be around 30 cents
per pound and birds sold from New York farms are estimated to average
5.6 pounds in weight. This gives an estimated farm value per bird of
$1.68.

On the basis of these prices, the cost of feed per dozen eggs will
average about 32 cents in 1952. This is two cents more than in 1951
due to the increase in the price of feed. Labor will cost about 9 cents
per dozen eggs which is one cent higher than in 1951. Depreciation
costs and other costs are expected to be the same as for last year.
This brings the estimated costs to 53 cents per dozen eggs which is
3 cents higher than in 1951. With lower prices for eggs and higher
costs, the outlook for 1952 is for a less profitable year than last
year for most New York poultrymen.

An individual farmer's costs in producing eggs will vary from
this average depending upon the efficiency of his management, his egg
production per bird, and the prices he has to pay for feed and labor.
Farmers with Leghorn flocks should produce eggs at costs that are at
least no higher than this estimate. The costs of a dozen eggs produced
by heavy-breed flocks may run slightly higher due to greater feed and
labor requirements. Any farmer can obtain a good idea of what his
costs in producing eggs will be by using the formula with the prices
he has to pay for feed and labor and with the prices he received for
birds sold out of his flock on a live-weight basis.

ESTIMATED AVERAGE COSTS BY MONTHS, JANUARY 1940 - JUNE 1952

The same general procedure employed in estimating annual average
costs was used in deriving the estimated average monthly costs of egg
production. However, it was necessary to adjust the amounts of the
feed and labor factors to reflect the changes in these items due to
variation in egg production, growth of pullets and average number of
layers on hand.

Amounts of Various Cost Factors

Values of the depreciation and other cost factors--already computed for use in the formulas for estimating annual costs--were held constant throughout each year in the monthly formulas. The amount of feed required to produce a dozen eggs was highest in the fall months and lowest during the spring and early summer months throughout the entire period (Appendix, Table F). High feed requirements during the fall months can be attributed to a low rate of egg production and the fact that pullets, particularly those in heavy-breed flocks, are still growing.. For the past few years, feed required per dozen eggs was 8.6 pounds in October and November and only 6.1 pounds in the low month of June, as compared to an annual average of 7.2 pounds. The low amount of feed required to produce a dozen eggs in June is due to a high rate of egg production per layer.

Labor requirements per dozen eggs vary throughout the year primarily because of changes in the number of birds kept and rate of egg production. The amount of labor required per dozen eggs was highest during the fall months for every year of the period, due to a low rate of egg production. Labor per dozen eggs was lowest during the winter months when flocks were still large in size and the rate of egg production per layer was at a high level, particularly in flocks of the heavy breeds. Even with a high rate of egg production during the spring and early summer months, the labor required per dozen eggs was higher than in the winter months due to a decline in size of flocks (Appendix, Table G).

Prices Paid

The average monthly prices poultrymen paid during this period for laying mash, scratch feed and a poultry ration of 50 per cent mash, 50 per cent scratch (reduced by 8 per cent) are presented in the Appendix, Tables H, I and J. For approximately one-half of the period (6 years) feed prices were higher during the last half of the year than in the first half. During four years, 1940, 1944, 1948 and 1949 feed prices were lower during the last half of the year. In 1942 and 1951, feed prices remained relatively stable throughout the year.

In general, hourly wage rates were lowest during the winter months, increased gradually throughout the spring and summer and reached their peak in the fall months (Appendix, Table K).

As shown in Tables L and M of the Appendix, the average farm price of chicken per pound and consequently the average farm value per bird live weight were low during the first part of the period and relatively favorable during the last half of the period, except for 1950. Chicken prices ranged from a low of 15 cents per pound in January 1940 to a high of 42 cents per pound in October 1946. In general prices were at the highest levels during 1948 when the price was 38 cents per pound for the last six months of the year and the yearly average was 36 cents.

Estimated Average Monthly Costs

The estimated total costs in producing eggs, by months, for New York State are given in Table 3. For every year, the costs of egg production were highest during the fall months when rates of lay were low and feed and labor requirements high. Costs, in general, were lowest during the spring and early summer months when the rates of egg production were at a high level. Costs per dozen ranged from a low of 21 cents in June 1940 to a high of 68 cents per dozen in October and November of 1947. During this period, costs of egg production varied throughout the year with changes in the amounts of the various cost factors (particularly feed and labor) and changes in the prices farmers had to pay for the cost items. In general, changes in the cost factors had a greater effect on the costs of producing eggs by months, during any given year, than did price changes. A detailed breakdown of feed, labor, depreciation and other costs for each month of this period are given in Table 0 of the Appendix.

Table 3.   ESTIMATED TOTAL COSTS IN PRODUCING EGGS, BY MONTHS
New York State, January 1940 - June 1952

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. ave.
						Cents per dozen							
1940	28	25	23	22	22	21	22	23	28	32	36	29	25
1941	27	26	22	23	23	24	26	28	33	40	40	35	28
1942	31	30	27	25	25	25	26	29	34	39	43	36	30
1943	35	32	30	30	30	31	31	35	40	46	51	44	35
1944	42	38	35	35	34	34	35	38	44	46	48	42	38
1945	39	36	34	34	34	34	37	38	46	49	53	46	40
1946	42	40	37	38	38	43	46	50	57	58	65	51	46
1947	46	44	46	46	44	46	49	54	64	68	68	66	52
1948	60	57	52	50	50	49	50	50	58	60	59	53	53
1949	49	47	48	45	44	42	43	45	50	52	53	46	47
1950	42	42	44	43	42	41	44	46	49	53	53	49	45
1951	49	49	50	48	47	44	47	49	55	58	58	54	50
1952	52	52	52	50	48								53*

* Preliminary

Cost - Price Differences

Prices received for eggs and costs have followed essentially the same pattern during this period (figure 3). This indicates that for a perishable item like high-quality eggs near to market, changes in prices from one period to another basically reflect the changes in costs of production from one time to another.
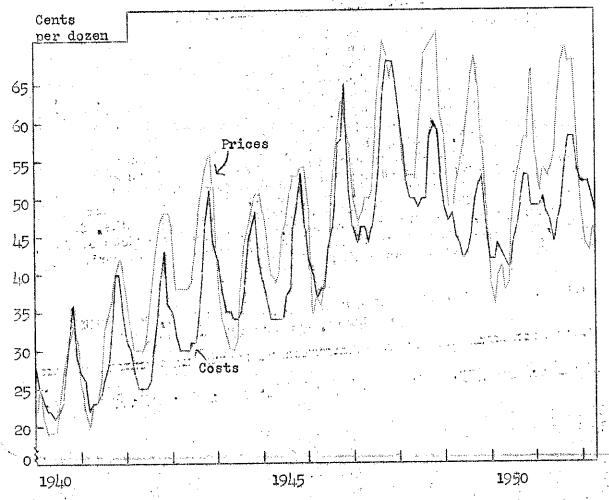
Figure 3.
ESTIMATED AVERAGE COSTS AND PRICES RECEIVED
PER DOZEN EGGS, BY MONTHS
New York State, January 1940 - June 1952

In some years, such as 1942 and 1943 prices were well above costs.
This resulted in a large expansion in numbers of birds kept and
consequently in 1944 prices fell below costs for several months. The
year 1945 was a good year and 1946 less favorable. During 1950, prices
were well below costs for at least six months even though the government
bought a lot of eggs for price support purposes. Prices rose well
above costs, thereafter, and 1951 was a favorable year. The expansion
in numbers, increase in egg production and increasing costs have
resulted in prices considerably below costs for the first five months
of 1952.

The average monthly prices New York poultrymen received for eggs
during this period are presented in the Appendix, Table N.

Example of Formulas Used for 1951

The formulas used in estimating average monthly costs in producing eggs for 1951 are given below:

Item	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Feed: (lbs.)	7.3	7.3	7.2	6.8	6.4	6.1	6.5	6.9	8.0	8.6	8.6	7.7
Labor:(hours)	.10	.10	.11	.11	.11	.11	.11	.11	.12	.12	.12	.10
Depreciation:	Use .035 times average Farm Value per Bird, live weight for each month. (5.6 lbs. x monthly price chicken per lb.)											
Other Costs:	13% of the sum of feed, labor, and depreciation costs for each month.											
Total Costs:	Sum of the four costs.											

The combining of the above formula factors with the prices given in the Appendix, Tables J, K and M, yielded the average monthly costs of producing eggs in 1951 presented in the Appendix, Table O.

Formulas for Current Use and Estimated Costs for 1952 (Jan.-May)

The formulas that may be used currently in estimating the average monthly costs in producing eggs in New York are the same as those developed for 1951.

Average costs per dozen eggs, for the first 5 months of 1952, are running higher than in the corresponding months of 1951 (table 4). Prices have been below costs in each of the first 5 months of this year. The main reasons for the increase in costs for this period are the increase in feed prices and labor rates.

Table 4. ESTIMATED COSTS OF PRODUCING EGGS
New York State, January - May 1952

Month	Feed costs	Labor costs	Depreciation	Other costs	Total costs
January	32.8	7.6	5.8	6.0	52.0
February	32.8	7.6	5.9	6.0	52.0
March	32.1	8.4	5.9	5.9	52.0
April	30.3	8.5	5.7	5.8	50.0
May	28.4	8.5	5.8	5.6	48.0

APPENDIX

METHODS USED IN COMPUTING AMOUNTS OF VARIOUS COST FACTORS
AND IN DEVELOPING PRICE SERIES

To determine the actual physical values of the feed and labor factors used in the formulas for estimating annual average costs in egg production, the estimated annual average pounds of feed and hours of labor per bird were divided by the annual average egg production per bird. These values were rounded for formula use.

To establish the amounts of the feed and labor factors for use in formulas for estimating average monthly costs, it was necessary to determine the average monthly rate of egg production, feed consumption, and labor requirements per bird. Data published by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics gave both annual and monthly rates of egg production beginning with 1940. These rates differed from the rates found in New York poultry farm management surveys and cost account data. Since the annual average production rates used in this study were based on cost account and survey data it was desirable to base the monthly rates on these same data. To derive these monthly rates, the eggs per layer reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics was divided by the annual average eggs produced per layer to establish the percentage of the year's egg production that was laid in each month. These percentages were then applied to the estimated annual average production rates based on farm surveys and cost account data to arrive at an estimated average egg production per layer by months.

From the results of a study of the seasonal costs and returns in producing eggs in 1946-47, it was possible to estimate the changes in feed consumption and labor requirements in laying flocks during the year. This survey showed that of the average feed consumed per layer during the year, 25 per cent was consumed in the fall, 26 per cent in the winter, 26 per cent in the spring, and 23 per cent in the summer. The estimated annual average pounds of feed per bird for each year were then multiplied by these percentages. Each of the four amounts, thus calculated, for the seasons, were then divided by 3 to get the average feed consumed per layer by months. The average monthly rate of egg production per layer divided into the average pounds of feed per layer, by months, yielded the pounds of feed required per dozen eggs—the physical values of the feed factors used in the monthly formulas.

Labor per dozen eggs, as shown by this survey, was 108 per cent of the annual average during the 3 fall months, 94.2 per cent during the winter, 96.6 per cent during the spring months, and 101 per cent during the summer. These percentages were then multiplied by the annual averages calculated for each year to obtain the averages by seasons. The computed seasonal values were each held constant for three months.

Depreciation on the laying flock is largely the result of mortality and of selling culls during the year and hens at the end of the laying season at a price below the value of new pullets. Survey

and cost account data indicated that the most important single factor
affecting depreciation was the meat value per bird. The average weight
per bird of fowls sold from New York poultry flocks and the annual
average price of chicken per pound were obtained from data published by
the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. From this information the annual
average farm value per bird, live weight, was calculated for each year
from 1926 to the present time. Estimated depreciation costs per bird,
by years were based on the survey results and cost account data. These
annual costs were divided by the annual average egg production rates to
obtain the average depreciation costs per dozen eggs, by years. It was
then possible to express yearly depreciation costs per dozen eggs as a
percentage of the annual average farm value per bird, live weight.
These percentages were used as the depreciation factors in the formulas
for estimating annual average costs in producing eggs since 1926 and in
the monthly formulas from 1940 on. Depreciation costs, by months,
fluctuated with the changes in the price of chicken per pound.

Other costs tend to remain relatively stable compared to feed,
labor, or depreciation costs. In this study they were computed as a
percentage of the total of the feed, labor, and depreciation costs for
each year. These percentages were used as the values for the other
costs factors in both the yearly and monthly formulas.

After having determined the physical values or amounts of the
various costs factors both by years and by months, the next step was to
establish a series of prices to use with these factors. During the
period covered by this study, a poultry ration of 50 per cent mash and
50 per cent scratch was used since it seemed to be fairly representative
of feeding practices on New York poultry farms. Average mash and scratch
prices, both on a yearly and monthly basis, were available from data
published by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics from 1940 to the present
time. These prices were used but were reduced by 8 per cent to adjust
for: (1) cash discounts, (2) return of feed bags, and (3) use of cheaper
feeds and home-grown grains. From 1926 to 1940 it was necessary to build
up a series of annual prices. This was done by applying a mark-up to the
Grange League Federation Exchange, Inc. wholesale prices of laying mash
and commercial scratch in the Rochester-Syracuse zone.

Farm wage rates were based on Bureau of Agricultural Economics data
for the entire period. The average wage rate per month with board paid
all hired help on New York farms was available both on a quarterly and on
an annual basis. Quarterly data published in January, April, July, and
October were used in establishing wage rates for use in the monthly
formulas. A review of cost account data showed that an average of 2700
hours were spent per man annually in caring for the laying flocks on
commercial poultry farms in New York State. By multiplying this annual
average wage rate per month with board by 12 and dividing the result by
2700, it was possible to compute an annual average hourly wage rate. To
bring these wage rates in line with the results of farm management surveys,
it was necessary to adjust them upward. For example, since 1942 the rates
determined in this manner have been multiplied by 1.5. Wage rates by months
for use in the formulas for estimating average monthly costs were computed
in the same manner except that quarterly instead of annual data were used.

Table A.   AVERAGE EGG PRODUCTION, FEED AND LABOR REQUIRED PER BIRD
New York State, 1926-52

Year	Average egg production per bird	Average pounds of feed per bird	Average hours of labor per bird
1926	126	78	2.1
1927	131	80	2.0
1928	131	80	1.9
1929	137	82	1.9
1930	143	80	1.9
1931	138	82	1.9
1932	137	80	1.9
1933	141	84	2.0
1934	147	86	2.1
1935	150	87	2.1
1936	154	89	2.0
1937	155	89	2.1
1938	157	94	2.0
1939	164	97	2.0
1940	160	96	2.1
1941	163	97	2.0
1942	167	102	1.9
1943	165	101	1.9
1944	172	107	1.9
1945	172	104	1.9
1946	176	109	1.9
1947	182	111	1.8
1948	182	112	1.8
1949	186	112	1.7
1950	186	112	1.7
1951	187	112	1.7
1952 (Prelim.)	188	113	1.7

Table B.　　　　　VALUE OF INPUT FACTORS FOR USE IN FORMULAS FOR
ESTIMATING THE COSTS IN PRODUCING EGGS
New York State, 1926-52

Year	Pounds of feed	Hours of labor	Depreciation (per cent)	Other costs (per cent)
1926	7.4	.195	7.0	18
1927	7.3	.185	6.5	18
1928	7.3	.175	6.5	18
1929	7.2	.165	5.5	20
1930	7.0	.165	6.5	20
1931	7.0	.165	7.0	20
1932	7.0	.165	7.5	22
1933	7.0	.165	8.5	22
1934	7.0	.165	8.5	20
1935	7.0	.165	6.0	20
1936	7.0	.160	5.5	16
1937	7.0	.160	5.5	16
1938	7.1	.155	5.0	16
1939	7.1	.155	5.0	16
1940	7.2	.155	5.0	16
1941	7.2	.150	4.5	16
1942	7.3	.140	4.0	13
1943	7.3	.140	3.0	13
1944	7.3	.135	3.0	13
1945	7.3	.135	2.5	13
1946	7.3	.130	2.5	13
1947	7.3	.120	3.0	13
1948	7.3	.115	3.0	13
1949	7.2	.110	3.5	13
1950	7.2	.110	3.5	13
1951	7.2	.110	3.5	13
1952	7.2	.110	3.5	13

Table C.   PRICES PAID BY POULTRYMEN FOR FEED AND LABOR
New York State, 1926-52

	Price of feed per 100 pounds			Net price	Labor
Year	Laying mash*	Scratch grain*	Gross price feed	feed**	per hour#
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
1926	2.32	2.21	2.27	2.47	0.44
1927	2.43	2.30	2.37	2.57	0.44
1928	2.57	2.36	2.47	2.67	0.42
1929	2.51	2.24	2.38	2.58	0.44
1930	2.42	1.93	2.18	2.38	0.40
1931	1.86	1.41	1.64	1.84	0.40
1932	1.49	1.09	1.29	1.49	0.36
1933	1.53	1.37	1.45	1.65	0.30
1934	1.84	1.77	1.80	2.00	0.30
1935	1.94	1.79	1.87	2.07	0.33
1936	1.96	1.95	1.96	2.16	0.36
1937	2.22	2.33	2.28	2.48	0.35
1938	1.78	1.52	1.65	1.85	0.35
1939	1.88	1.51	1.70	1.90	0.33
1940	2.30	1.75	2.02	1.86	0.28
1941	2.47	1.98	2.23	2.05	0.36
1942	2.92	2.21	2.56	2.36	0.36
1943	3.32	2.67	3.00	2.76	0.45
1944	3.65	3.04	3.34	3.07	0.51
1945	3.65	3.18	3.42	3.15	0.57
1946	4.28	3.96	4.12	3.79	0.63
1947	4.85	4.79	4.82	4.43	0.69
1948	5.06	4.89	4.98	4.58	0.69
1949	4.38	3.79	4.09	3.76	0.69
1950	4.43	3.88	4.16	3.83	0.66
1951	4.83	4.38	4.61	4.24	0.72
1952##	5.20	4.52	4.86	4.48	0.76

* Prices for 1926-39 are wholesale prices, Rochester-Syracuse zone, taken from G. L. F. Feed Quotations. Prices for 1940-52 are from Agricultural Prices, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. D. A.

** Gross price plus 20¢ for 1926-39. Gross price less 8% for 1940-52.

Based on annual average wage rates per month with board published in Farm Labor, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. D. A.

Estimates based on prices for January through May.

Table D.   AVERAGE FARM VALUE PER BIRD SOLD, LIVEWEIGHT
                            New York State, 1926-52

Year	Average live-weight per bird sold*	Annual average price per pound**	Average farm value per bird sold
	Pounds	Cents	Dollars
1926	4.0	27	1.08
1927	4.0	26	1.04
1928	4.0	26	1.04
1929	4.0	28	1.12
1930	4.0	24	0.96
1931	4.1	20	0.82
1932	4.2	17	0.71
1933	4.2	14	0.59
1934	4.2	14	0.59
1935	4.3	18	0.77
1936	4.4	19	0.84
1937	4.5	18	0.81
1938	4.3	19	0.82
1939	4.7	17	0.80
1940	4.9	16	0.78
1941	4.9	19	0.93
1942	5.0	22	1.10
1943	5.2	30	1.56
1944	5.3	28	1.48
1945	5.3	33	1.75
1946	5.5	33	1.82
1947	5.5	33	1.82
1948	5.5	36	1.98
1949	5.7	33	1.88
1950	5.5	28	1.54
1951	5.6	31	1.74
1952	5.7 est.	30 est.	1.73 est.

* From: Farm Production, Disposal, Cash Receipts, and Gross Income,
  Chickens and Eggs, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. D. A.

** Based on monthly price data from above source, and data from
   Agricultural Prices, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. D. A.

Table E.   INDEX OF ESTIMATED PHYSICAL COSTS IN PRODUCING EGGS
New York State, 1926-52

Year	Feed	Labor	Depreciation	Other costs	Combined index
1926	105.1	122.6	129.6	107.1	111.1
1927	103.7	116.4	120.4	107.1	108.1
1928	103.7	110.1	120.4	107.1	107.1
1929	102.3	103.8	101.9	119.0	104.5
1930	99.4	103.8	120.4	119.0	105.0
1931	99.4	103.8	129.6	119.0	106.1
1932	99.4	103.8	138.9	131.0	108.6
1933	99.4	103.8	157.4	131.0	110.9
1934	99.4	103.8	157.4	119.0	109.4
1935	99.4	103.8	111.1	119.0	103.9
1936	99.4	100.6	101.9	95.2	99.4
1937	99.4	100.6	101.9	95.2	99.4
1938	100.9	97.5	92.6	95.2	98.7
1939	100.9	97.5	92.6	95.2	98.7
1940	102.3	97.5	92.6	95.2	99.5
1941	102.3	94.3	83.3	95.2	97.9
1942	103.7	88.1	74.1	77.4	94.5
1943	103.7	88.1	55.6	77.4	92.3
1944	103.7	84.9	55.6	77.4	91.8
1945	103.7	84.9	46.3	77.4	90.6
1946	103.7	81.8	46.3	77.4	90.2
1947	103.7	75.5	55.6	77.4	90.3
1948	103.7	72.3	55.6	77.4	89.7
1949	102.3	69.2	64.8	77.4	89.5
1950	102.3	69.2	64.8	77.4	89.5
1951	102.3	69.2	64.8	77.4	89.5
1952	102.3	69.2	64.8	77.4	89.5

Note: 1935-39 = 100. Combined index a weighted index based on the
following weights: feed, 60 per cent; labor, 16 per cent;
depreciation, 12 per cent; and other costs, 12 per cent.

Table F. VALUE OF FEED INPUT FACTORS FOR USE IN FORMULAS FOR ESTIMATING THE
COSTS IN PRODUCING EGGS, BY MONTHS
New York State, 1940-52

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1940	9.1	7.7	6.7	5.9	5.6	5.2	5.5	6.3	8.7	10.7	12.0	9.1
1941	8.3	7.7	6.3	5.9	5.6	5.8	5.8	6.6	8.0	10.7	10.7	9.1
1942	8.7	8.0	6.5	5.8	5.5	5.6	6.0	6.9	8.7	10.4	11.6	9.4
1943	8.7	7.4	6.5	6.1	5.8	6.0	6.0	6.9	8.3	10.0	11.2	9.4
1944	8.6	7.5	6.6	6.6	6.2	5.9	6.2	7.1	8.7	9.4	10.4	8.7
1945	8.3	7.2	6.4	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.4	6.4	8.7	9.4	10.4	9.0
1946	8.0	7.5	6.6	6.2	5.9	6.5	6.5	7.4	9.0	9.0	10.8	8.6
1947	7.7	7.3	6.8	6.4	6.1	6.1	6.5	7.4	8.6	9.3	9.3	8.9
1948	7.7	7.7	6.8	6.4	6.4	6.1	6.5	6.9	8.6	9.3	9.3	8.3
1949	7.3	7.3	7.2	6.4	6.4	6.1	6.5	6.9	8.0	8.6	9.3	7.7
1950	7.3	7.3	7.2	6.8	6.4	6.1	6.5	6.9	8.0	8.6	8.6	7.7
1951	7.3	7.3	7.2	6.8	6.4	6.1	6.5	6.9	8.0	8.6	8.6	7.7
1952	7.3	7.3	7.2	6.8	6.4	6.1	6.5	6.9	8.0	8.6	8.6	7.7

Table G. VALUE OF LABOR INPUT FACTORS FOR USE IN FORMULAS FOR ESTIMATING
THE COSTS IN PRODUCING EGGS, BY MONTHS
New York State, 1940-52

Year	Value for winter months	Value for spring months	Value for summer months	Value for fall months
1940	.145	.150	.155	.165
1941	.140	.140	.150	.160
1942	.130	.135	.140	.150
1943	.130	.135	.140	.150
1944	.125	.130	.135	.145
1945	.125	.130	.135	.145
1946	.120	.125	.130	.140
1947	.110	.115	.120	.130
1948	.110	.110	.115	.125
1949	.100	.110	.110	.120
1950	.100	.110	.110	.120
1951	.100	.110	.110	.120
1952	.100	.110	.110	.120

Table H.   PRICES PAID BY POULTRYMEN FOR LAYING MASH BY MONTHS
New York State, 1940-52

| | Average monthly price per 100 pounds | | | | | | | | | | | | Ann. |
Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
							Dollars						
1940	2.29	2.24	2.36	2.34	2.37	2.30	2.24	2.24	2.25	2.26	2.29	2.33	2.30
1941	2.30	2.25	2.25	2.30	2.30	2.35	2.50	2.55	2.70	2.70	2.70	2.75	2.47
1942	2.85	2.90	2.95	2.90	2.95	2.90	2.90	3.00	2.90	2.90	2.90	2.95	2.92
1943	3.10	3.10	3.15	3.20	3.20	3.25	3.30	3.40	3.45	3.50	3.60	3.60	3.32
1944	3.65	3.65	3.65	3.65	3.65	3.70	3.75	3.70	3.65	3.60	3.55	3.55	3.65
1945	3.55	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.55	3.55	3.65	3.70	3.70	3.75	3.80	3.80	3.65
1946	3.80	3.80	3.85	3.90	4.15	4.35	4.70	4.75	4.55	4.45	4.60	4.40	4.28
1947	4.30	4.15	4.50	4.60	4.50	4.75	4.95	5.10	5.30	5.30	5.30	5.50	4.85
1948	5.70	5.40	5.40	5.40	5.40	5.40	5.20	4.80	4.65	4.40	4.45	4.55	5.06
1949	4.50	4.25	4.35	4.45	4.45	4.30	4.40	4.55	4.45	4.40	4.20	4.25	4.38
1950	4.25	4.10	4.20	4.35	4.50	4.45	4.65	4.70	4.45	4.40	4.50	4.60	4.43
1951	4.80	4.75	4.75	4.70	4.85	4.70	4.75	4.80	4.80	4.90	5.00	5.20	4.83
1952	5.20	5.20	5.20	5.20	5.20								

Source: Agricultural Prices, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. D. A.

Table I.   PRICES PAID BY POULTRYMEN FOR SCRATCH FEED BY MONTHS
New York State, 1940-52

| | Average monthly price per 100 pounds | | | | | | | | | | | | Ann. |
Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
							Dollars						
1940	1.85	1.82	1.76	1.76	1.80	1.73	1.74	1.71	1.67	1.68	1.74	1.73	1.75
1941	1.85	1.85	1.80	1.85	1.90	1.95	2.05	2.05	2.15	2.10	2.10	2.15	1.98
1942	2.20	2.25	2.20	2.20	2.20	2.20	2.20	2.25	2.20	2.20	2.20	2.25	2.21
1943	2.41	2.40	2.50	2.55	2.60	2.60	2.65	2.70	2.75	2.85	2.95	3.05	2.67
1944	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.10	3.10	3.10	3.05	3.00	2.95	2.90	3.04
1945	2.90	2.95	2.95	3.00	2.95	3.00	3.15	3.35	3.40	3.45	3.50	3.50	3.18
1946	3.50	3.55	3.60	3.65	3.85	4.00	4.45	4.35	4.25	4.30	4.15	3.90	3.96
1947	3.85	3.80	4.25	4.50	4.40	4.70	4.95	5.00	5.40	5.40	5.50	5.70	4.79
1948	5.80	5.20	5.20	5.30	5.20	5.20	4.95	4.70	4.60	4.35	4.10	4.10	4.89
1949	4.05	3.80	3.85	3.90	3.90	3.80	3.85	3.75	3.65	3.70	3.55	3.65	3.79
1950	3.65	3.65	3.70	3.75	3.90	3.90	4.00	4.00	3.95	3.95	4.00	4.15	3.88
1951	4.40	4.40	4.45	4.40	4.40	4.30	4.25	4.30	4.35	4.35	4.40	4.55	4.38
1952	4.55	4.55	4.50	4.50	4.45								

Source: Agricultural Prices, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. D. A.

Table J.   AVERAGE PRICES PAID BY POULTRYMEN FOR POULTRY RATION BY MONTHS
New York State, 1940-52

Year					Average monthly price per 100 pounds								Ann. Ave.
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
						Dollars							
1940	1.90	1.87	1.90	1.89	1.91	1.86	1.83	1.82	1.80	1.81	1.86	1.87	1.86
1941	1.91	1.89	1.86	1.91	1.93	1.98	2.10	2.12	2.23	2.21	2.21	2.25	2.05
1942	2.32	2.37	2.37	2.35	2.37	2.35	2.35	2.41	2.35	2.35	2.35	2.39	2.36
1943	2.54	2.53	2.59	2.65	2.67	2.69	2.74	2.81	2.85	2.93	3.02	3.05	2.76
1944	3.08	3.08	3.08	3.08	3.08	3.13	3.15	3.13	3.08	3.04	2.99	3.02	3.08
1945	2.96	3.02	3.02	3.04	2.99	3.02	3.13	3.24	3.27	3.31	3.36	3.36	3.14
1946	3.36	3.39	3.42	3.48	3.68	3.85	4.21	4.19	4.05	4.03	4.03	3.82	3.79
1947	3.75	3.66	4.03	4.19	4.09	4.34	4.55	4.65	4.92	4.92	4.97	5.15	4.43
1948	5.29	4.88	4.88	4.92	4.88	4.88	4.67	4.37	4.25	4.03	3.94	3.97	4.58
1949	3.94	3.70	3.77	3.85	3.85	3.73	3.79	3.82	3.73	3.73	3.57	3.63	3.76
1950	3.63	3.57	3.63	3.73	3.86	3.85	3.97	4.00	3.86	3.85	3.91	4.03	3.82
1951	4.23	4.21	4.23	4.19	4.25	4.14	4.14	4.19	4.21	4.25	4.32	4.49	4.24
1952	4.49	4.49	4.46	4.46	4.44								

Note: Based on a poultry ration of 50 per cent mash and 50 per cent scratch. Averages of prices from tables H and I less 8 per cent to adjust for (a) cash discount, (b) feed bags, and (c) use of homegrown feed.

Table K.   AVERAGE HOURLY WAGE RATES PAID BY POULTRYMEN BY MONTHS
New York State, 1940-52

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. Ave.
							Cents						
1940	24	24	24	26	26	26	28	28	28	28	28	28	28
1941	28	28	28	32	32	32	38	38	38	38	38	38	36
1942	28	28	28	33	33	33	34	34	34	38	38	38	36
1943	38	38	38	44	44	44	45	45	45	46	46	46	45
1944	46	46	46	50	50	50	51	51	51	52	52	52	51
1945	52	52	52	56	56	56	57	57	57	57	57	57	57
1946	54	54	54	63	63	63	63	63	63	64	64	64	63
1947	62	62	62	68	68	68	70	70	70	70	70	70	69
1948	68	68	68	68	68	68	70	70	70	72	72	72	69
1949	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	68	68	68	69
1950	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	69	69	69	66
1951	68	68	68	69	69	69	75	75	75	75	75	75	72
1952	76	76	76	77	77								

Source: Farm Labor, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. D. A.

Table L. AVERAGE FARM PRICE OF CHICKEN PER POUND, LIVE WEIGHT
New York State, 1940-52

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. Av.
							Cents						
1940	15	16	16	16	17	17	17	17	17	16	16	16	16
1941	17	17	17	18	19	19	20	20	19	20	20	20	19
1942	20	21	22	22	22	21	22	23	24	23	24	25	22
1943	27	28	29	31	32	32	31	32	30	30	29	30	30
1944	28	28	28	28	29	28	28	29	28	28	27	29	28
1945	29	30	33	34	35	35	38	38	33	30	29	29	33
1946	28	27	27	30	30	33	36	34	36	42	37	35	33
1947	33	33	35	35	35	34	34	33	33	32	29	32	33
1948	33	33	34	34	34	37	38	38	38	38	38	38	36
1949	38	36	38	38	35	32	29	30	31	28	28	28	33
1950	25	27	29	28	28	29	30	30	29	28	28	28	28
1951	29	30	32	34	35	34	34	31	31	30	28	28	31
1952	30	31	31	30	29								

* From Farm Production, Disposal, Cash Receipts and Gross Income, Chicken and Eggs, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. D. A.

Table M. AVERAGE FARM VALUE PER BIRD, LIVE WEIGHT, BY MONTHS*
New York State, 1940-52

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. Ave.
							Dollars						
1940	0.74	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.83	0.83	0.83	0.83	0.83	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78
1941	0.83	0.83	0.83	0.88	0.93	0.93	0.98	0.98	0.93	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.93
1942	1.00	1.05	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.05	1.10	1.15	1.20	1.15	1.20	1.25	1.10
1943	1.40	1.46	1.51	1.61	1.66	1.66	1.61	1.66	1.56	1.56	1.51	1.56	1.56
1944	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.54	1.48	1.48	1.54	1.48	1.48	1.43	1.54	1.48
1945	1.54	1.59	1.75	1.80	1.86	1.86	2.01	2.01	1.75	1.59	1.54	1.54	1.75
1946	1.54	1.48	1.48	1.65	1.65	1.82	1.98	1.87	1.98	2.31	2.04	1.92	1.82
1947	1.65	1.65	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.87	1.87	1.65	1.65	1.76	1.60	1.76	1.82
1948	1.65	1.65	1.87	1.87	1.87	2.04	2.09	2.09	2.09	2.09	2.09	2.09	1.98
1949	2.17	2.05	2.17	2.17	1.99	1.82	1.65	1.71	1.77	1.63	1.63	1.63	1.86
1950	1.38	1.48	1.60	1.54	1.54	1.60	1.65	1.65	1.60	1.54	1.54	1.54	1.54
1951	1.62	1.68	1.79	1.90	1.96	1.90	1.90	1.74	1.74	1.68	1.57	1.57	1.74
1952	1.68	1.74	1.74	1.68	1.62								

* Average weights per mature bird sold, from Table D times average monthly prices of chicken from Table L.

Table N. MONTHLY AVERAGE FARM PRICES OF EGGS
New York State, January 1926 - May 1952

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ave.
					Cents per dozen								
1926	46	38	33	31	29	30	32	36	41	47	61	61	40
1927	48	40	27	26	26	25	28	32	40	48	59	56	38
1928	46	40	32	28	26	30	33	38	43	50	57	55	40
1929	43	40	40	28	29	32	36	42	47	53	60	56	42
1930	46	40	29	26	27	26	28	33	37	42	48	36	35
1931	29	23	22	21	18	19	23	27	32	37	40	37	27
1932	28	19	19	16	14	16	20	23	26	34	35	33	23
1933	28	15	15	15	15	15	21	22	25	30	33	29	22
1934	22	23	21	18	17	18	21	25	30	33	38	33	25
1935	30	31	24	23	25	26	28	32	35	38	39	35	30
1936	30	27	25	21	21	23	27	32	33	37	39	36	29
1937	27	23	23	24	22	22	26	29	32	36	37	31	28
1938	27	23	21	20	21	24	28	30	33	36	37	34	26
1939	25	21	20	20	20	20	24	26	29	30	33	27	24
1940	22	25	21	19	19	19	23	26	29	32	34	31	24
1941	25	22	20	23	23	26	33	35	37	40	42	40	30
1942	36	33	30	30	30	31	35	40	44	47	48	48	37
1943	46	38	38	38	38	39	43	48	50	54	56	52	44
1944	38	34	32	30	30	31	38	44	46	48	50	51	38
1945	48	44	40	39	40	45	47	51	53	53	54	54	47
1946	49	35	37	36	39	41	49	54	57	63	60	57	46
1947	50	47	48	50	50	51	59	65	71	69	66	68	57
1948	61	55	53	53	53	57	63	69	70	71	72	62	61
1949	58	49	49	52	54	57	61	66	69	65	57	49	56
1950	39	36	40	41	38	39	47	53	55	58	58	67	47
1951	56	51	54	53	54	56	63	68	70	68	68	60	60
1952	49	44	43	46	44								

Source: Agricultural Prices, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. D. A.

Table C .

ESTIMATED COSTS IN PRODUCING EGGS, BY MONTHS
New York State, 1940-51

1940

Costs	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
						Cents						
Feed	17.3	14.4	12.7	11.2	10.7	9.7	10.1	11.5	15.7	19.4	22.3	17.0
Labor	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.3	4.3	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.1
Depreciation	3.7	3.9	3.9	3.9	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	3.9	3.9	3.9
Other	3.9	3.5	3.2	3.0	3.0	2.9	3.0	3.2	3.9	4.5	4.9	4.0
Net	28.4	25.3	23.4	22.0	21.8	20.8	21.6	23.2	28.4	32.4	35.7	29.0

1941

Costs	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
						Cents						
Feed	15.9	14.6	11.7	11.3	10.8	11.5	12.2	14.0	17.8	23.6	23.6	20.5
Labor	3.9	3.9	3.9	4.5	4.5	4.8	4.7	5.7	6.1	6.1	6.1	5.3
Depreciation	3.7	3.7	3.7	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.4	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.4	4.4
Other	3.8	3.6	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.3	3.6	3.9	4.5	5.5	5.5	4.8
Net	27.3	25.8	22.4	23.0	22.6	23.8	25.9	28.0	32.6	39.6	39.6	35.0

1942

Costs	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
						Cents						
Feed	20.2	19.0	15.4	13.6	13.0	13.2	14.1	16.6	20.4	24.4	27.3	22.5
Labor	3.6	3.6	3.8	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.8	4.8	5.1	5.7	5.7	4.9
Depreciation	4.0	4.2	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.6	4.8	4.6	4.8	4.9
Other	3.6	3.5	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.9	3.0	3.4	3.9	4.5	4.9	4.8
Net	31.4	30.3	26.7	25.4	24.7	24.9	26.3	29.4	34.2	39.2	42.7	36.5

1943

Costs	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
						Cents						
Feed	22.1	18.7	16.8	16.2	15.5	16.1	16.4	19.4	23.7	29.3	33.8	28.7
Labor	4.9	4.9	5.1	5.9	5.9	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.8	6.9	6.9	6.0
Depreciation	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.8	5.0	5.0	4.8	5.0	4.7	4.7	4.5	4.7
Other	4.1	3.6	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.6	4.0	4.6	5.3	5.9	5.3
Net	35.3	31.6	29.3	30.4	29.8	30.8	31.1	34.7	39.8	46.2	51.1	44.9

Table C (continued)   ESTIMATED COSTS IN PRODUCING EGGS, BY MONTHS
New York State, 1940-51

1944

Costs	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
						Cents						
Feed	26.5	23.1	20.3	20.3	19.1	18.5	19.5	22.2	26.8	28.6	31.1	26.3
Labor	5.8	5.8	6.0	6.5	6.5	6.8	6.9	6.9	7.4	7.5	7.5	6.5
Depreciation	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.6
Other	4.8	4.3	4.0	4.1	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.4	5.0	5.3	5.6	4.9
Net	41.5	37.6	34.7	35.3	34.1	33.6	34.8	38.1	43.6	45.8	48.5	42.3

1945

Costs	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
						Cents						
Feed	24.6	21.7	19.3	18.2	17.9	18.1	20.0	20.7	28.4	31.1	34.9	30.2
Labor	6.5	6.5	6.8	7.3	7.3	7.6	7.7	7.7	8.3	8.3	8.3	7.1
Depreciation	3.8	4.0	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.6	5.0	5.0	4.4	4.0	3.8	3.8
Other	4.5	4.2	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.9	4.3	4.3	5.3	5.6	3.1	5.3
Net	39.4	36.4	34.5	33.9	33.7	34.2	37.0	37.7	46.4	49.0	53.1	46.4

1946

Costs	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
						Cents						
Feed	26.9	25.4	22.6	21.6	21.7	25.0	27.4	31.0	36.4	36.3	43.5	32.9
Labor	6.5	6.5	6.8	7.9	7.9	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.8	9.0	9.0	7.7
Depreciation	3.8	3.7	3.7	4.1	4.1	4.6	5.0	4.7	5.0	5.8	5.1	4.8
Other	4.8	4.6	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.9	5.3	5.7	6.5	6.6	7.5	5.9
Net	42.0	40.2	37.4	38.0	38.1	42.7	45.9	49.6	56.7	57.7	65.1	51.3

1947

Costs	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
						Cents						
Feed	28.9	26.7	27.4	26.8	24.9	26.5	29.6	34.4	42.3	45.8	46.2	45.8
Labor	6.8	6.8	7.1	7.8	7.8	8.2	8.4	8.4	9.1	9.1	9.1	7.7
Depreciation	5.0	5.0	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.6	5.6	5.0	5.0	5.3	4.8	5.3
Other	5.3	5.0	5.2	5.3	5.0	5.2	5.7	6.2	7.3	7.8	7.8	7.6
Net	46.0	43.5	45.5	45.7	43.5	45.5	49.3	54.0	63.7	68.0	67.9	66.4

Table O (continued)   ESTIMATED COSTS IN PRODUCING EGGS, BY MONTHS
New York State, 1940-51

1948

Costs	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
						Cents						
Feed	40.7	37.6	33.2	31.5	31.2	29.8	30.4	30.2	36.6	37.5	36.6	33.0
Labor	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.8	8.0	8.0	8.8	9.0	9.0	7.9
Depreci- ation	5.0	5.0	5.6	5.6	5.6	6.1	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3
Other	6.9	6.5	6.0	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.8	5.8	6.7	6.9	6.7	6.1
Net	60.1	56.6	52.3	50.4	50.1	49.4	50.5	50.3	58.4	59.7	58.6	53.3

1949

Costs	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
						Cents						
Feed	28.8	27.0	27.1	24.6	24.6	22.8	24.6	26.4	29.8	32.1	33.2	28.0
Labor	7.0	7.0	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	8.4	8.2	8.2	6.8
Depreci- ation	7.6	7.2	7.6	7.6	7.0	6.4	5.8	6.0	6.2	5.6	5.6	5.6
Other	5.6	5.4	5.5	5.2	5.1	4.8	5.0	5.2	5.8	6.0	6.1	5.3
Net	49.0	46.6	47.9	45.1	44.4	41.7	43.1	45.3	50.2	51.9	53.1	45.7

1950

Costs	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
						Cents						
Feed	26.5	26.1	26.1	25.4	24.7	23.5	25.8	27.6	30.1	33.1	33.6	31.0
Labor	6.3	6.3	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.6	8.3	8.3	6.9
Depreci- ation	4.8	5.2	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.6	5.8	5.8	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.4
Other	4.9	4.9	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.7	5.0	5.2	5.6	6.1	6.1	5.6
Net	42.5	42.5	43.6	42.6	41.8	40.7	43.5	45.5	48.9	52.9	53.4	48.9

1951

Costs	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
						Cents						
Feed	30.9	30.7	30.5	28.5	27.2	25.3	26.9	28.9	33.7	36.6	37.2	34.6
Labor	6.8	6.8	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.6	8.3	8.3	9.0	9.0	9.0	7.5
Depreci- ation	5.6	5.9	6.3	6.6	6.7	6.4	6.5	6.0	5.9	5.7	5.4	5.5
Other	5.6	5.6	5.8	5.6	5.4	5.1	5.4	5.6	6.3	6.6	6.7	6.2
Net	48.9	49.0	50.1	48.3	46.9	44.4	47.1	48.8	54.9	57.9	58.3	53.8