

1980

The Effects Of Disease On Poultry's Return To The Midwest

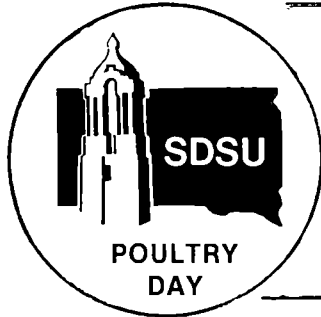
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Recommended Citation

Howe, Charles W., "The Effects Of Disease On Poultry's Return To The Midwest" (1980). *South Dakota Poultry Field Day Proceedings and Research Reports, 1980*. Paper 12.
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The Effects Of Disease On Poultry's Return

To The Midwest

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The poultry disease situation in the Midwest and upper Midwest is relatively stable in comparison to certain other areas which have been prominent in the industry. Many of the diseases seen in the Midwest can be economically prevented by either nutrition, management practices or through the use of biologics.

The capability to isolate poultry operations on individual farms is, of course, favorable to disease containment in the Midwest. However, without careful planning or any sudden increase in flock numbers, this advantage could be lost.

Since we are closer to major feed ingredient sources, we may presume we will receive fresher, higher quality ingredients in this area. Insofar as good nutrition can contribute to disease prevention, this is a plus. We should have less feed spoilage and thus less mycotic problems that can appear in areas where feed must be transported and at the same time have less feed cost involved.

Housing costs are higher here, but we have a better house because we must have more protection than in an area such as southern California. We have less chance for respiratory problems in the stable environment in our houses than they do in open housing. Closed houses are also a bit easier to isolate.

Our cold temperatures also tend to break the cycle of certain diseases. For instance, we rarely see Infectious Coryza, which is a costly disease in many areas of mild climate.