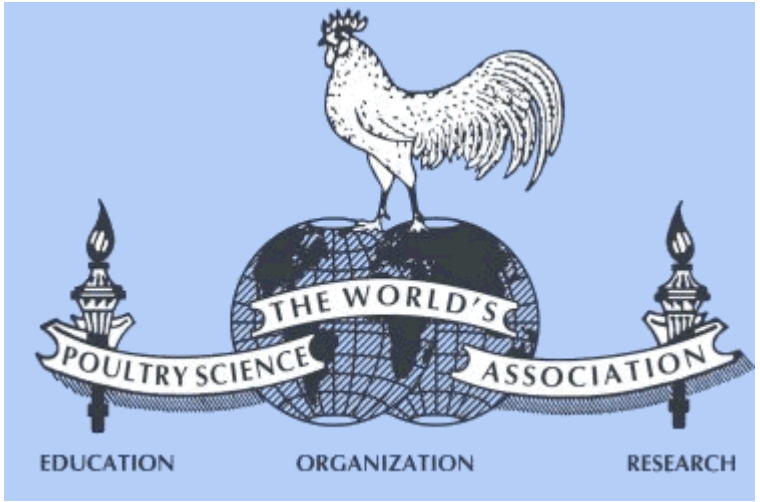
WPSA Activities in New Zealand

- An Historical View

Mike Cundy



WPSA Activities in New Zealand

- An Historical View

The NZ Branch of WPSA was formed in 1960

This presentation looks at the state of the poultry industry in 1960 and then summarises Branch activities over the years and the key personalities involved

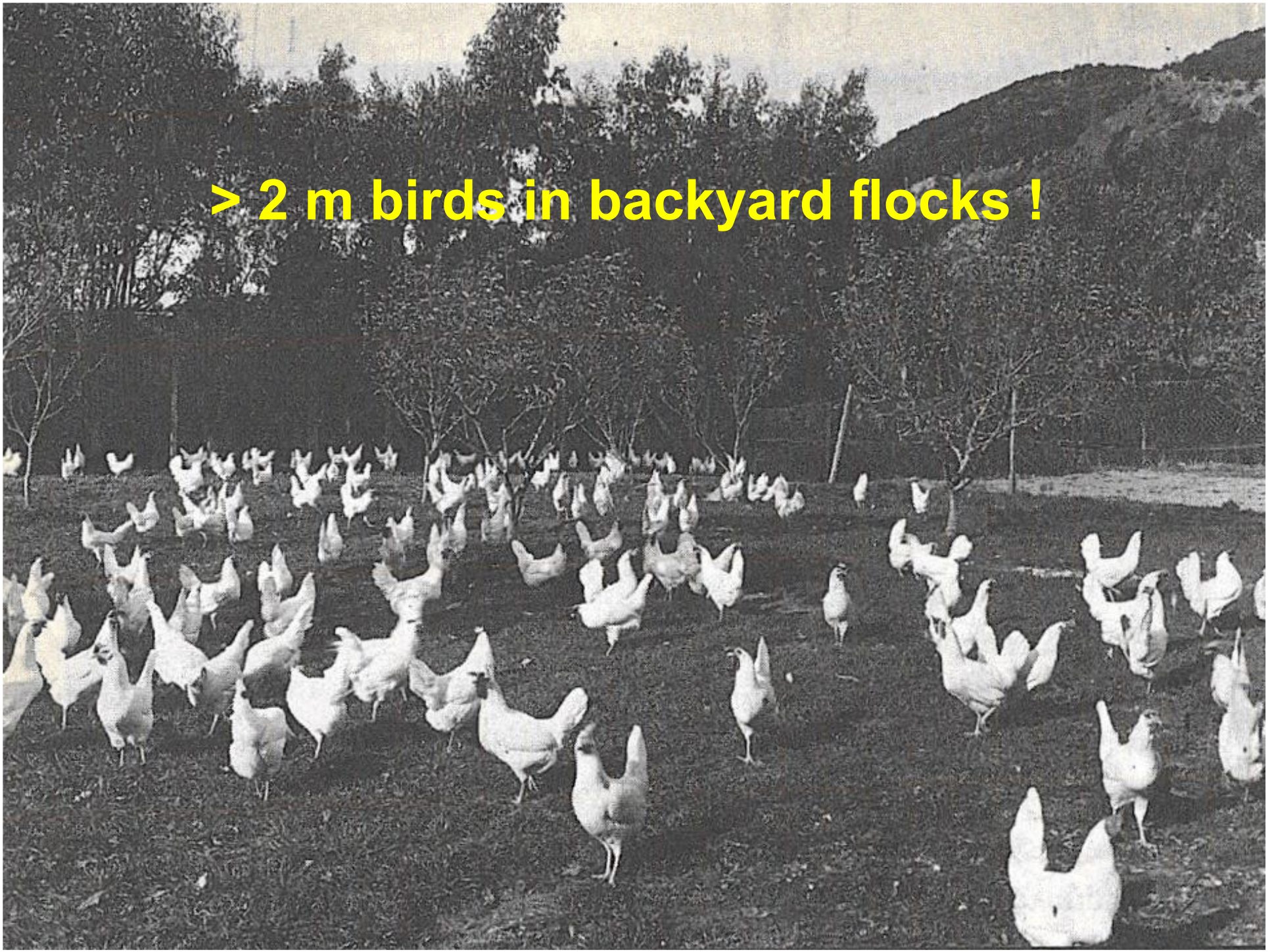
The Early Years

1960 – a very different world, and a very different poultry world

- *Lots of small layer flocks, no real broiler industry*
- *~ 4 million layers!*
- *50% were in flocks of less than 25 birds*
- *There were 1800 flocks with more than 100 birds*
- *Only 15 flocks of over 4000 birds*
- *The industry was highly government controlled*
- However, *there were: 12 MAF advisors; a free veterinary diagnostic service; and a small subsidy to pro*






> 2 m birds in backyard flocks !

WPSA - The Early Years

New Zealand Branch founding

- First Meeting*: Feb 11 1960 at Massey College*

  Fred Bobby (MAF Chief Poultry Officer)
  Alf Bridle (Chairman of the NZ Poultry Board)
  Ted Chambers (Leading SI egg producer)
  John Kissling (Manager of Massey poultry unit)
  Norm Smith (Nutritionist for TEMCO)

- Attended by 27 WPSA members and 50 observers, indicating that WPSA was active in NZ prior to 1960

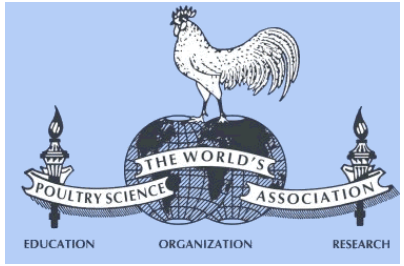
1960s and 70s *Office Holders*

President:

Fred Bobby 1960-62
Alf Bridle 1962-65
Prof Alan Rae 1966-71
Dr Mike Sissins 1971
Ted Chambers 1972-78
Peter Thompson 1978
Noel Robertson 1979

Secretary/Treasurer:

Norm Smith 1960-63
Harold Watson 1964-66
Milton Watts 1967-85



1960s and 70s *Key Events*

- 174 members by 1964
- Active North and South Island branches
- Group travel to overseas conferences
- Massey and Lincoln seminars
- Travelling Speaker scheme was introduced
- Australasian Poultry Science Conf 1972 held in Auckand
- O'seas visitors *Drs Milton Scott, Peter Biggs, Bill Jasper, Stan Coates, Simon Bornstein* – these people brought us new information and challenged us to do things better
- New Zealand Poultry Award first recipient - *John Kissling*
- Importance of training was recognised

1980s and 90s *Office Holders*

President:

Noel Robertson 1979-87

Mike Cundy 1988-92

John Foulds 1993-96

Alan Gibbins 1997 on

1980s and 90s *Office Holders*

Secretary/Treasurer:

Milton Watts 1967-85

Laurie Prior 1986-93

Ashley Gibbs 1994-2002

1980s and 90s *Key Events*

1980s – an active decade

- 1980 South Pacific P. Science Convention, Auckland
- Far East & South Pacific Federation of Branches formed (by NZ):*NZ/Aus/Jap/Kor/Mal/Ph/Fiji*
- Poultry industry was in major change
- Demise of NZ Poultry Broard/Eggs de-regulated
- Massey Poultry Research Centre was under threat
- NZ Poultry Awrd: *Watts,Batkin,Stewart/Mitchell,Patchell*
- 1987: 3rd Conf. Far East & S. Pacific Fedtn., Hamilton
- Regular branch newsletters were instituted

1980s and 90s *Key Events*

- 1990s: regional seminars were introduced:
  welfare/food-borne microbes 450+ attendees
- New style newsletter *Otto Moll retired to NZ from Australia and became honorary editor*

NEW ZEALAND POULTRY NEWS

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1980s and 90s *Key Events*

- 1990s: regional seminars
- New style newsletter *Otto Moll*
- Membership climbs to 202
- Massey PRC still under threat
- NZ Poultry Award: *Howell, Cundy, Prior*
- 1995 Otto Moll: Was inducted into the *Intnl Poultry Hall of Fame*
- WPSA sponsored an exotic disease exercise in Taranaki
- Poultry AgITO started up with much input from WPSA

2000-2010 *Office Holders*

President:

Alan Gibbins 1997-2004

Kent Deitemeyer 2005-2010

Secretary/Treasurer:

Ashley Gibbs 1994-2002

Blake Camden 2003-2004

Don Thomas and helpers 2005-2010

2000-2010 *Key Events*

- The NZ Poultry Conference became a regular fixture every second year
- Alan Gibbins: Became President of FE & AP Federation
- Greater focus towards tech advisers vs egg producers/broiler growers
- Workshops: *coccidiosis; ethics/welfare; environment*
- NZ P. Award: *Foulds, Diprose, Winter, the Clarks*
- AgITO increasingly well supported

Concluding Comments (1)

'Education Organisation Research'

The record shows that the NZ Branch of the WPSA has certainly been very active over the years in all these areas



Concluding Comments (2)

Also, there have been massive efficiency gains over the 50 years since 1960:

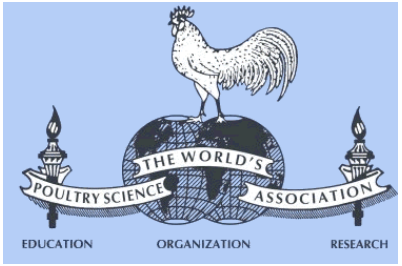
Efficiency of egg production

1960: 3.8 - 4 kg of feed to produce 1kg of eggs

Now: ~ 2 kg feed to produce 1kg of eggs

Egg Price 1959 $10.14/dozen (in today's dollars)*
2009 $3.55/dozen*

**(Info from Dept of Statistics)*



Concluding Comments (3)

These gains have come from:

- Genetic selection
- Better vaccines and understanding of importance of biosecurity
- Improved nutrition
- Improved housing and environmental control
- Better management

In other words:

Application of Poultry Science

Concluding Comments (4)

Massive efficiency gains over 50 years:

Poultry scientists and specialists from around the world have obviously been very much at the heart of these improvements, but the WPSA has, I believe, played a major role in bringing this information to New Zealand, adapting the findings to fit local circumstances and ensuring they have been implemented in the New Zealand industry.

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to:

- Commercial organisations who have supported the NZ Branch over the years
- NZ Branch Executive Members throughout the years, for all the hard work for the benefit of our industry.