Editorial

This issue should be published shortly before the XXII World's Poultry Congress, scheduled to take place on June 8-13th, in the ancient and historic city of Istanbul. The organiser and host of the Congress is the Turkish Branch WPSA. One of the younger branches of the Association, yet one of the most active, it was a bold move on their part to make a bid at the Council meeting held during the 1996 Congress in India to host the 2004 World Congress. Their enthusiasm and hard work over the past eight years in preparation for the Congress deserves to be rewarded with a successful outcome and we wish them good luck.

The World's Poultry Science Journal will be represented at the Congress by its editorial team and we look forward to meeting many of our readers and contributors. Potential new contributors will be especially welcome. To mark the occasion, this issue, Volume 60 No. 2 (June 2004) contains a group of specially selected scientific papers covering a wide range of interests.

In the second of two papers first presented at a meeting of the South African Branch of the World's Poultry Science Association in Pretoria, South Africa, 21st August 2003, Professor Trevor Morris reviews the role of lighting, light intensity, photoperiod and temperature.

The object of this study was to review the effect of different levels of diet supplementation with inulin on the gastrointestinal tract development and metabolism of turkeys during a 16-week feeding period, with special attention to caecal and faecal parameters.

The digestion of starch is a complex mechanism. To optimise starch digestion it is important to take full account of the nature and form of the starch that is consumed.

The US poultry industry continues to implement induced moulting to extend egg production in commercial laying flocks. Achieving an optimal moult requires dietary manipulation to cause a complete regression of the reproductive organs and cessation of egg production followed by rejuvenation and initiation of an additional egg laying cycle. Strategies for doing this are discussed.

Force feeding is an ancient practice. Currently approximately 80% of world foie gras production takes place in France, but the Council of Europe in 1999 introduced legislation restricting where and under what conditions the practice can continue. The authors consider whether or not foie gras production has a long term future.

As the tools for microbial community analysis have become more accurate and independent of bacterial culturability, we have learned that bacteria in the gastrointestinal tract can be modified in various ways. The use of modern analytical techniques will be of great benefit in increasing our understanding of bacteria-diet interactions and the role of different bacteria on animal health.

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