

NEWS

FROM THE ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION

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GEORGIA TECH RECEIVES FOURTH YEAR OF
STATE FUNDING FOR POULTRY RESEARCH

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For Immediate Release

ATLANTA, GA.....The Georgia State Legislature recently approved \$250,000 for continuing research in the poultry industry by Georgia Tech's Engineering Experiment Station. The research program, which was first begun in 1974, is funded through the Georgia Department of Agriculture.

An increase of \$20,000 over last year's funding, the new award will allow EES to continue research projects in energy conservation, solar energy applications, automation and mechanization, and waste treatment assistance.

The new funding also provides for research in two new areas which local poultry producers feel are vital areas of concern: egg handling and breakage and broiler catching, loading and hauling. These are important areas because of revenue lost to egg breakage and employee turnover in broiler harvesting due to undesirability of job conditions—broilers are now caught by hand and manually loaded into coops and stacked on trucks for shipment.

According to Project Director Richard Combes, past Department of Agriculture funding has been instrumental in the building of two solar

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heated growout houses—one in Cumming and one in Villa Rica, Ga.; the development of a computerized method of finding where losses are occurring on the processing line; the construction of a generator for turning chicken manure into methane gas; and several other programs which are able to increase revenue, save energy or decrease pollution.

Georgia Tech's EES works on these poultry industry projects in conjunction with the Georgia Poultry Federation which represents Georgia poultry producers in working toward industry improvements.