

What do dual-purpose cockerels feed on in the range area?

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The 75th EAAP Annual Meeting – Florence 1st – 5th of September 2024



Research of dual-purpose breeds at TI





Institute of

OF Organic Farming



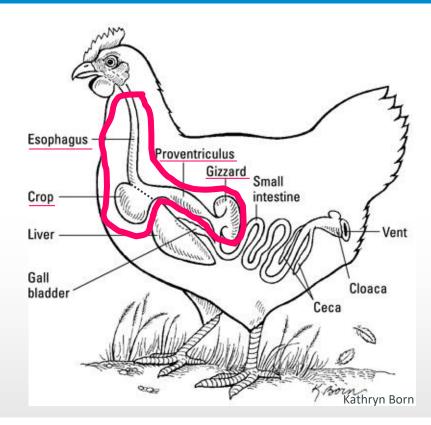




Anterior digestive tract

Peristalsis and anti-peristalsis

- Gizzard -> Proventriculus
- Jejunum -> Duodenum (-> Gizzard)
- Cloeca -> Ceca
- Likely only particles < 0.1 mm from gizzard to small intestine
- Continuance in segments of digestion tract:
 - 10 50 min in crop,
 30 90 min proventriculus/gizzard,
 in total: 3 4 h (Ravindran, 2013)
 - Ad libitum fed broilers' crops: never full (Svihus, 2014)
 - Limited feeding regime: + 90 min in upper GIT





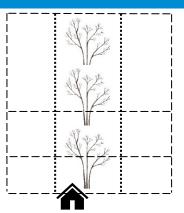
Aims

- Proportion of material from the range in crop and gizzard
 - Insects and other animals
 - Plant material
 - Grit
- Response to cow pats
- Range use and fearfulness (tonic immobility test)
- Welfare indicators, i.e. lesions, dermatitis, weight gain
- Losses due to predatory birds



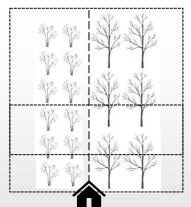
Site: Hedgerow and SRC













4 Sept 2nd 2024

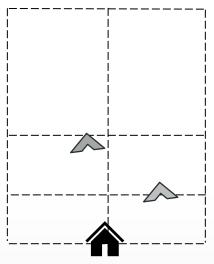
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Site: Control



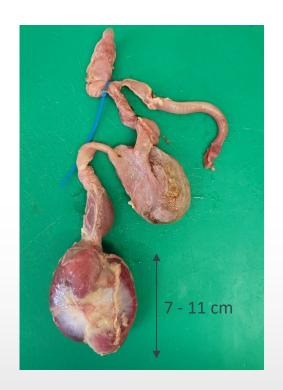




- 3 Experimental Runs
- 4 Treatments, 2 replicates each
- 50 Cockerels per replicate
- 3 Dates of Slaughter



Method: Evacuation of crop and gizzard





suggested by Lorenz et al. 2013





Method: Evacuation of crop and gizzard























7 Sept 2nd 2024

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Crop and gizzard: Correction factor

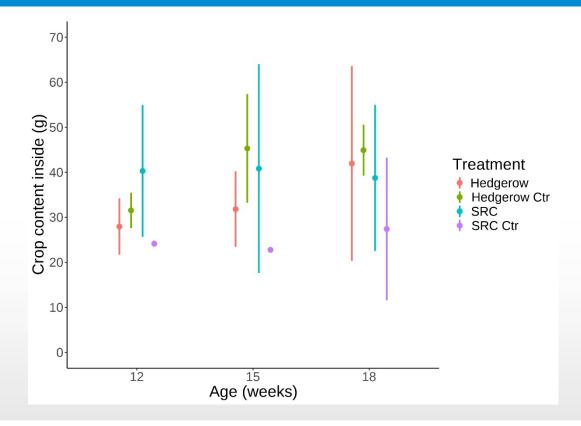
Crop/gizzard	Content	Bound water	Correction factor
Crop	Plant material	8.3% ± 1.0%	0.917
Gizzard	Plant material	13.9% ± 4.7%	0.861
Crop	Insects	22.0% ± 17.1%	0.880
Gizzard	Grit	3.1% ± 0.5%	0.969



Results - crop

Total amount of crop content (n = 273)

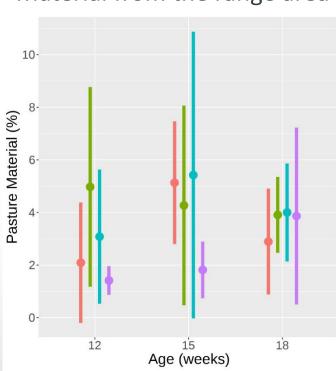




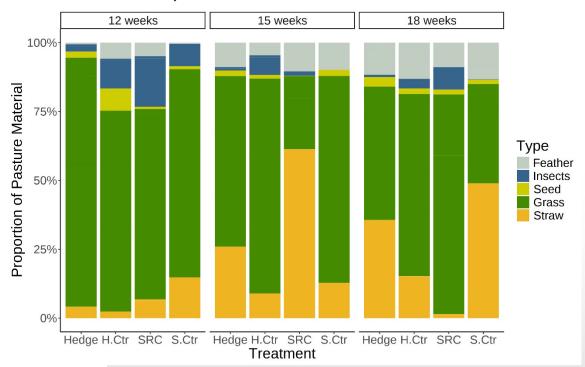


Results - crop

Material from the range area



Proportions



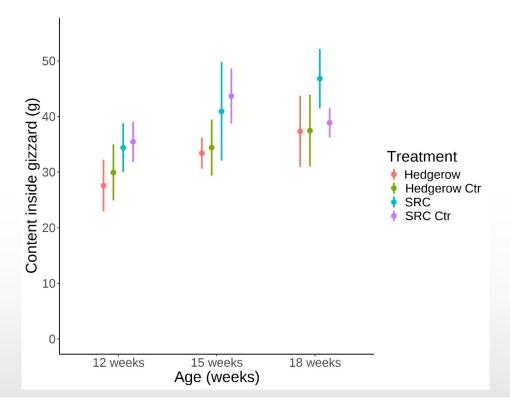


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Total amount of gizzard content (n = 305)











Fibre knots in 97 gizzards (of 305 in total)

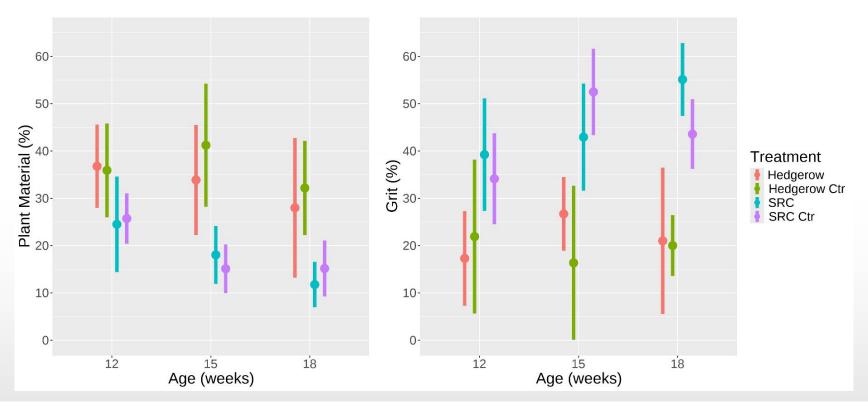




12 Sept 2nd 2024

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Prospect

- Missing knowledge about passage rate
- High variability
- Experiments on-station
 - Could grazing animals on the (neighbouring) pasture lead to relevant amounts of insects in daily ratios?
 - What do good range areas look like?
- Breeding for "grazing chickens"





British Poultry Science

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information: http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/cbps20

The effect of a diet containing grasshoppers and access to free-range on carcase and meat physicochemical and sensory characteristics in broilers

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The End



Questions?





Goshawks – signs of predation







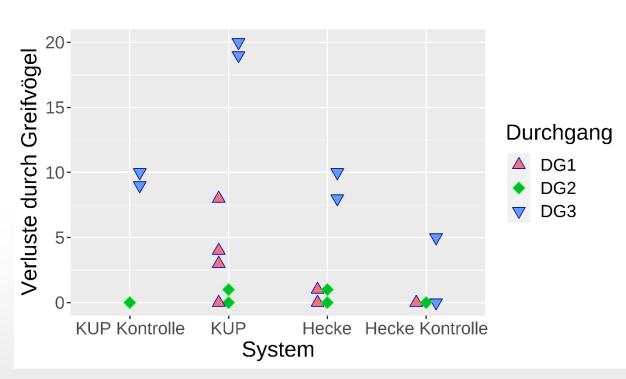








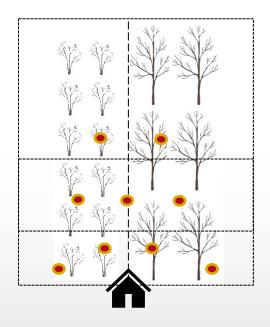
Losses due to predatory birds (mostly goshawks)







Curiosity: Cow Pats







A CHICK GROWTH FACTOR IN COW MANURE

I. ITS NON-IDENTITY WITH CHICK GROWTH FACTORS PREVIOUSLY DESCRIBED

By MAX RUBIN AIG : H. R. BIRD

 $(From \ the \ Bureau \ of \ Animal \ Industry, \ A'gricultural \ Research \ Center, \ Beltsville, \\ Maryland)$

(Received for publication, February 2, 1946)



Feed

Components			
Wheat			
Corn			
Triticale			
Barley			
Oat			
Pea			
Fava bean			
Rapeseedcake			
Soybeencake			
Sunflowercake			
Natriumchloride			
Calcium phosphate			
Calcium carbonate			
Mineral mix			

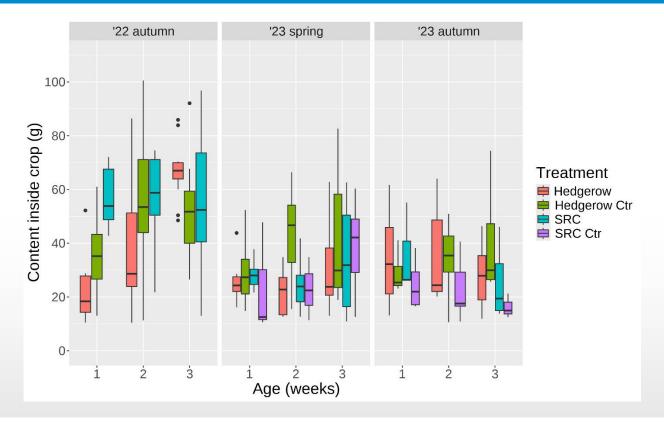
	Phase 2 (5-11)	Phase 3 (12-18)
Energy (AMEn)	11,3 MJ	11,5 MJ
CA	5,96%	5,98%
СР	18,54%	17,95%
CF	5,13%	4,64%
CF	7,07%	6,45%
Methionine	0,25%	0,24%
Met+Cys	0,57%	0,53%
Lysine	1,03%	1,00%
Thr	0,71%	0,67%
Try	0,20%	0,19%



Results - crop

Total amount of crop content (n = 273)







Total amount of gizzard content (n = 305)



