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## FIRST CYCLE REPORT OF THE FORTIETH NORTH CAROLINA LAYER PERFORMANCE AND MANAGEMENT TEST<sup>1</sup>

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The North Carolina Layer Performance and Management Tests are conducted under the auspices of the North Carolina Layer Performance and Management Program, Prestage Department of Poultry Science, Cooperative Extension Service at North Carolina State University (NCSU) and the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The flock is maintained at the Piedmont Research Station-Poultry Unit, Salisbury, North Carolina. Mrs. Teresa Herman is Piedmont Research Station Superintendent; Mrs. Kelly Brannan is Poultry Unit Manager of the flock; Dr. Ramon D. Malheiros, Research Associate, is coordinator of data compilation and statistical analysis, and Dr. K. E. Anderson is Project Leader. The purpose of this program is to assist poultry management teams in evaluation of commercial layer stocks and management systems.

The data presented here represents the analysis of the first production cycle and molt of the 40th North Carolina Layer Performance and Management Test. Performance summary tables are available for each strain, molt, density and production system tested. First production cycle and molt data were collected for 18 strains and 3 production systems: Conventional Cage, Colony Housing System, and Enriched Colony Housing System.

Copies of current and past reports are maintained for public access at <a href="http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/poulsci/tech\_manuals/layer\_reports/40\_first\_cycle report.pdf">http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/poulsci/tech\_manuals/layer\_reports/40\_first\_cycle report.pdf</a> .

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The use of trade names in this publication does not imply endorsement by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service of the products named nor criticism of similar ones not mentioned.