

INSTRUCTIONS / INFORMATION FOR AUTHORS

Any papers received not conforming to the following format will not be accepted for review, they will be returned for correction.

Submitted Papers - 1 to 4 Page Paper:

You will have the option to nominate your preference for either a **Poster or Oral presentation** in the Paper submission portal, however final decision of presentation type and duration will be determined by the editorial committee according to theme, relevance and number of papers submitted.

- **Poster Presentation - A0 (841mmx1189mm)** - Poster session will be held after the final oral presentation session on Monday - canapes and drinks will be served during viewing time. Authors will be required to print the poster themselves and bring to the conference. They can be put up first thing Monday and may be left on display for the entire 3 days of the conference.

We would also like your poster to be included on the Proceedings USB for APSS 2026 and they will also be made available in the Event App and on our Website, so please have Final PDF versions submitted no later than 31/1/26.

- **Oral Presentation - 10-15 Minutes** - 8-10 Slides max.

Please submit your PowerPoint presentation to Ben at benjamin.geist@sydney.edu.au by the 31/1/25.

You will be able to update your presentation up until the morning of your presentation if required, but it is always best for us to have a back-up.

Invited Papers: (Invitation Only)

- 4-8 Page Invited Speaker Paper.
- 30-45 Minute Presentations (including both the introduction and discussion time).
- No Slide Limit.

Paper Format:

An APSS 2026 Paper template is available if you would like to utilise otherwise follow the instructions below;

Page Setup:

1. Please select **A4 paper size** (21.0 x 29.7 cm).
2. Type within the dimensions of 2.54 cm (1") margins top/bottom and left/right.
3. Typescript is **Times New Roman, 12 point**.
4. Line spacing of 1.0.
5. Full justification.
6. Pages are **not** to be numbered.

Layout:

7. Title of paper should be in capitals and centered.
8. Leave one blank line and type authors' names in capitals except for "and" **also please use Footnotes (References>Insert Footnote) to put in institution, address and email address for each of the authors.**
(ALT + CTRL + F) – Ensure footnote is Size 10, Times New Roman.
9. Leave one blank line and type “Summary”, centered and **underlined** with only the first letter capital.
10. Leave one blank line (Size 10) before the text and before subsequent headings.
11. No need for indentations in the **first** paragraph of each section but subsequent paragraphs need to be indented 1.27cm (0.5”).
12. **No spacing** to be left before or after paragraphs.
13. Leave one blank line and type “INTRODUCTION” in capitals, centered, and numbered in roman numerals e.g. I. INTRODUCTION. Each main heading is to be numbered, centered and in capitals. There should be **no list indents** and number should be followed with a **space**.
14. Sub-headings are to be centered, underlined and numbered alphabetically with only the first letter of the first word in capitals with one blank line above and below the heading. There should be **no list indents** and number should be followed with a **space**.
15. One Page papers **do not** contain summaries or introductions etc. First paragraph fully justified, subsequent paragraphs are indented as above.

Technical Data:

16. Data need to be compiled in clearly constructed tables and or figures to support observations made in the results and discussion section.
17. All data must be in metric units. The SI system should be followed except that time may be measured in hours (h), minutes (min) and seconds (s), angles in degrees and temperature in °C. Use the 24 h clock, e.g. 1500 h, 0930 h. Tables of diets for example are therefore in g/kg and not in %. Chemical compositions of feedstuffs are also in g/kg and not in %. A reminder to also express ME values as MJ rather than kcal.
18. Do not use a comma in numbers with more than 3 digits. Use the full stop, not raised, to represent the decimal point e.g. 2.345 All numbers less than unity should have a zero before the decimal point e.g. 0.35 not .35.
19. Use "P < 0.01" not "P<0.01".
20. Spell "**and**" in full and use numbers for all units and quantities (e.g. 8.0 mm, 6.0 kg). In descriptive text, numbers from one to nine are spelled out and numbers are used for 10 and over.
21. Tables should be typed in single spacing and placed in a logical position in the text. Tables and Figures are to be centered with respect to the side margins of the page and no text is to be wrapped alongside.
22. Tables should be numbered above with Arabic numerals and a dash afterwards... **Table 1 -**, **Table 2 -**. Table headings should be **Times New Roman, Size 10 and Bold**, with only the first letter of the first word a capital. Table headings are also to be centered above the table. In the table, each column or row heading should have only the first letter of the first word in capitals and should be justified logically and in line with the data below.
23. In tables, headings should be separated from the title and data by horizontal lines and the data should be separated from the footnotes or the following text by a horizontal line. Leave one blank line between the table and the following text. Do **not** use vertical lines, shadings or colours in tables.
24. Footnotes under a table should be **Size 8, Times New Roman**, Fully Justified and not **Bold** or *Italics*.
25. Figures should be numbered below with Arabic numerals and a dash afterwards... *Figure 1 -*, *Figure 2 -*. Only the figure number should be in *italics*, the remainder of the heading will be regular **Times New Roman, Size 10** and fully justified. The start of each line should be justified to the beginning of the first word of the heading (after *Figure 1 -*) and only the first letter of the first word will be a capital.

Commercial brand names

26. Brand names are not to be included in titles or in the text - generic names must be used. The exception is that the description of the materials and methods can specify the product **once** as would be permitted in a journal, e.g. "generic name product (BrandnameTM, supplied by Acme Company Inc., Walla Walla Washington)." Later references to the product must use the **generic name**. The same requirement applies to any comparative product (e.g. a positive control). Negative comments about the products of commercial competitors are strongly discouraged. All reports must be scientifically based – do not refer to a percentage improvement if the result is not statistically significant.

Acknowledgements:

27. All acknowledgements should be made after the conclusion of the paper but before references.
28. Leave one line space the type ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: (in capitals) followed on the same line with your desired text. This should be all fully justified with no indent.

References:

29. All references in the text should be listed alphabetically at the end of the paper.
30. References in the text should be given as Smith and Jones (1967) or (Smith and Jones, 1967), and where the paper to be cited contains more than two authors as Cowan et al. (1980) or (Cowan et al., 1980). Square brackets should not be used.
31. The section heading REFERENCES should be centered, in capitals but not numbered. Leave 4 lines space between the end of the paper and references where possible.
32. In the REFERENCE list, the authors' surnames should be in mixed case with the first letter capitalised and the initials capitalised and following the surname. No full stops or commas are to be used in names, simply use a comma between each author and the & symbol before the last author. The authors' name(s) should be followed by the year of publication in brackets. The source should be in *italics*, volume in **bold** and with a colon, followed by the first and final page numbers. (Title of paper is **not** required but title of book should be given where relevant.) If following on a second line, the reference should be indented by ¼ inch or 0.63cm. Editors of books and conference proceedings should be given.
33. 4 page papers should use full journal names. 1 page papers may use abbrev. versions of the journal names. 1 page papers may also omit the heading "REFERENCES" if space on the page does not permit

Examples:

4-pagers plus

- Asquith TN & Butler LG (1985) *Journal of Chemical Ecology* **11**: 1535-1544.
Beta T, Corke H, Rooney LW & Taylor JRN (2000) *Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture* **81**: 245-251.
Black JL, Hughes RJ, Nielsen SG, Tredrea AM, MacAlpine R & van Barneveld RJ (2005) *Proceedings of the Australian Poultry Science Symposium* **17**: 21-29.

1-pagers

- Asquith TN & Butler LG (1985) *J. Chem. Ecol.* **11**: 1535-1544.
Beta T, Corke H, Rooney LW & Taylor JRN (2000) *J. Sci. Food Agric.* **81**: 245-251.
Black JL, Hughes RJ, Nielsen SG, Tredrea AM, MacAlpine R & van Barneveld RJ (2005) *Proc. Aust. Poult. Sci. Symp.* **17**: 21-2

Example 1 page:

TWO-DAY-OLD DUCKLINGS INTERACT MORE WITH A BELL DRINKER THAN A NIPPLE DRINKER SUSPENDED ABOVE A TROUGH

G.M. CRONIN¹, K.J. WILLIAMS¹ and J.A. DOWNING¹

Farming ducks for meat production is increasing in Australia. In Europe, the welfare issues associated with intensification of meat duck production were reviewed by Rodenburg et al. (2005), who identified the manner in which water was provided was a potential welfare issue. Specifically, concerns were raised whether ducks require access to „open water“ for their welfare, since open water stimulated the performance of preening, dabbling, head-dipping, bathing and swimming (Rodenburg et al., 2005). However, a consequence of water-related behaviours was that more water may be used, resulting in increased spillage and reduced litter quality. Cooper et al. (2002) investigated the behaviour of young ducks provided open water via bell drinkers compared to nipple drinkers. Young ducks had a clear preference for bell drinkers and placed a higher value on wider, deeper drinkers that allowed a greater range of drinker-related activities than nipple drinkers alone. The objective of the present experiment was to investigate the preference of 2-day-old ducks for two water presentation systems, which provided different levels of open water but which, in principle, were constructed using similar water-holding structures that permitted the ducks to sit in a trough.

Six pens of 36 ducklings (Cherry Valley and Grimaud Freres) were continuously video recorded from the time of placement in pens at day-old. The ducklings were restricted to an area of ~3.1 m² within pens measuring 3.0 m x 1.5 m in an environment controlled shed. Lighting was continuous and heating was provided in each pen by an infra-red globe heater suspended 0.6 m above the floor, which was 50 mm deep wood shavings. Feed was available

ad libitum from a 40 cm diameter tray and a circular feeder. Water was provided by a bell drinker positioned in the middle of the pen (Multiquip Pty Ltd, Austral, NSW, 13 l water capacity, 35 cm diam) and three nipple drinkers with water catching „cups“ about 0.5 m apart, suspended above a trough on one side of the pen. The number of ducklings interacting with the bell drinker and the trough was collated from the digital video record at 5-min intervals for 24 h commencing at 1200 h on the second day of life. Interaction with the water facility was defined as ducklings having their head adjacent to (within 2 cm) or over the bell drinker or trough. The number of ducklings sitting in the bell drinker or trough was also recorded. The data were analysed using a two-sample T-test (paired) in Genstat (Release 11.1 (2008) VSN International Ltd., UK) and the experimental unit was the pen of ducklings.

The likelihood that ducklings were observed at the bell drinker was twice that for the nipple drinker/trough system

Cooper JJ, McAfee L & Skinn H (2002) *Brit. Poult. Sci.* **43**: (suppl.) S17-S18.

Rodenburg TB, Bracke MBM, Berk J, Cooper J, Faure JM, Guéméné D, Guy G, Harlander A, Jones T, Knierim U, Kuhnt K, Pingel H, Reiter K, Servière J & Ruis MAW (2005) *W. Poult. Sci. J.* **61**: 633-646.

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Example 2-8 pages:

**THE EFFECTS OF STRAIN AND SEASON ON THE PERFORMANCE OF
COMMERCIAL DUCKS UNDER AUSTRALIAN CONDITIONS**

J.A. DOWNING² and W. TAYLOR³

Summary

The Australian duck industry has a very specific market requirement, this being for a 2.85 kg bird at 6 weeks of age. The strains of Pekin duck presently used in Australia, the Cherry Valley and Grimaud Frères, have different growth characteristics but both have difficulty meeting this target weight especially in summer. It was considered that by crossing these two strains, hybrid vigor might allow advantages to be gained in growth performance. The present study investigated the performance of the two main strains of Pekin ducks and their reciprocal crosses grown to 6 weeks of age in summer and winter. Ducks were reared following industry practices. The strains and their crosses were bred by PE'S Ducks Pty Ltd, and reared in single sex groups or as mixed sex groups. In summer only one strain reached market weight by 41 days of age. In winter all strains reached market weight by 41 days but the FCR was higher in winter than summer. Males grew to heavier weights than females in both summer and winter but there was no advantage gained by rearing ducks as single sex groups.

I. INTRODUCTION

Because it is a relatively new industry, the amount of information specific to duck production under Australian conditions is limited. At present, two different strains of Pekin duck are used by the Australian industry, the Grimaud Frères (GF) and the Cherry Valley (CV). Both have distinct growth(etc)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: We would like to thank.....

REFERENCES

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Farhat A & Chavez ER (2000) *Poultry Science* **79**: 460-465.
Wawro K, Wilkiewicz-Wawro E, Kleczek K & Brzozowski W (2004) *Archiv für Tierzucht* **47**: 287-299.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT
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