

AgScience Poultry Science Curriculum
Section 2 – Poultry Genetics
Learning Objectives

Without the use of any resources, at the end of the Poultry Genetics section you should be able to complete the following learning objectives:

1. Describe important genetic changes that occurred in the 1940s through the 1990s.
2. Define heritability and explain how heritability influences the amount of genetic progress that can be made in a breeding program.
3. Describe two inventions and two natural attributes that were critical in the success of poultry breeding programs.
4. Describe why poultry geneticists have focused on breast meat as a trait for improvement.
5. List the points of selection emphasis for male and female lines.
6. Name and describe the purpose and origin of the types of birds contained within the pyramid structure of a primary breeder company.
7. Explain the reason for the pyramid structure of a primary breeder company.
8. Describe the multiplication of broiler stock within the primary breeder company.
9. Describe why pedigree lines are crossed at the GGP level.
10. Define the term selection pressure and diagram an example of how selection pressure would be applied at the pedigree level.