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**Poultry  
Fact Sheet**

## WEEKLY GROWTH CHARACTERISTICS OF CONSUMER-SIZE ORLOPP TURKEYS RAISED IN UTAH

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A weekly growth curve for hens and toms grown at the USU Turkey Research Center and processed at light weight is illustrated to serve as a benchmark for Utah turkey growers. Processing performance of turkeys produced at the Research Center within recent years is representative of what is being seen in other commercially-raised flocks in the Sanpete Valley, so this information will be useful to all growers desiring to know how their turkeys are growing. Because the Utah turkey industry is moving toward more confinement rearing, the information presented here is based entirely on flocks that have been raised in totally confined facilities.

The graphs illustrate weekly live weight achieved at the Turkey Research Center over the past three years. The function of the lower and upper limit lines is simply to delineate a 95% probability that the true average weight of flocks raised at the Research Center will fall between these two values. Table 1 lists the actual average weights. If the average weight of your turkeys falls between these lines, it means your flock is in line with the typical growth pattern seen at the Research Center. Significant deviation below the lower limit line suggests a suboptimal growth pattern.

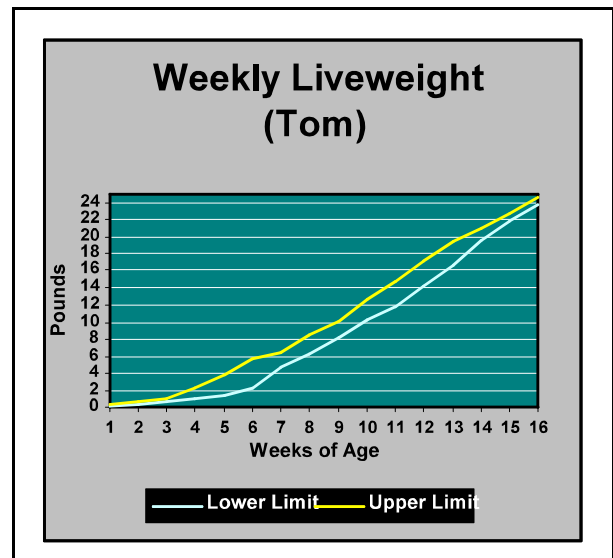
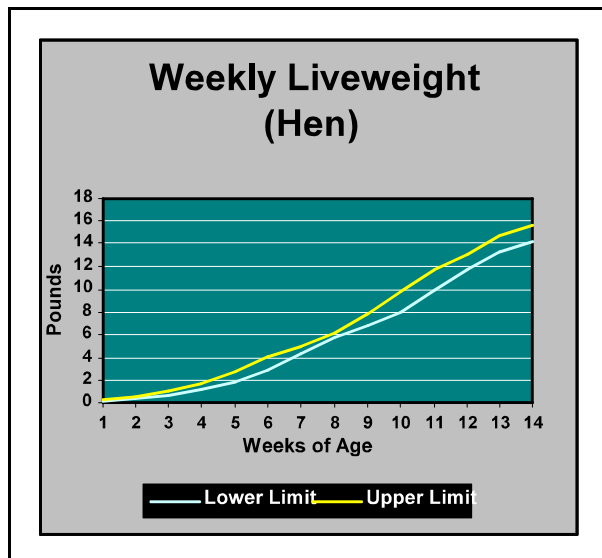


Table 1. Average weekly live weight (lbs) of toms and hens.

Week	Toms	Hens	Week	Toms	Hens
1	0.25	0.22	9	9.19	7.35
2	0.52	0.45	10	11.60	8.93
3	0.97	0.85	11	13.25	10.79
4	1.68	1.41	12	15.67	12.34
5	2.66	2.28	13	18.02	14.01
6	4.07	3.48	14	20.29	14.93
7	5.59	4.67	15	22.29	-
8	7.38	5.90	16	24.23	-

As the turkey industry becomes more competitive on an international scale, it will be important to know how local flocks are performing. This interest will include periodic weighing of turkeys to keep abreast of their growth characteristics. The information presented in this fact sheet will serve as a guideline to better understand growth dynamics of Orlopp turkey flocks raised in Utah.

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