

FORMATION AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE POULTRY INDUSTRY  
IN THE UZBEK SSR

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**Abstract:** This article analyzes the formation and historical development of the poultry industry in the Uzbek SSR. The study examines the stages of the industry's establishment, the process of industrialization, state policies, and the specific features of development under a planned economy. It also explores the modernization of poultry farming, the establishment of research institutions, the introduction of pedigree poultry breeds, and the construction of large-scale poultry farms. Furthermore, the article evaluates the significance of the poultry industry in supplying the population with food products and its role in the economy of the republic.

**Keywords:** Uzbek SSR, poultry farming, agricultural history, industrialization, planned economy, poultry farms, incubation stations, food policy, agrarian reforms, research institutions.

**Introduction.** The development of agricultural sectors in the Uzbek SSR was characterized by centralized administration and a planned economic system. Within this framework, poultry farming emerged as a strategically important sector aimed at supplying the population with eggs and poultry meat. Beginning in the 1920s and 1930s, the first poultry cooperatives and incubation stations were established in the republic, laying the foundation for the systematic development of the industry.

During the 1950s–1980s, poultry farming entered a stage of industrialization, marked by the establishment of large poultry factories, specialized farms, and scientific institutions. Government food programs and resolutions on agricultural development further increased the economic significance of the sector. Therefore, analyzing the formation and development of poultry farming in the Uzbek SSR from a historical perspective is of considerable scientific importance.

**Literature Review.** Research on this topic is primarily based on Soviet-era statistical data, government decrees, materials from party plenums, and specialized publications. Scientific and practical works devoted to poultry farming, particularly those concerning the activities of poultry farms, advanced production methods, and industrial technologies, serve as important sources.

In addition, general studies on agricultural history have partially addressed poultry farming as a separate branch. However, there remains a need for a comprehensive historical and analytical examination of the formation and development of this sector.

**Research Methodology.** The study is based on the principles of historicism and objectivity. Archival materials, official documents, and statistical data were examined through source analysis methods.

Using the comparative-analytical approach, development indicators from different periods were compared. A systematic approach was employed to analyze the economic, organizational, and scientific aspects of the poultry industry in their interrelation. Furthermore, socio-economic analysis was used to assess the role of poultry farming in ensuring food security within the republic.

This methodological framework makes it possible to provide a scientifically grounded account of the formation and historical development of the poultry industry in the Uzbek SSR.

**Research Results and Discussion.** Poultry farming is one of the most important branches of agriculture, playing a significant role in providing the population with affordable and high-



quality sources of protein, namely eggs and poultry meat. In Uzbekistan, the systematic development of poultry farming began particularly during the first half of the twentieth century.

Although the Uzbek people had engaged in poultry breeding since ancient times, before the October Revolution there were no opportunities to develop the sector as an independent industry or to organize it on a centralized basis. During the first half of the twentieth century, a series of organizational and economic measures were implemented to promote poultry farming in the republic.

At the May 1982 Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), the “Food Program of the USSR up to 1990 and Measures for Its Implementation” identified the further development of poultry farming as a priority task. The program set targets to increase poultry meat production to at least 2.6 million tons by 1985 and to 3.4–3.6 million tons by 1990. It also emphasized the need to accelerate the construction of new broiler poultry factories, modernize existing enterprises, and establish additional farms specializing in the production of turkey, duck, and goose meat [1].

The first poultry cooperatives in Uzbekistan were established in 1929. In the same year, major incubation centers known as “Sharq” and “Ozod Xotin” began operating in Samarkand, while the poultry cooperative “8 March” was established in Kokand. However, during the initial period, there were insufficient conditions for raising poultry according to zootechnical standards and protecting them from infectious diseases. Without a developed network of incubators, effective development of the industry remained limited.

In 1930, the first poultry station equipped with incubators was established in Kattakurgan. This event marked an important step in the industrial development of poultry farming in Uzbekistan.

By this period, large incubation enterprises such as “Spartak” and “Ptitsevodsoyuz” were operating in the country and supplying large numbers of chicks to poultry farms. In 1932, an incubation poultry station was opened in Fergana; in 1935, another was established in Namangan; and in 1936, similar stations began operating in Andijan and Shahrizabz. By 1953, the number of poultry stations in the republic had reached eleven [2].

Organizational efforts in the sector were carried out consistently. For example, in 1932, the construction of the Karasu Incubator and Poultry Station began in the Karasu district of Tashkent region. Konstantin Dmitrievich Mandalaka was appointed as the director of this enterprise [3].

Subsequently, a number of large poultry factories were commissioned. Construction of a poultry factory began in Navoi District of Bukhara Region. The factory was built in the Malik Desert area. The Navoi Poultry Factory was one of the largest industrial poultry enterprises within the “Uzptitseprom” system. Construction of its production facilities began in 1965, and the factory became operational two years later. Initially, five poultry houses were relocated from other farms, and approximately 12,000 birds were raised.

In 1967, the factory produced 2 million eggs. From 1973 onward, the enterprise began operating at full capacity. While the number of birds at the factory amounted to 174.3 thousand at the end of 1967, it increased to 323 thousand in 1968, 416.4 thousand in 1969, and 503 thousand in 1970. Egg production rose from 1.9 million units in 1967 to 8.9 million in 1968, 14.2 million in 1969, and 24.8 million in 1970 [4].

To further develop poultry farming in Uzbekistan, highly productive poultry breeds were imported from foreign countries. Particular emphasis was placed on meat-producing breeds. Among them were the four-line “Starbro-4” cross from Canada and the three-line “Fairbury” cross from England. Since 1972, eggs of the “Starbro-4” cross were imported from the “Tauray” poultry state farm in the Lithuanian SSR for breeding purposes [5].



In an effort to diversify poultry production, special attention was paid not only to chickens but also to turkey farming. In 1963, fifty-eight broad-breasted white male turkeys were brought from the Lenin Collective Farm in the Predgorny District of Stavropol Krai. This breed, developed through English breeding programs, was distinguished by its rapid weight gain and suitability for intensive production methods [6].

In addition, in May 1965, the Gallaorol Poultry Factory in Samarkand Region received 15,300 pedigree eggs of broad-breasted white English turkeys from the “Maykop” Breeding Poultry State Farm in Krasnodar Krai [7].

The first industrial incubator used in the country had been created nearly fifty years earlier in the city of Pyatigorsk and was capable of hatching 4,000 eggs simultaneously. For its time, this represented a major technological achievement.

The poultry industry played an important role in ensuring food security, particularly in providing the population with a stable supply of meat and eggs. In 1964, the republican association “Uzpparrandasanoat” was established within the structure of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic. In 1958, the Poultry Department was founded within the Uzbekistan Research Institute of Animal Husbandry. Later, in 1985, a Genetics and Breeding Station was established [8].

**Conclusion.** The poultry industry in the Uzbek SSR began to take shape during the 1920s and 1930s and gradually evolved into one of the industrialized branches of agriculture over the following decades. Initially organized through cooperatives and incubation stations, the sector entered a new stage of development with the establishment of large poultry factories, specialized farms, and scientific research institutions.

Government policies and food programs adopted during the Soviet period contributed significantly to the development of poultry farming as a strategic sector. The introduction of intensive production methods, the importation of highly productive breeds, and the strengthening of the material and technical base resulted in a substantial increase in the production of eggs and poultry meat.

At the same time, the development of the industry was closely linked to the centralized planned economy, and both its achievements and challenges were largely shaped by the characteristics of that system. Overall, the formation and historical development of the poultry industry in the Uzbek SSR constituted an important stage in the history of the republic’s agriculture and played a significant role in ensuring food security and economic stability.

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