

# Flat Aggie Adventures Technology

Edition 4



## DID YOU KNOW?



**Omnivore:** An animal or person that eats food from plants and animals.



**Feed:** Food for livestock animals.



**Pellet Feed:** Feed that comes in the form of a pellet.



**Ventilation:** Fresh air circulating through a building.



**Monitor:** A device used for observing and keeping a continuous record of a process.



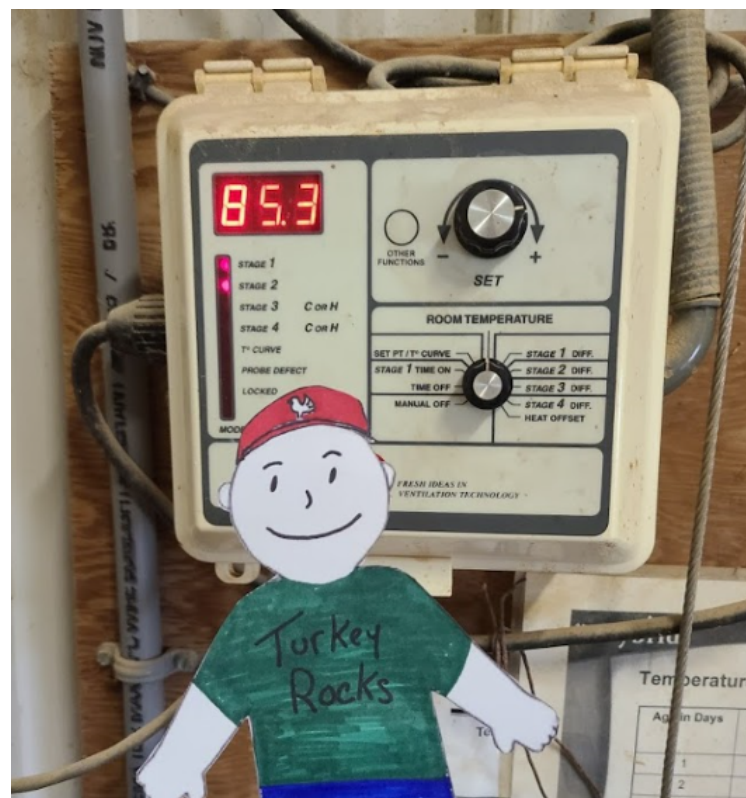
**Electrolytes:** Salt and minerals.

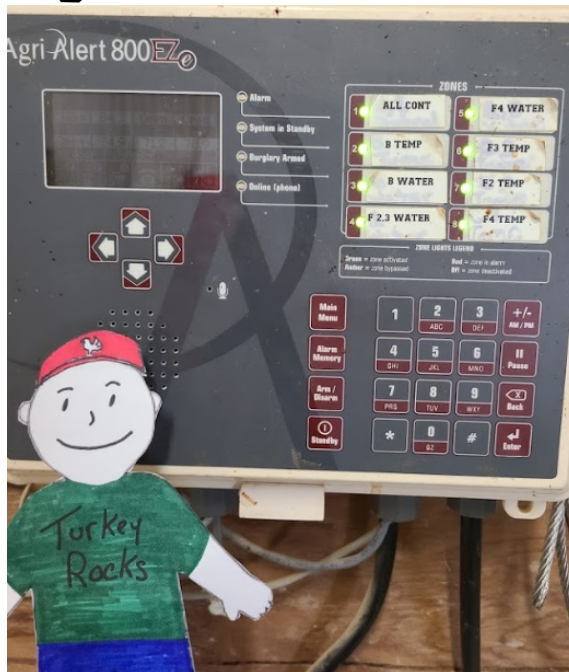
## TEMPERATURE CONTROLLERS

Flat Aggie demonstrates how farmers use temperature controllers to keep turkeys happy and comfortable.

The temperature is set to 93 degrees F during the poult stage. As the poults grow bigger, the temperature controller is set to gradually decrease one degree a day until it's around 84 degrees F.

Plenty of space is also important to avoid overcrowding and ventilation is key to good air quality.





## ALARMS

Flat Aggie explains how many poultry farms use alarms to signal if there are errors in essential controllers including feeders, waterers, temperature, etc. Alarms will signal to the farmers if the temperature increases or decreases to a point of concern. The temperature is controlled in brooder barns and it is normal for the temperature to drop by only about a degree daily. Drastic changes to the turkey's body temperature could make them sick. The alarm also lets farmers know when the water pressure is too low which means the turkey waterers are delayed in filling.

## WATER AND FOOD

It's important to provide unlimited access to water. A barn that holds 7,200 turkeys around 19-20 weeks old can drink a combined 1,800 to 1,900 gallons of water a day. Water is available in dishes that hang from pipes. Farmers use a filtration system to keep the water clean. The system cleans and filters the water 24/7. A medicated pump provides electrolytes to the turkeys through the water to ensure the turkeys are receiving the vitamins needed.

Farm turkeys are typically fed corn and soybean pellets. Turkeys need a high protein diet with at least 28% protein in their feed starting at 6 weeks old. Like the water, feed often has vitamins and supplements mixed in it to keep the turkeys healthy. It is best to use hanging feeders to avoid spillage and crowding of the turkeys. Because toms grow to be much bigger than hens, they need to eat much more. On average, toms will eat 100 pounds of feed and hens will need 60 pounds during their whole lifetime. Having feed available at all times is essential in order to allow turkeys to grow to full size.



## FUN TURKEY FACTS

- The heaviest turkey ever was 86 pounds.
- Farm turkeys weigh nearly twice as much as wild turkeys.
- Majority of farm turkeys have white feathers.

Brought to you by:

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