

# Glenn Hanna Thacker

*March 20, 1914 — October 15, 2002*

Glenn Hanna Thacker was born in Falls City, Nebraska on March 20, 1914 and grew up on farms in Richardson County, Nebraska. He obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture from the University of Nebraska in 1940 and following graduation, operated a general farm for twelve years in Case County, Nebraska. Thacker served as Extension Poultryman at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, 1952-56, and held a similar position at Iowa State University, Ames, in 1956 and 1957. He entered graduate school at Cornell University, majoring in business management with a minor in farm management and conducting his graduate research on the economics of turkey production in Iowa. As a graduate student, Thacker served as Acting Assistant Professor in the Department of Poultry Husbandry at Cornell University. He received the Master of Science degree in 1958 and was appointed Assistant Professor of Extension. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1964.

Glenn Thacker's appointment at Cornell University was primarily in the area of poultry extension with emphasis on poultry business management. Thacker's program served most kinds of poultry farming in New York State, but his greatest effort was in the areas of egg production and turkey production. He was well known throughout the State as a result of his many farm visits and extension presentations and numerous articles in *Cornell Poultry Pointers*, extension bulletins, and extension newsletters. He cooperated with the Department of Agricultural Economics in the preparation of Poultry Outlook and co-authored the annual *Poultry Business Summary* and the newsletter, Egg Business. Thacker's appointment also included an instructional component. Glenn Thacker especially enjoyed teaching his undergraduate course in poultry business management and supervising undergraduate students in independent projects.

Glenn Thacker's contributions to poultry extension extended to many aspects of poultry management. Thacker, for example, studied poultry feed prices in New York State, Texas, and Washington while he was on sabbatic leave at Washington State University and Texas A & M University in 1965-66. He found wide variations in the prices paid by farmers for feed. His study resulted in the development of a quarterly feed price survey that was a valuable tool for the poultry industry for more than a decade. Thacker also became interested in factors influencing losses of eggs due to breakage, a major economic problem for the egg industry. He investigated eggshell damage on farms in New York State and subsequently studied egg breakage on farms in Arkansas while on sabbatic leave at the University of Arkansas in 1974. He wrote numerous extension articles on the control of eggshell damage on the farm.

Glenn Thacker was a member of the Poultry Science Association and the American Economics Association, and was a participant in the Northeast Poultry Extension Specialists organization. He was elected Professor Emeritus of Poultry Science after 20 years of service in 1977. Glenn and his wife, Ruth, resided in retirement in Buena Vista, Arkansas.

*Robert C. Baker, Robert J. Young, Richard E. Austic*