

## 90 (2613)

**The probable occurrence of xerophthalmia in turkeys.**

By GEORGE C. McCLENDON, (Introduced by J. F. McClendon)  
Linden, Calif.

Some experiments which I have made on turkeys suggest that an eye disease is cured and prevented by diet. From an analogy to experiments on mammals and chickens, it seems probable that this disease is xerophthalmia. Since these experiments are of an expensive nature, it is considered that this information may be worth while to others working in this field.

In 1922, ten turkeys hatched from the egg developed ophthalmia. Five of them with ophthalmia were fed full cream cheese as an exclusive diet, and got well very quickly; the five in the control got worse and died. In 1923, 250 turkeys hatched from the egg were fed cream cheese, egg, cornmeal and egg shell. The cheese and egg yolk were considered a preventative. No ophthalmia developed. Of three controls, one gobbler developed ophthalmia and was cured by the cheese diet. The only measure taken against infection of the turkeys was keeping them several miles away from any other turkeys or other domestic animals.