YieldScan™ Rapid Frame Analyzer:

▶ Improving Poultry Cone Line Operations

Fieldale Farms — Field Test Results

Headquartered in Northeast Georgia, Fieldale Farms Corporation is one of the largest independent poultry processors in the world. It provides branded and private-label all-natural whole birds plus cut-up, boneless and skinless chicken parts and trim to an international customer base.

As the company claims, "Chicken is our only business – and one to which we are committed in every phase of our company."
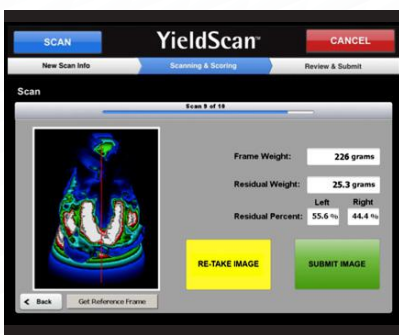
One way Fieldale Farms has built a strong reputation for quality products is by its willingness to invest in the latest state-of-the-art technology and equipment. In keeping with this commitment, Fieldale Farms' Murrayville facilities is one of the first poultry plants to begin using the **YieldScan™ Rapid Frame Analyzer** from Gainco.

The Challenge: Improving Speed and Efficiency in Cone Line QC

Fieldale Farms' goal was to enhance worker performance and productivity on its deboning lines in order to maximize the amount of saleable meat while reducing waste. Carrying out traditional scrape tests on frame carcasses weren't meeting the challenge. Improvements sought by Fieldale Farms included:

- Gather accurate meat yield information from more samples during work shifts
- Be able to act on the information gathered immediately rather than later
- Maintain consistent cone line performance and productivity throughout all work shifts

Testing the YieldScan Solution

YieldScan is a near-line QC instrument specifically designed to improve poultry cone line operations by providing more frequent and more useful data and insights for optimizing meat yield.

YieldScan fit Fieldale Farms' needs because it enables real-time, on-the-job monitoring of deboning operations for making immediate adjustments to optimize operating efficiencies and drive better product yield.

YieldScan's advantages over conventional testing methods are its speed and consistency of results, thanks to proprietary vision technology developed by Georgia Tech Research Institute that enables a robust repetitive evaluation of residual meat left on bird frames during regular production shifts.
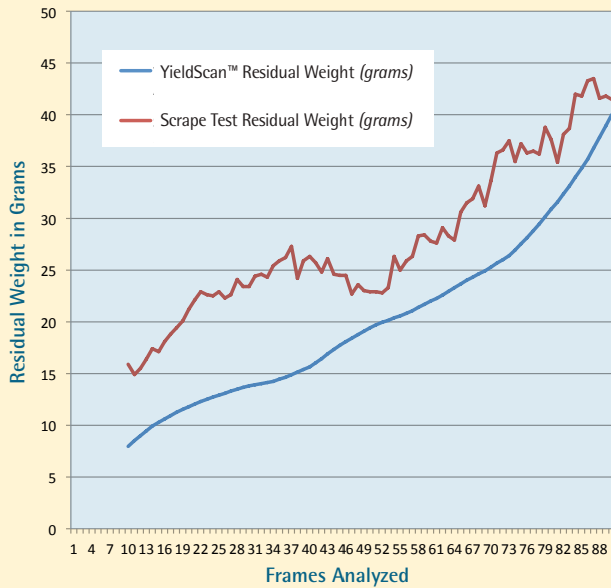
Comparative Testing

To prove YieldScan's effectiveness as a QC tool, tests were conducted in January 2016 under real-life operating conditions at Fieldale's Murrayville, GA processing plant that compared YieldScan's capabilities versus conventional scrape testing.

"All of our scrape test results are after the fact — and there's not much we can do after the fact."
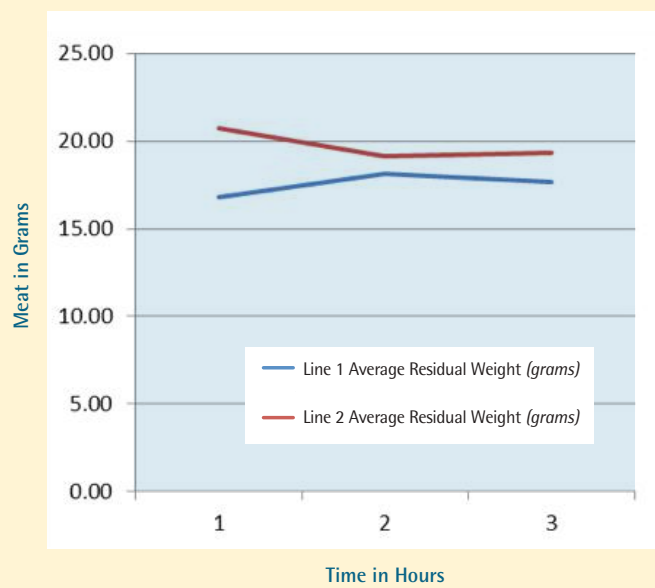
Roy McClain
Yield Manager, Fieldale Farms Corporation

Correlation Testing: YieldScan™ vs. Scrape Test

Residual Weight in Grams

- YieldScan™ Residual Weight *(grams)*
- Scrape Test Residual Weight *(grams)*

Frames Analyzed

Real-Time Comparison: Cone Lines 1 and 2

Meat in Grams

- Line 1 Average Residual Weight *(grams)*
- Line 2 Average Residual Weight *(grams)*

Time in Hours

Results based on cone line testing under real-life operating conditions at Fieldale Farms Corporation, Murrayville, GA, January 2016.

The Key to Improving Deboning Line Performance

The Fieldale Farms test results demonstrate that the YieldScan Rapid Frame Analyzer gives deboning line managers access to more frequent and more useful information, which is the key to improving line productivity in real-time and increasing overall product yield.

YieldScan is an adjunct to scrape testing which has the potential to deliver six-figures or greater annual dollar value of increased product yield. For example, based on recent market prices for breast meat and tenders vs. MDM — and assuming full operating capacity on the cone lines — a **1.0% increase** in typical deboning yields through remediation when using the YieldScan QC instrument achieves this:

- Relegates nearly **350,000 lbs.** per year to higher-value classification ...
- Resulting in approximately **$575,000** in additional product revenues per year ...
- Representing a YieldScan equipment payback period (ROI) of **less than two months**

For additional information and insights about the YieldScan™ Rapid Frame Analyzer and how it benefits cone line efficiency, productivity and profitability, visit **gainco.com/yieldscan**, call toll-free **877–869–7410** or e-mail your request to **info@gainco.com**.

Gainco

▶ *Success you can measure.*

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"Competition among workers is the key to a good debone yield."
Roy McClain
Yield Manager, Fieldale Farms Corporation

Comparative Test Results

Comparative tests were conducted on 90 spent frames over two days in January 2016. The test results found:

- YieldScan builds on the scrape test by providing a faster way to deliver relevant information and insights in real-time.

- The speed of the YieldScan instrument is far faster than conducting scrape tests. **One operator can analyze 30 frames in under 5 minutes** for a single cone line.

- The rapid speed allows an operator to gather a large representative sample of 30 frames several times during the workday. This provides trend information showing if the deboning line is operating at maximum efficiency at any given time of the day — and enables corrective or remedial actions to be taken when necessary.

- There is a **95% correlation** between the results obtained by YieldScan and the traditional scrape test.

- Fieldale's workforce found the YieldScan equipment easy and intuitive to operate.

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