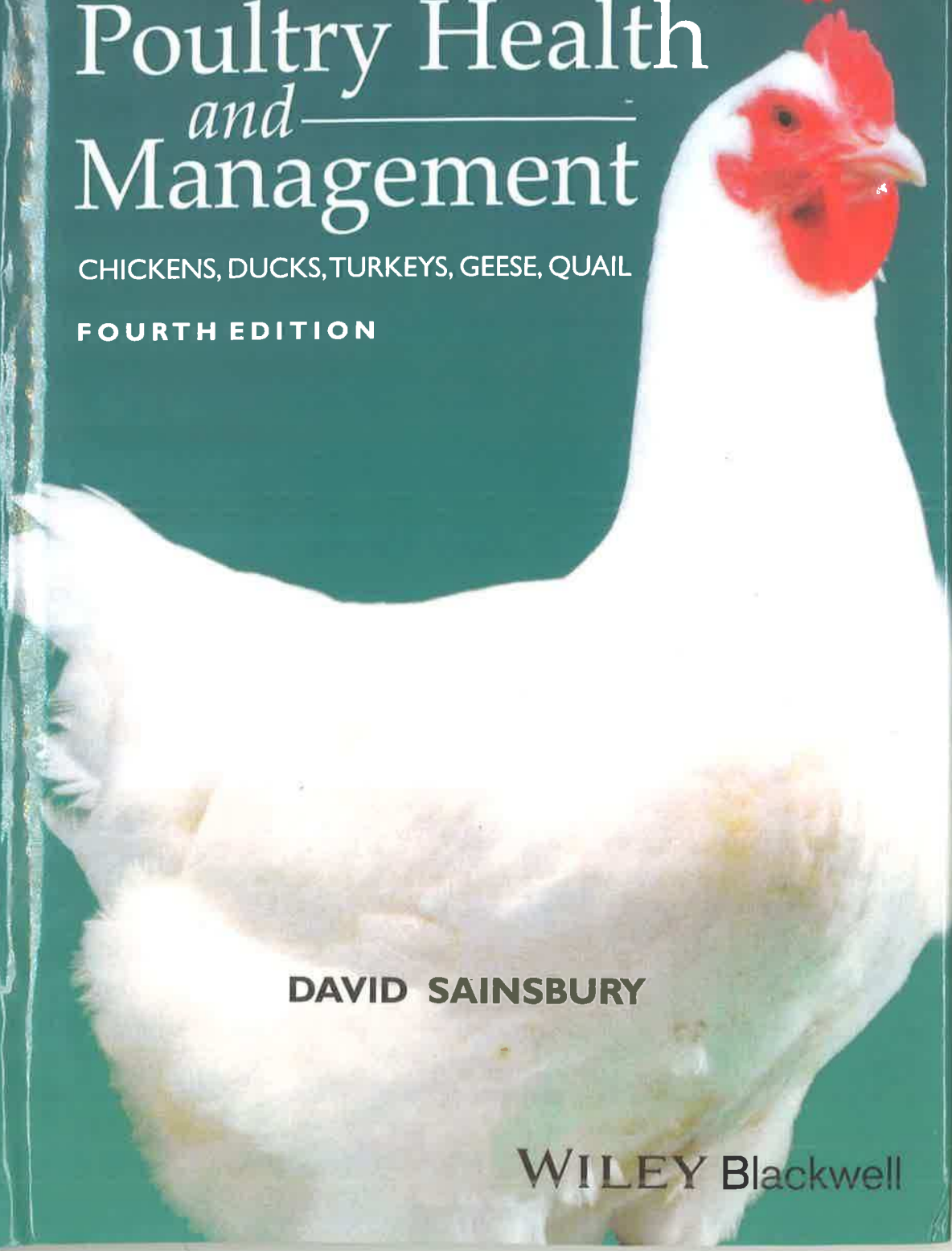


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CHICKENS, DUCKS, TURKEYS, GEESE, QUAIL  
**FOURTH EDITION**



**DAVID SAINSBURY**

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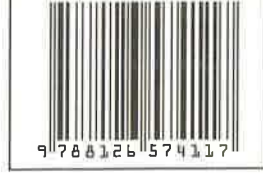
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Dr David Sainsbury is a veterinarian that was formerly lectured in Animal Health at the University of Cambridge. He is well known and respected by the poultry industry as a writer, lectured and adviser, and has traveled extensively as a specialist adviser throughout the world, including USA, Russia, Scandinavia, Germany, Spain, Italy, South Africa, Angola, Iran, Cyprus, Iraq, Greece, Holland, Belgium and France. He is also examiner in Animal Health at the several British universities, and in a number of overseas countries.

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# Poultry Health and Management

*Chickens, Turkeys, Ducks, Geese and Quail*

Fourth edition

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## Poultry Health and Management

Chickens, Trukeys, Ducks, Geese and Quail  
Fourth Edition

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## Preface to First Edition

It appears as a surprising fact that, in spite of the enormous and exciting technical strides made in poultry husbandry and health in recent years there are remarkably few texts that bring the practical aspects of this together, so that all those concerned either with the keeping of poultry or who are eager to learn about it can find much that they require under one cover.

My own work brings me into close contact with poultry units and their problems, both in the UK and abroad, and I also have commitments in teaching both agricultural and veterinary students in the subjects of poultry management and health. This has convinced me of the need for a book that deals concisely with the application of our overall scientific knowledge to the practical management of poultry.

It may be helpful if I explain my approach to dealing with poultry management in this work. In the first place, I have explained briefly the overall structure of the industry and how it has tended to concentrate on a limited number of systems for each type of bird. It is also shown how great has been the increase in efficiency in recent years with the poultry industry very much in the vanguard of all agricultural developments. Following this introductory section, which includes an explanation of the breeding policies of the hybrid poultry companies, there are explanations of the nutritional needs of all classes of poultry.

The importance of poultry feeding cannot be over-emphasised, and I hope that this has been dealt with sufficiently, as a knowledge of this is fundamental to good management. So also is a complete understanding of the environmental needs of poultry and the ways in which these may be achieved in a practical manner. Thus, I deal in these sections with the air temperature, lighting and ventilation needs of poultry, together with the construction and thermal insulation of the poultry house. These are all items of management which are very much under the control of the poultryman himself and these sections have been written to give him the underlying knowledge to deal with these aspects.

In the chapter on 'Disease and Intensification', my philosophy is explained in that every effort must be concentrated into the prevention of disease, and with a good understanding of the factors that cause disease, healthy poultry are a practical reality!

The subject of poultry health forms a major part of this book; so far as possible I have attempted to avoid the 'dictionary of disease' or 'pathological' approach, which is much more for the specialist.

I have explained the principal systems of poultry management and even those currently less popular, since there is plenty of evidence that most systems of management have a part to play somewhere in the world. Poultry husbandry has become a highly international matter; for example, broiler chickens are reared in almost precisely the same way in the USA as in the UK, or in Africa, Asia or the Middle East. This is meant to be a book for international use, which can enable the poultry keeper to obtain pleasure and profit from rearing productive and healthy stock. Vast waste takes place throughout the world due to the inefficient use of our resources and it is our duty to make certain that when poultry are kept, their great potential productivity is thoroughly ensured by their correct management.

Fairly brief sections have been given on the husbandry of turkeys and ducks, emphasising in particular those aspects that are different from the domestic fowl. The consideration given in the earlier chapters is not, however, exclusive to the chicken but bears in mind the need of other poultry.

I am not ashamed to admit that I have found my involvement with all aspects of poultry keeping over a period of 40 years – in fact, since I kept laying birds semi-intensively and fattening chicken in individual pens 'Sussex style' from the age of ten – to have been an enormously pleasurable one. It does not matter how big or small a unit is, the birds still respond acutely to their management, and if I can instill some of this enjoyment and attitude into the reader, a great deal of the aim of this book will have been achieved. Bibliographies of further reading are given where a deeper understanding can be obtained and I hope the books quoted will be sought out.

## Preface to Fourth Edition

This is the fourth edition in the 20 years since this book first appeared and every time a new edition has been produced it has been necessary to make significant amendments. The third edition had extra sections on quail and geese and those alternative systems of husbandry which reduce the intensity of housing and management. Readers were also introduced into the great 'food scares' saga, which appears to be destined to run and run. Since then there have been considerable advances in nutrition, housing and management, in health control and now into the production of organic poultry products. All these topics are dealt with and it will be quite apparent that the technical enhancement of poultry production continues apace, with certain very profound changes emerging.

*David Sainsbury*



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