



HARRISON POULTRY, INC.

P.O. BOX 550 • BETHLEHEM, GEORGIA 30620 • (770) 867-7511 • FAX (770) 867-0999

GROWERS & PROCESSORS OF



POULTRY

Harrison Poultry – 60 Years of Excellence

Harold Harrison was born in 1920 and graduated from the University of Georgia in 1941 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics (Agribusiness). He entered World War II military service in the summer of 1941 as a 2nd Lieutenant in the US Army. He served in the European Theater as a platoon leader and company commander and was honorably discharged as a Captain in 1945.

He soon began teaching in UGA's Veteran's Farm Training Program and developed an interest in chickens. He initially raised 2,000 chickens and made a tidy profit of \$400. In 1949, he bought a small incubator for \$1,000 that would hatch 3,000 chicks per week. By 1951, he could devote himself to selling chicks to local feed dealers full time.

In the very depressed poultry market of 1954, dealers were no longer buying chicks, and Mr. Harrison started growing broilers, having already expanded his weekly hatching operation to 50,000 chicks. In 1955, he again expanded the hatchery and broiler business to 150,000 birds per week. In 1958, he built his processing plant in Bethlehem and started dressing broilers on December 8, 1958, in the same building where we process today. In 1966, he fully integrated by constructing a feed-mill in Winder and constructed a new hatchery in 1976 that remains a hatching facility today.

Harold's legacy lives on and prospers. Harrison Poultry now contributes approximately one hundred million dollars annually to the local economy and is the largest non-government employer in Barrow County. We have more than 1,000 employees and contract with over 100 growers in several surrounding counties.

Today Harrison Poultry is a thriving poultry company with a dedicated and talented team led by President & CEO David Bleth. We produce roughly 300 million live pounds of chickens per year with a product mix of primarily whole birds, bulk chicken parts, and boneless chicken items. We are one of a very few remaining USA chicken plants producing a golden yellow chicken, which we sell domestically and internationally.

Harrison Poultry recognizes that we are a small poultry company compared to our competitors. This is one of our greatest strengths for existing and new customers! We can quickly adapt our operation to deliver the products our customers require to have success in their business. Customer service remains a primary focus.

Over the last several years we implemented several expansions and upgrades to our processing plant making it one of the most modern technologically advanced plants in our industry. The new feed mill opening in 2020 in the Crawfordville area will be a state-of-the-art facility complex with 18,000 tons/week of produced feed capacity.

Harrison Poultry continues to secure our future as we pursue new exciting projects and products for our customers, our growers and our employees. We look forward to building upon the past 60 years of excellence!

Quality Control From Egg To Table



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Fun Facts about our Founder

Harold Harrison was an amazing man and generous benefactor who:

- Earned his way through college selling men's clothing in Athens for \$15 a week.
- Received a blank piece of paper as he crossed the stage for his UGA commencement because he could not pay the \$5 required for his diploma.
- Served on the Barrow County School Board for 24 years, 12 as Chairman.
- Chaired the Winder-Barrow Hospital Authority from 1970-1978.
- Served as a Georgia State Senator from 1963-1964.
- Was master of ceremonies at the Fort Yargo State Park dedication.
- Served on the Boards of several banks.
- Provided several scholarships to Emory University School of Theology.
- Personally entirely funded The Big White Church down the street on Highway #11 as one of his last projects. Today this church continues to grow, with Pre-School and Kindergarten and active community outreach. Mr. Harrison's dream continues to impact so many families in the area.
- Provided two annual bonus checks and a retirement pension to his hourly employees, a tradition that continues to this day.
- Established a charitable Foundation in memory of his parents, with a focus on donating to medical research and church related activities.