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**STUDIES ON A SEROEPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEY OF
AVIAN ENCEPHALOMYELITIS IN JAPAN**

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(Summary of Masters thesis written under direction of Dr. S. MIURA)

This survey was carried out to supplement the reports of MIURA et al. in which they indicated the inapparent prevalence of avian encephalomyelitis (AE) in Japan.

In this work, 124 breeding flocks of foreign White Leghorn which were derived from 31 poultry breeding farms in 24 prefectures were investigated using the embryo susceptibility test from April to November 1965. The susceptible flocks in the survey were examined again from July to August 1966. The results obtained are summarized as follows:

1) Susceptible flocks were 9 of 124 (7.3%). In 1966 6 of 9 susceptible flocks were retested and proved immune. These results indicate that AE is not only wide spread in this country, but also the virus is maintained within or near poultry farms with a degree of frequency.

2) In cases in which there were susceptible or partially immune (breeder flock producing susceptible embryos over 50 % but less than 100 %) flocks on a farm, the susceptible or partially immune flock was the youngest one in the farm.

3) The embryo susceptibility tests were performed with eggs of 15 flocks on a farm. When the eggs were collected at the bottom of the decline in the egg production, probably caused by AE infection, each flock varied very much in susceptibility. The author assumed that the interference of field AE virus with the test virus may have been responsible for above-mentioned variable susceptibilities of embryos at that time.