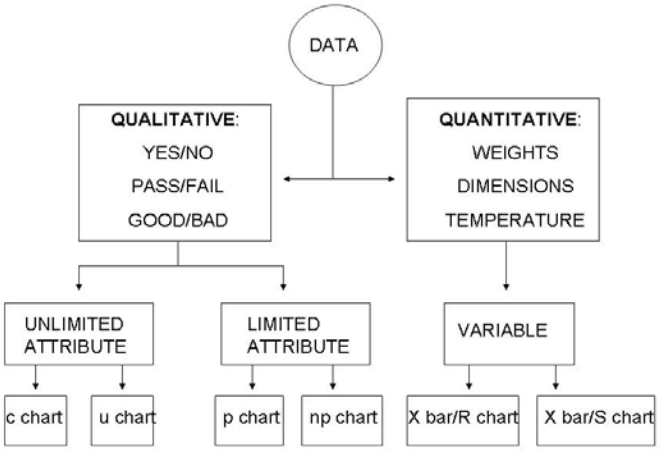
Worthwhile Operational Guidelines & Suggestions

BROILER PROCESSING TIMELY INFORMATION – MAY 2005

QUALITY CONTROL TOOLS

Experimental design, sampling, statistical analysis and process control are some of the tools available to the quality assurance personnel to observe, visualize, monitor and to understand a given production process. Control charts and diagrams are readily available and particularly easy to use to increase productivity, to document quality and to assess process capability. Control charts provide for real-time data collection and analysis for real-time performance assessment. Data refers to facts or figures from which conclusions can be derived. Data collected over a process can be either variable or quantitative (continuous or discrete observations, such as weights, dimensions, temperature, pH, pressure etc.) or attributes or qualitative (categorical measurements, such as yes/no, pass/fail, good/bad, accept/reject). Some times the attributes data is derived from the quantitative data (number of defects per piece or recycled pieces per hour etc.). The Figure above provides a summary of control charts available based on the type of data at hand. We will spend some of the upcoming issues of WOGS on basic principles of Statistical Process Control. I think we all recognize that judgment(s) or "eye-balling" are almost always wrong and that failure to discover the "root-causes" of problems can lead to a chaos!



Contact: S. F. Bilgili, Ph.D.
Phone: (334) 844-2612
E-mail: bilgisf@auburn.edu
Poultry Science Department, Auburn University, AL 36849-5416
www.ag.auburn.edu/dept/ph/