Sheldonian Italic

The first application of stilbestrol to food production was its administration to old cock birds in the hope of making them salable as poultry. Experiments were undertaken in which pellets of stilbestrol were implanted under the skin of the neck of the birds, and after some months it was noticed that they had increased in weight mainly as the result of the deposition of fat on the carcass. It was als found that the birds were more acceptable as food since the flesh proved to be much more tender than that of the original old cock bird and resembled that of a capon. Today this treatment is used extensivily throughout the world and not only has been extended to old and unsalable members of the flock but also been used for growing birds.(....) I believe I am right in saying that today most farmers in the USA employ cattle feed to which stilbestrol has been added. The results with pigs have not been so satisfactory and work is still in progress. (...) With the animals it is possible to obtain very undesirable effects. If too much is given, softening of the pelvic ligaments occurs and frequently the development of nymphomania is a troublesome symptom.

(Biochemical contributions to endocrinology.
Charles Dodds, Stanford University Press. 1957.)