



The Poultry Informed Professional



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PDRC News

by Dr. John Glisson

We finally have new buildings taking shape at PDRC. As we enter the final phases of construction, people are beginning to be able to visualize the complete physical transformation of PDRC. The new laboratory building and necropsy facility are now about 90% complete. The remaining work is primarily finishing touches to the inside of the buildings and paving and landscaping outside.

Additional funds have been granted to renovate the building currently housing our diagnostic laboratory. The inside will be completely remodelled into a classroom building. This project will begin as soon as the primary construction project is completed. The diagnostic laboratory will move to the adjacent building.

We hope to occupy our new buildings by the end of this year and we are planning a dedication ceremony, perhaps near the time of the USPEA International Poultry Exposition when so many of our alumni and friends will be in the area. We will keep you posted as time approaches.

**Broiler Performance Data (Region)
Live Production Cost**

	SW	Midwest	Southeast	Mid-Atlantic	S-Central
Feed cost/ton w/o color	177.87	177.19	182.99	183.90	177.84
Feed cost/lb meat	16.96	16.62	17.55	18.23	18.05
Days to 4.6 lbs	46	45	45	45	45
Med. cost/ton	3.55	3.29	3.62	3.15	2.96
Chick cost/lb	4.24	4.14	4.18	3.82	3.78
Vac-Med cost/lb	0.11	0.06	0.09	0.06	0.08
WB & 1/2 parts condemn. cost/lb.	0.25	0.25	0.23	0.25	0.34
% mortality	3.67	3.72	3.67	4.22	5.13
Sq. Ft. @ placement	0.80	0.75	0.81	0.79	0.86
Lbs./Sq.Ft.	5.91	6.60	6.13	6.82	6.50
Down time (days)	17	13	13	14	14

Data for week ending 10/31/97.

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We Need Your Help.

This month is the one-year anniversary of the PIP newsletter and we have utilized your thoughts and interests whenever they were voiced.

Following are seventeen questions to determine your interest in these topics...you may want to add others.

We want this newsletter to be useful and meaningful for you. So, please take a moment to give this your thoughts and fax the completed questionnaire to John Glisson at (706) 542-5630.

Topics		Least Interest			Most Interest
		1	2	3	4
A.	Disease/Nutrition Interaction	1	2	3	4
B.	Brief overview of campylobacter foodborne illness	1	2	3	4
C.	Brief overview of Listeria foodborne illness	1	2	3	4
D.	Brief overview of Yersinia foodborne illness	1	2	3	4
E.	What can the U.S. Egg Industries do without legal pharmaceuticals?	1	2	3	4
F.	What would a single food safety agency mean?	1	2	3	4
G.	What impact on cost of production do these new food safety initiatives have?	1	2	3	4
H.	Should the NPIP be expanded to include voluntary preharvest food safety?	1	2	3	4
I.	Is it necessary for USDA to have mandatory recall authority?	1	2	3	4
J.	A series of articles reviewing control or reduction measures for foodborne pathogens.	1	2	3	4
K.	Are Mycotoxins important or not?	1	2	3	4
L.	Effect of animal waste disposal on the environment.	1	2	3	4
M.	What problems are poultry veterinarians facing in Europe, Latin America, Asia, etc.?	1	2	3	4
N.	Why do we have trouble controlling certain pathogens, i.e., IBV, Pasteurella variant IBDV, etc.	1	2	3	4
O.	Update on new/emerging diseases for the U.S., i.e., pneumovirus, ORT, virulent IBDV, etc.	1	2	3	4
P.	Exports a savior or doom of the industry?	1	2	3	4
Q.	What are our competitors on a world market doing to outcompete us, i.e., Brazil?	1	2	3	4

Please add your suggestions below and fax this page back to John Glisson at (706) 542-5630.

Excerpts from the latest Economic Research Service and National Agricultural Statistics Service USDA Reports

“Livestock, Dairy and Poultry Situation and Outlook” (ERS)

“Broiler Hatchery” and “Chicken and Eggs” (NASS)

1998 and interest rates are expected to be about the same as 1997. Poultry production costs, excluding feed, are expected to rise at about the same rate as in recent years according to Economic Research Reports (ERS).

Broiler Eggs Set Up 3 Percent

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports 159 million eggs set in commercial hatchery incubators in 15 selected states during the week ending October 18, 1997, up 3 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week last year. Average hatchability for the week was 81 percent.

Broiler Chicks Placed Up 3 percent

NASS also reports broiler growers placed 130 million chicks for meat production during the week ending October 18, 1997, up 3 percent from the comparable week in 1996.

Broiler Prices Falling

ERS reports that the 12-city wholesale price for whole broilers has fallen 5 cents per pound from mid-September to mid-October. Strengthening production and the seasonal weakening of demand as the summer grilling season ends probably were the main factors in the prices declines. Net returns to broiler producers have averaged above last year for the first three quarters of 1997 but are expected to be lower during the fourth quarter. Net returns for the year are expected to average 1-2 cents per pound above the 5 cents earned in 1996.

Turkey Production To Increase

Turkey meat production for the first 8 months of 1997 has been slightly lower than in 1996, but production is expected to be higher for the balance of the year. 1997 production is expected to be nearly unchanged from 1996. Higher exports and slightly higher turkey cold storage stocks indicate that

(continued on page 4)

**Broiler Performance Data (Company)
Live Production Cost**

	Average Co.	Top 25%	Top 5 Co's
Feed cost/ton w/o color	181.93	179.39	182.30
Feed cost/lb meat	17.65	16.61	17.22
Days to 4.6 lbs	45	45	45
Med. cost/ton	3.38	3.00	3.32
Chick cost/lb	4.09	4.14	3.74
Vac-Med. cost/lb	0.08	0.06	0.08
WB & 1/2 parts condemnations cost/lb	0.27	0.20	0.21
% Mortality	4.12	3.29	3.00
Sq. Ft. @ placement	0.80	0.77	0.80
Lbs/Sq. Ft.	6.31	6.06	6.14
Down time (days)	14	14	15

Data for week ending 10/31/97.

**Broiler Whole Bird Condemnation (Region)
Live Production Cost**

	SW	Mid-West	S. East	Mid-Atlantic	S. Central
% Septox	0.288	0.393	0.195	0.327	0.251
% Airsac	0.094	0.051	0.251	0.138	0.207
% I.P.	0.084	0.085	0.224	0.099	0.402
% Leukosis	0.007	0.011	0.007	0.025	0.003
% Bruise	0.011	0.013	0.021	0.014	0.015
% Other	0.027	0.024	0.027	0.030	0.025
% Total	0.511	0.578	0.725	0.632	0.904
% 1/2 parts condemnations.	0.482	0.442	0.210	0.372	0.448

Data for week ending 10/31/97.

Excerpts from ERS & NASS USDA Reports

(continued from page 3)

domestic turkey consumption has weakened from a year ago. This weakening is contributing to slower increases in wholesale turkey prices as Thanksgiving approaches. Ham stocks are 40 percent above last year and are also pressuring turkey prices.

Wholesale and retail whole turkey prices are expected to be slightly higher in the fourth quarter than they were in 1996.

Egg-type Chicks Hatched Up 12 Percent

NASS reports egg-type chicks hatched during September totaled 35.8 million, up 12 percent from September 1996. Eggs in incubators totalled 30.4 million on October 1, 1997, down 1 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totalled 397,000 during September 1997, up 72 percent from the 231,000 of September 1996.

The total number of layers during September 1997 averaged 302 million, up 1 percent over September 1996. September egg production per 100 layers was 2,097 eggs, compared with 2,094 in September 1996.

Egg Production to Increase

ERS reports that the table egg production flock is increasing in size as more pullets are added than spent hens are removed from production. Flock size was slightly larger than a year ago on September 1 and productivity had recovered from the summer heat and moved higher than a year ago. Fourth quarter production should be about 1-percent higher than a year ago.

Abstract

“A field perspective of Fluoroquinolone treatments of *E. coli* infections in broiler chickens.”

Dr. Rick Phillips feels that three questions need to be answered when assessing the overall cost effectiveness of treatment with fluoroquinolones.

“When to use?”

“How to use?”

“Cost effectiveness?”

The first and most difficult question is “When to use?”. The treatment objective when dosing young birds is to decrease mortality and morbidity. The decision to treat older birds is more difficult to make. Older birds are also treated to decrease mortality but a reduction of the incidence and severity of air sac lesions is important when the birds are to be processed. The decision to treat should be based on mortality, morbidity, age of the flock, and the severity of the break. These considerations tend to make treatments more efficacious than basing your decision solely on mortality. Culture and sensitivity, early treatment, heavy culling, and TLC can help you reach your treatment objective.

The next question to be addressed is “How to use?”. Fluoroquinolones are highly effective in reducing mortality and morbidity in broilers infected with *E. coli*. When these drugs are used at the lowest approved dose and/or shortest duration, a decrease in efficacy was demonstrated in the study. Dr. Phillips also pointed out that the proper dosing and duration of treatment is not only important for treatment efficacy, but also can reduce the development of bacterial resistance. To date, he has not encountered any resistance problems. The return on the Fluoroquinolone investment is affected by the level of *E. coli* infection, the timing of the treatment, and the dose administered. The veterinarian needs to calculate losses due to mortality, condemnations, and processing inefficiencies on a dollar basis to determine if the treatment is “cost effective.”

—Abstract provided by Dr. Chip Garritty, MAM candidate

Abstract of Dr. Robert E. Good’s presentation on the “Implications of USDA Food and Safety Regulations”

Dr. Good kicked off the 32nd National Meeting on Poultry Health and Processing with a topic that is near and dear to everyone involved in the poultry industry – food safety. He reminded us that although animal products get the most publicity when it comes to foodborne illnesses, the largest recent outbreaks have been associated with products like apple juice, tomatoes, ice cream, cheese and melons. The most recent outbreak involved alfalfa sprouts contaminated with *E. coli* 0157:H7.

Abstracts

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The rest of his presentation focused on *Salmonella* control. Recent FSIS studies show the percentage of carcasses contaminated with *Salmonella* have decreased

from 37% to 20%. Of the 20% that are *Salmonella* positive, more than 87% have less than 0.3 bacteria per ml on a whole bird wash. After these opening remarks, Dr. Good then outlined the additional consumer cost of producing *Salmonella* "free" products. Implementation of *Salmonella* testing for broilers, total clean out after each flock, pullet vaccination, competitive exclusion products, and disinfection of live-haul cages and trailers would cost 1.83 cents per pound. This is a modest estimate and doesn't include the cost of destroying flocks which test positive or eliminating *Salmonella* from feed.

Other countries have tried to eliminate *Salmonella* from their poultry. Sweden has spent 6 billion dollars since 1961 and has eliminated *Salmonella* in chickens but has failed to reduce the number of human cases. In 1995, the WHO reported 50 cases of *Salmonella* per 100,000 people in Sweden while the United States had only 20 cases per 100,000 people. Dr. Good concluded by saying food safety isn't going away nor should it. We must reduce *Salmonella* in economically feasible ways such as irradiation and consumer education.

—Abstract provided by Dr. Scott Westall, MAM candidate

Abstract

The Minnesota Poultry Service Workshop was held at the University of Minnesota St. Paul Campus on Sept. 23. The outbreak in turkeys of avian pneumovirus was reviewed by Drs. Edson and Nagaraja.

The pneumovirus isolated from Colorado and Minnesota is a sub-type A virus, but different from the European type A which is why it was very difficult to identify initially. Clinical respiratory disease may range from very mild in uncomplicated cases to very severe with high mortality in cases with secondary infections.

Signs include rhinotracheitis, foamy conjunctivitis, sinusitis, and egg drop in breeders. It was described as the worst case of MG ever seen. Transmission is by contact, with aerosol and egg transmission suspected.

NVSL does serology testing for both the European and Colorado strains. Serological response is said to occur within 5 days of the appearance of clinical signs.

Preventative and control measures are being investigated. Live vaccines have been used in Europe. Obviously, good bio-security is essential to keep this disease out of your farms.

Drs. Kumar, Brinton and Lippert reviewed a Type 3 *Pasteurella multocida* which has been occurring in Minnesota and been extremely difficult to treat. It has also been more resistant to vaccinations including autogenous vaccines in some cases. Live vaccines were more beneficial than commercially available bacterins. Good bio-security, rodent control, and vaccination programs were all cited as methods for control of Fowl Cholera.

—Abstract provided by Dr. Dave Pyle

Broiler Whole Bird Condemnation (Company)
Live Production Cost

	Average Co.	Top 25%	Top 5 Co.'s
% Septox	0.288	0.280	0.184
% Airsac	0.158	0.078	0.120
% I.P.	0.170	0.107	0.216
% Leukosis	0.012	0.008	0.008
% Bruise	0.017	0.010	0.009
% Other	0.029	0.019	0.034
% Total	0.674	0.503	0.571
% 1/2 parts condemnations	0.409	0.315	0.347

Data for week ending 10/31/97.



Meetings, Seminars and Conventions

1997 November

November 4-6: Arkansas Processors Workshop, Clarion Inn, Fayetteville, AR. Contact: Judy Kimbrell, Arkansas Poultry Federation, P.O. Box 1446, Little Rock, AR 72203. Phone (501) 375-8131.

November 6-7: AEB Meeting, Nashville, TN. Contact: American Egg Board, 1460 Renaissance Drive, Park Ridge, IL 60068. Phone (708) 296-7043.

November 10-11: National Conference for Agribusiness, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN. Contact: Purdue University Center for Agricultural Business, 1145 Krannert Bldg., Room 781, West Lafayette, IN 47907-1145. Phone (765) 494-4247.

November 13: U.S. Poultry Grain Forecast/Economic Outlook, Atlanta, GA. Contact: U.S. Poultry & Egg Assn., 1530 Cooledge Road, Tucker, GA 30084-7303. Phone (770) 493-9401.

November 7-19: Information and Knowledge Transfer in the Poultry Industry, Utrecht, The Netherlands. Contact: Ir H.H.M. Zeelen, Jodichendreef 30, 3984 JT Odijk, The Netherlands. Phone/Fax +31 30 656 3283.

November 18: Ontario Poultry Health Conference, Kitchener, Ontario. Contact: Ontario Poultry Council. Phone (519) 837-0284. Fax (519) 837-3584.

November 18-21: VIV-Europe International Trade Fair on Intensive Animal Production, Jaarbeurs, Utrecht, The Netherlands. Contact: Royal Dutch Fairs, P.O. Box 8500, 3505 RM Utrecht, The Netherlands. Phone +31 30 295 59 11, Fax +31 30 2940379.

1997 December

December 3-4: CFIA Poultry Nutrition Conference, Radisson Plaza Hotel, Charlotte, N.C. Contact: Owen Robertson, Carolina Feed Industry Assn., 2116 N. Shoreline Dr., Sanford, N.C. 27330. Phone (919) 776-3054.

1998 January

January 19-20: Southern Poultry Science and Southern Conference on Avian Diseases 1998 Annual Meeting, Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta, GA. Contact: Gene M. Pesti, Dept. of Poultry Science, The University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-2772. Phone (706) 542-1351. Fax (706) 542-1827.

January 21-23: International Poultry Expo, Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta, GA. Contact: U.S. Poultry & Egg Association, 1530 Cooledge Road, Tucker, GA 30084-7303. Phone (770) 493-9401.

1998 February

February 7: National Turkey Federation Pre-Convention Seminar, Hyatt Regency on Riverwalk Hotel, San Antonio, TX. Contact: National Turkey Federation, 1225 New York Avenue, N.W., Suite 400, Washington D.C. 20005. Phone (202) 898-0100.

February 8-11: National Turkey Federation Annual Convention, Hyatt Regency on Riverwalk Hotel, San Antonio, TX. Contact: National Turkey Federation, 1225 New York Avenue, N.W., Suite 400, Washington D.C. 20005. Phone (202) 898-0100.

February 12-13: NGFA Convention and Industry Show, Mid-town Holiday Inn, Grand Island, NE. Contact: Nebraska Grain and Feed Association, 1233 Lincoln Mall, Suite 200, Lincoln, NE 68508-3911. Phone (402) 476-6174.

February 22-May 22: International Feed Training Program, IPC Livestock, Barneveld, The Netherlands. Contact: Ir. H.W. ten Brinke, IPC Livestock Barneveld College, Dept. of International Studies and Cooperation Programs, P.O. Box 64, 3770 AB Barneveld, The Netherlands. Phone +31 342 41 48 81. Fax +31 342 49 28 13.

February 27-28: Arkansas Poultry Federation Spring Meeting, Arlington Hotel, Hot Springs, AR. Contact: Judy Kimbrell, Arkansas Poultry Federation, P.O. Box 1446, Little Rock, AR 72203. Phone (501) 375-8131.

1998 March

March 5-7: AFIA-AGRO Mexico, Guadalupe, Mexico. Contact: American Feed Industry Association, 1501 Wilson Blvd., Suite 1100, Arlington, VA 22209. Phone (703) 524-0810.

March 8-10: 47th Western Poultry Disease Conference, Capitol Plaza Holiday Inn, Sacramento, CA. Contact: Dr. Richard Chin. Phone (209) 498-7740. Fax (209) 485-8097.

March 11-12: AEB Meeting, Chicago, IL. Contact: American Egg Board, 1460 Renaissance Dr., Park Ridge, IL 60068. Phone (847) 296-7043.

March 18-19: Midwest Poultry Federation Convention, St. Paul Convention Center, St. Paul, MN. Contact: Lara Ginsburg, Midwest Poultry Federation, 238 Wycliff St., St. Paul, MN 55114-1257. Phone (612) 646-4553.

March 24-27: International Poultry Exposition 98, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, India. Contact: IPE 98 Secretariat, Tatcom Projects, (India) Pvt. Ltd., C-60, Nizamuddin East, New Delhi-110013, India. Phone +91 11 4633881. Fax +91 11 4635215.

1998 April

April 1-2: Nebraska Poultry Industries Annual Convention, New World Inn, Columbus, NE. Contact: Nebraska Poultry Industries, A103 Animal Sciences, University of Nebraska, P.O. Box 830908, Lincoln, NE 68583-0908.

April 5-8: Symposium on Egg Nutrition and Newly Emerging Ovo Technologies, Banff Centre, Banff, Alberta, Canada. Contact: Dr. J.S. Sun, Conference Chairman, University of Alberta, Dept. of Agricultural Food and Nutritional Science, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2P5. Phone (403) 492-7687.

April 6-8: Federal Food Regulatory Conference, Crystal City Marriott Hotel, Arlington, VA. Contact: Prime Label Consultants, P.O. Box 15240, Washington, D.C. 20003. Phone (202) 543-0698 or 800-766-LABL.

April 7-8: Arkansas Poultry Symposium, Holiday Inn, Springdale, AR. Contact: Judy Kimbrell, Arkansas Poultry Federation, P.O. Box 1446, Little Rock, AR 72203. Phone (501) 375-8131.

April 8-9: Canadian Poultry Industry Conference & Exhibition, Western Fairgrounds, London, ON. Sponsored by the Ontario Poultry Council. Contact: Box 4550, Stn. "D", London, ON N5W 5K3. Phone (519) 438-7203. Fax (519) 679-3124.

April 9-11: 26th Annual Midwest Poultry Federation Convention, Minneapolis Convention Center, Minneapolis, MN. Contact: Lara Ginsburg. Phone (612) 646-4553. Fax (612) 646-4554.

April 16-17: AFIA Animal Health Seminar, Kansas City, MO. Contact: American Feed Industry Association, 1501 Wilson Blvd., Suite 1100, Arlington, VA 22209. Phone (703) 524-0810.

April 16-19: Georgia Poultry Federation Annual Meeting, Brasstown Valley Resort, Young Harris, GA. Contact: GPF, P.O. Box 763, Gainesville GA 30503. Phone (770) 532-0473.

April 21-24: AGRO-EXPO China '98, National Agricultural Exhibition Centre, Beijing, China. Contact: E.J. Krause & Associates, Inc., 6550 Rock Spring Dr., Suite 500, Bethesda, MD 20817-1126. Phone (301) 493-5500.

April 28-May 1: PEPA Convention, Doubletree Hotel, Monterey, CA. Contact: Pacific Poultry and Egg Assn., 1521 I St., Sacramento, CA 95814. Phone (916) 441-0801.

Call for News From the Poultry Professionals

In order to make this a useful information tool for you and your colleagues, we need your help. Please take a moment to write down industry news or important meeting dates relating to your organization. Please be sure to include a contact name, phone and fax number for those readers needing additional detail. We would also like to initiate a personals column that would include, births, marriages, awards, etc. Thank you for your contributions.

Important dates or news from:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Organization: _____

Please fax this page to Sue Clanton, Department of Avian Medicine, University of Georgia, at (706) 542-5630.

Also, comments may be sent to avianmed@uga.cc.uga.edu via e-mail.

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