

THE CHICK PAPERS

Georgia Poultry Laboratory Network's Monthly Newsletter



Location Matters: Providing Geographic Information

By Nicki Smith, GIS Specialist

There are several crucial pieces of information GPLN requests from customers when a new farm is added to their complex. This includes farm coordinates and 911 address, which are critical in correctly identifying the farm geographically.

Why is this important to GPLN?

One of the ways we support our customers is to provide large printed maps of their complex for their use and to assist in obtaining premise IDs, or Premise Identification Numbers (PIN). This unique 8-digit code, permanently assigned by USDA to a physical location, is used in the event of an animal health emergency. It is intended to protect companies and growers, speeding up the early response, and facilitating the permitting process.



How can I provide good data?

Coordinates may be submitted to GPLN in any format in which your company stores them, but we recommend using decimal degrees. Coordinates should be located directly on top of the houses. This is especially important when other farms are nearby or if newly constructed houses are not yet visible in satellite imagery.

While coordinates are typically easy to obtain, addresses can be tricky. The 911 address of the poultry houses is required for premise ID assignment. This often differs from the grower's home address and, depending on the county, a single parcel may have separate addresses assigned for the home and farm! Online mapping services, such as Google Maps or Bing Maps, can be helpful but are not always accurate or up-to-date. Having growers check with their county officials when adding a new farm is the best course of action for ensuring a valid and correct 911 address.

Keep up the great work!

GPLN would like to recognize the hard work of our customers' office staff, such as broiler and breeder clerks, office managers, and others, whom we often rely on to provide timely information. Your support is greatly appreciated!



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Len Chappell



Len Chappell is always smiles after a good tour.



Len explaining antigens during a wet lab he designed for one of the school groups.

Len Chappell?

You don't have to have been in the lab or industry long to become familiar with not just the name but the man. Ask almost anyone about Len Chappell, and the first words out of their mouth are usually how much they like Len, how he is the nicest person they know, or how good of a person Len is. Len hasn't spent his time with the lab focused on his reputation, but because of his dedication to helping others, his upstanding moral character, his sense of humor, and his positive outlook and humble demeanor, he has a highly respected reputation within the industry and at home.

Len began his career at Emory University working in two departments, one of which had him making monoclonals. Wanting a change of pace and less traffic, he then came to work under Dr. Resurreccion in the Virology department at GPLN. As he grew with GPLN, he later became the Director of Serology, and now he is the Director of Customer Service. He understands the science as well as the needs of the customers which makes him perfectly suited for his position. Len, a natural born teacher, can explain PCR and most any test in such a way that even children can understand the basics of the test and purpose. In fact, he has done just that many times during the wet labs he has set up for many school groups that have come through the lab. He becomes so animated when teaching about PCR, ELISA, and even Salmonella that one cannot help but be amazed and entertained!

While Len stays busy at the lab, he is equally involved outside of work with family and church. He assists his mother in caring for his elderly father. Sometimes they go joyriding or just out to get breakfast. He is a wonderful grandfather to his longtime girlfriend Glenda Stover's grandchildren. He leads an active youth Sunday school group, sings in choir, assists those in need with repairs around the house, and a host of other activities. He can often be found doing yard work, but he truly enjoys when he finds time to weld. He looks forward to keeping his own backyard flock when he retires. This will be one coop to see, and if he does not have impeccable biosecurity, it just wouldn't be Len Chappell.

**"I don't think I have met
anyone yet who works as
hard on behalf of the poultry
industry as Len does!"**

– Scott Cochran, Columbia Farms