

THE CHICK PAPERS

Georgia Poultry Laboratory Network's Monthly Newsletter



Biosecurity Audits Update

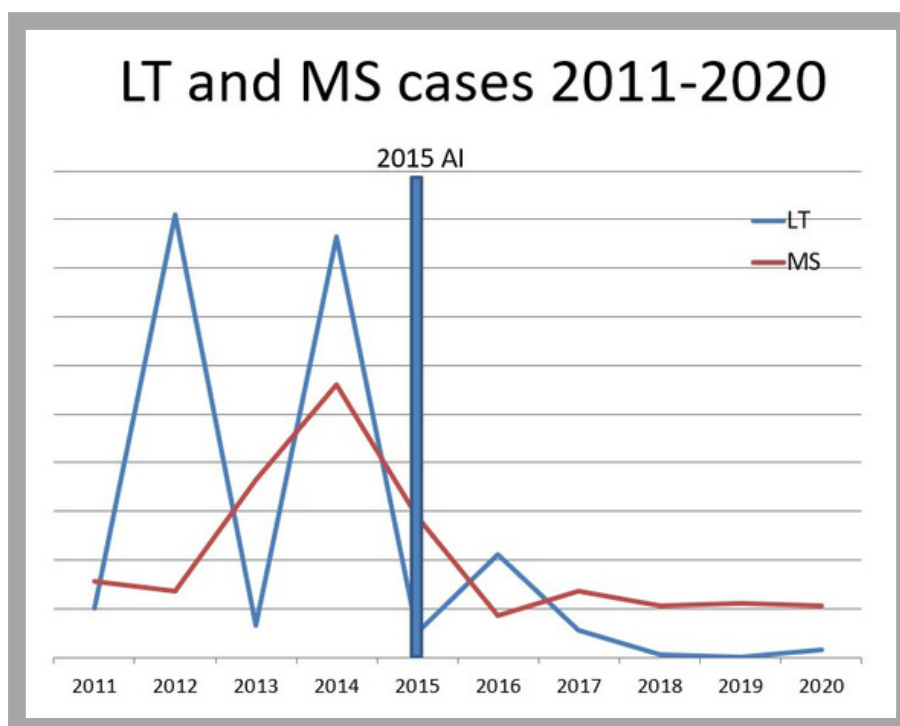
By Jeff Spivey, Director of Industry Operations

In 2017, the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) adopted the 14 Principles of Biosecurity to curb and combat the spread of avian influenza in the poultry industry. There were 3 goals associated with this program:

1. Establish a minimum set of guidelines whereby companies would develop and implement their own biosecurity programs.
2. Introduce a set of standards through which the companies could be audited (once every two years) for adherence to the principles.
3. Link successful audits to indemnity (payment for market value of meat, birds, or eggs) and compensation (payment for virus elimination, cleanup, disposal) for cases of avian influenza (highly pathogenic or low pathogenic).

The deadline for the initial round of audits is September 30th, 2020. We have 33/37 commercial poultry biosecurity audits successfully completed, and 4 to go before the deadline. The GPLN has already begun the second round of auditing! Due to ongoing public health issues, the GPLN is aware of the concern within companies about large gatherings for training and allowing in visitors. We are willing to come to you to begin the second round of audits, or you can travel to us. Given the 2 year auditing cycle, we have time if such meetings need to be postponed.

The key to good biosecurity is daily, on farm implementation of policies and procedures. Our Georgia growers certainly did this, and we can see the results for endemic disease numbers as shown below. Way to go, GA companies and growers! This data speaks for itself!





Visitors Not Pictured:

- ▶ The current Master of Avian Medicine students, Dr. Katie Burchfield, Dr. Alix Nelson, and Dr. Michael Quist, visited the lab August 10th to learn about NPIP and tour the lab.
- ▶ Sam Helox and Sam Brumleve with Dawe's Laboratory toured GPLN August 24th.



Kathleen Manzel, Gainesville City School STEM teacher, toured the lab with Len Chappell as her guide.

We love when teachers come to tour so they can take back what they learn to share with their students!



Given the present circumstances with COVID-19, we regret to inform you that we will not hold an Annual Meeting this year.