

The Chick Papers

A Monthly Newsletter from the Georgia Poultry Laboratory



Georgia Poultry Laboratory Network

December 2013

A Reflection of 2013 at the Georgia Poultry Laboratory Network by Len Chappell

As we look back on what we feel has been a very successful year at the Georgia Poultry Laboratory Network, we would like to share some of the highlights and occurrences of 2013 with our customers and colleagues

Virology

July.. Dr. Arun Kulkarni presented investigations on Reovirus isolations from Runting and Stunting Syndrome in Georgia cases AAAP (Chicago)

July .. A record 1,200 Mycoplasma PCR tests in one month with 11,000 PCR:MYCOPLASMA tests for the year

November.. Qiagen automated robotic extraction of swab material for real time Mycoplasma PCR to increase throughput

Entirety.. Increased isolation of IBV GA08 from clinical respiratory cases in bronchitis outbreaks

Entirety.. Increased Reovirus isolates from tenosynovitis cases diagnosed by real time PCR

Serology

May.. Changes made on the automated robotics ELISA platform to reduce the use of disposable tips; saving more than \$40,000 annually.

July.. Brenda Glidewell presented paper at AAAP on the status of Pullorum tube test reactor birds

Entirety.. Approximately 900,000 antibody tests performed, including 300,000 AI and 300,00 MGMS.

Necropsy

July .. Dr. Davis presented poster on Clostridia yolk sac infections in broiler chicks at AAAP

Entirety.. Numerous leg problems associated with Reovirus infections and numerous systemic E. coli infections

Entirety.. Dr. Davis: two publications in Avian diseases on Reovirus myocarditis & Reovirus-associated pancreatic atrophy (Dr. Kulkarni co author)

Receiving

Entirety.. Added personnel to received samples and the process baby chicks in the Chick Quality Program

Entirety.. Improvements in the Quality program with new LIMS features in the tracking of samples and "chain of custody" documentation

Bacteriology

July.. Dr. Doug Waltman presented Paper on Salmonella trends from 2000 to 2012 at AAAP

July.. Selena York made an AAAP poster presentation on the laboratory integration of the Luminex XMAP Salmonella serotyping assay kit

July.. Kevin Smith participated in the AAAP Poster session on the advantages of using advanced technology in the poultry diagnostic laboratory

Entirety.. Bacteriology Dept processed over 31,000 samples for Salmonella testing

NPIP Services

August .. Dr. Johnson gave a presentation and presented a poster at the World Veterinarian Poultry Congress in France

Entirety.. The GPLN Depopulation Team had 10 practice foaming exercises including two practices with the Kifco whole house foaming unit.

Entirety.. 14,000 whole blood Pullorum tests and over 7,000 hatchery air plate samplings collected

Entirety.. NPIP monitoring software completed to help tract NPIP participating companies with their "Clean Programs" testing schedules

New Lab Construction Groundbreaking May 2013

A Note To Our Customers

The entire staff at GPLN would like to thank each of customer for allowing us to test your flocks in 2013. Our important role to the poultry industry is far reaching and includes 1)administering the NPIP program, 2)providing diagnostic and monitoring services for poultry flocks in Georgia, 3)working with the industry in the coordination of disease control, and 4) facilitating emergency preparedness. We hope we have met our customer's expectations in all these areas as we try to fulfill our obligations in assuring that Georgia poultry flocks are healthy and continue to stay healthy and safe in the future. Together, we have all faced some difficult challenges and had some noteworthy accomplishments in 2013. We anticipate the same for 2014. GPLN does not take your business for granted and really appreciate the confidence you have in the Oakwood, Tifton, and Forsyth laboratories .We look forward to being your testing laboratory in 2014.

Tours and Visitors:

- IDEXX Laboratories Visit Serology Department:** On Dec 4, IDEXX Laboratories representatives Dr. Kristen Roza, Rick Linscott and Shona Michaud visited GPLN to field test a new ELISA product under development at the IDEXX headquarters in Westbrook Maine. IDEXX values the cooperation with GPLN for their help in testing new product lines.
- Primary Breeder Company Scientists Train in the Virology Department:** On Dec 10-12, representatives from Cobb Vantress, Arkansas Laboratory visited the Virology Department to train in virus isolation and identification procedures. They were interested in the real time PCR protocols for both Laryngotracheitis virus (LT) and Reovirus. The Cobb Vantress representatives enjoyed the annual Christmas lunch with GPLN employees.



IDEXX Laboratories Spend Several days in the Serology Dept. Beta Testing New Products (l-r) Drew Carter (GPLN) Dr. Kristen Roza (IDEXX), Scott Linscott (IDEXX), Brenda Glidewell (GPLN) and Shona Michaud (IDEXX)



(l-r) Glenda Stover, Brenda Flack, Jane Askew, Dr. Arun Kulkarni, Jason Ferrell, Scott Sharp



"Food-a-Plenty" at the Annual GPLN Christmas Party



Gathering of GPLN Employees for the 2013 Annual Christmas Party

Christmas Luncheon Held at The Oakwood Laboratory:

December 12, 2013, the Oakwood Lab held its annual Christmas party and lunch for all the employees. The meat was provided by Cargill of Gainesville and the ham provided by Glenda Stover. Employee's favorite dishes made up the fixings and side dishes for the party. Jessi Kimbrell and Kevin Smith entertained the audience with their string instrument talents in the playing and singing of favorite Christmas tunes. There were numerous raffle prize winners and each employee received a gift from "Secret Santa". Frankie Morgan won a grand raffle prize of a VISA gift certificate. A very special thank you to the 2013 Christmas Party committee comprised of Jessi Kimbrell, Danelle Dimizio, Gwen Waters, Lilly Steffey, Glenda Stover, MaryKay Hall, and Kristina Ashton.

New Lab Construction Update :

The construction is right on schedule. The floor of the mezzanine has been poured in concrete. The mezzanine passes through the entire building which will allow visitors to tour all the departments within the main facility from an elevated view without lab interruption..



Current front view of New Georgia Poultry Laboratory Network