

## Infectious Coryza

By: Dr. Louise Dufour-Zavala and Dr. Doug Anderson

Although usually relatively rare in the US, in the past 3 years, outbreaks of infectious coryza have been seen in layer complexes and broiler breeder flocks in several states. In GA, we have one case every 7-10 years in commercial chickens and 1-5 cases per year in backyard chickens. Backyard flocks are likely the reservoir of infection.

What is Infectious Coryza?

It is a bacterial disease of chickens caused by *Avibacterium paragallinarum*. It has a short incubation period of 1-3 days. Clinical signs include swollen sinuses, nasal discharge, sneezing, moderate to severe depression, lack of appetite and drop in egg production. The nasal discharge is sometimes foul smelling. Mortality may be low if the disease is uncomplicated, but complications with other bacteria may lead to severe head swelling, airsacculitis and high mortality. The clinical presentation sometimes looks like a severe case of MG.

The disease is treatable with antibiotics but never goes away completely until the flock is depopulated. All in all out production is the best way to control the disease, by preventing its re-introduction into the new flock.

There are inactivated vaccines available for infectious coryza that help in controlling the disease when pullets are to be introduced in positive commercial flocks. Otherwise, there is usually no need for vaccines.

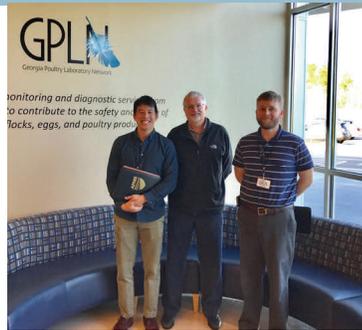
The best prevention is to avoid contact with infected commercial or any non-commercial poultry flocks. Backyard chickens, with or without clinical signs, may be infected chronically and may be contagious. Indirect contact with the birds themselves or equipment associated with backyard flocks constitutes a risk factor for commercial flocks.

Keep up with all aspects of your Biosecurity Plans!



## Tours and Visitors

- February 2: South African delegation tour
- February 3: Hector Hidalgo and Chilean delegation tour
- February 3: Merial tour
- February 8: Dr. Villegas and guests tour
- February 8: Georgia Economic Development tour
- February 10: APHIS VS Foreign Service Officers tour
- February 11: Soil Conservation Group tour
- February 13: Undine Taldo (Cobb Vantress) tour
- February 14-15: USDA Gateway Workshop
- February 23: GEMA Security Review



APHIS VS Foreign Service Officers meet with Dr. Waltman on February 10.



Dr. Zavala gives a tour to visitors from Merial on February 3.

## Model Update

We are making great progress—new structures and features are being added to the model daily! The installation of the lighting is in progress and we are investigating the addition of sound to bring the features of the model to life. Overall, we are about 85% complete with the model, although we will always be adding features to make it more realistic.



Cotton and onion farms, with both trains and a blueberry farm in the background.



Epoxy has been poured in the Port of Savannah to replicate the river.



Let there be light! Lighting installation is in progress throughout the model.



A broiler farm with a sawmill and small town in the background. Note the fishermen fishing in the pond!



The processing plant (modeled after the Pilgrims Canton plant) is nearing completion.



The Mar-Jac hatchery is coming to life!

## GPLN Events



Brenda Glidewell presented at the BioChek Lunch Meeting held at the International Production and Processing Expo on February 1.



Jessi Kimbrell, Len Chappell and Dr. Martin Smetzer at the Live Bird Market Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX on February 23.