

## Updated Mycoplasma Poster

### Prevention and Containment of Mycoplasma on Breeder Farms

Mycoplasma (MG or MS) is a bacteria and the cause of a poultry disease called mycoplasmosis. It is detected by a blood test and confirmed by a test done on tracheal swabs (PCR). Infected breeder flocks may have lameness or respiratory signs, affecting their productivity. Positive breeder flocks can transmit the organism to the progeny through the egg, infecting them also. Hatching eggs exports are compromised. The infected flock loses its NPIP "clean" classification and may be sold early.

● : MG or MS



#### My birds tested positive: how did they get it?

##### THE MOST COMMON WAY TO GET MYCOPLASMA INTO A FLOCK: IT WALKS IN, USUALLY ON TWO LEGS!

Direct contact of the farm or grower with:

Persons, vehicles, equipment that have been in contact with non-commercial poultry, commercial layers, positive farms: hired help, contractors, crews, family members, other visitors are by far the most common means of infecting a flock!

A FARM CAN ALSO GET MYCOPLASMA FROM MIGRATION (less likely) from a Mycoplasma positive source through wildlife, domestic animals, rodents or insects.

A FARM CAN ALSO GET CONTAMINATED THROUGH THE AIR or wild birds (least likely) MG and MS are sensitive to heat. They do not survive well outside the birds. However, they will withstand freezing. MG may also come from wild birds (ex. house finches).

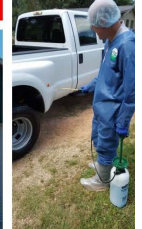
#### How do I keep Mycoplasma from spreading from my farm to others?

- Do not lend equipment out
- Increase rodent and insect control before load out
- After load out, make sure all birds are disposed of promptly and properly. Keep house empty for a week before removing the litter; Wash and disinfect the houses. Mycoplasma are sensitive to disinfectants
- Treating the birds decreases the shed of the organism but does not eliminate the infection

#### How do I keep my birds CLEAN in the first place?

- Avoid contact with other poultry or birds
- Always dispose of all dead birds promptly and properly (they attract animals that may have been contaminated on another farm)
- Limit your visitors to those that are absolutely necessary such as the company serviceperson, and emergency repairs
- Make sure your visitors and hired help have not been in contact with high risk poultry; No pets in poultry houses
- Use dedicated equipment and vehicles on the farm
- ALL VISITORS practice entry biosecurity (Line of Separation) at all times (no exceptions):
  - Shower (on some farms)
  - Change of clothing or disposable coveralls,
  - Dedicated footwear or disposable boots
  - Well maintained foot pans
  - Hairnets, hand sanitation or disposable gloves
- Bird proof houses, use rodent and insect control

#### KEEP MYCOPLASMA OUT!!!



Now available in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.





## Tours and Visitors

- June 19: LPAI Plan Review for Integrators meeting
- June 21: Hall County Council for Economic Development

## GPLN Events



Dr. Doug Anderson, James Brantley, Len Chappell, Bethany Coggin, Brenda Glidewell, Jessi Kimbrell, Jeff Spivey, Dr. Doug Waltman and Dr. Louise Dufour-Zavala attended the NPIP Biennial Conference in Franklin, TN from June 26-28. Our industry delegates were Dr. Sarah Tilley, Dr. Scott Westall and Dr. Raul Otalora. Also in the pictures is our state veterinarian, Dr. Robert Cobb.

## Devil is in the Diorama Detail



We have made some exciting new updates to the diorama, including fiber optic lighting throughout the background (see the Savannah Bridge to the left) and inside buildings and structures! Another hatchery, an egg breaking plant and a rendering facility have also been added. We are also performing additional work on the landscape and weathering the buildings. Stop by and see the changes—the diorama is really coming to life!

