



The Chick Papers

A Monthly Newsletter from the Georgia Poultry Laboratory

May 2017

A Note From Jeff Spivey, GPLN's New Director of Industrial Operations

I am Jeff Spivey and I will be serving as the Director of Industrial Operations for the Georgia Poultry Laboratory Network (GPLN). GPLN is the official state agency for the NPIP program and my key role with GPLN will be to assist industry in meeting the requirements of the NPIP 14 Principles of Biosecurity Program.

The NPIP 14 Principles of Biosecurity Program is designed to serve multiple purposes. Consistent application of the principles on a daily basis from farm to farm and company to company should provide enhanced disease control within the state. A company having the NPIP Biosecurity Program in place will insure that they receive indemnity should highly pathogenic avian influenza strike any of their flocks. I will be meeting with integrators to consult with them in the development of the 14 Principle Program as well as the implementation dates. The program is based on sound biosecurity principles and policies which were crafted to protect the health of the animals and the investments of the growers and the companies. I will have additional duties with GPLN, which will include auditing the NPIP Biosecurity Program, dealing with specific biosecurity and disease issues, coordinating the hatchery monitoring project, conducting grower training and other needs of the laboratory. I would like to stress that the NPIP Biosecurity Program is designed to be flexible; companies can tailor the program to their needs and goals.

Prior to joining GPLN, I served in several capacities with Fieldale Farms. I have extensive experience in live production issues ranging from flock supervision, animal welfare monitoring, coccidiosis sampling and research and the production of two bronchitis vaccines. My experience prior to the poultry industry involved managing personnel and finances in the environmental science and agronomy industries. I hold a Bachelor's of Science degree in Agronomy from North Carolina State University. I believe I can serve as a vital conduit between industry and GPLN through my experience in management, research, and production.



Tours and Visitors

- May 1-4: Salmonella Workshop
- May 9: OK Foods and Bachoco
- May 12: Greater Hall County Chamber of Commerce
- May 26: Yita and Guan Gao
- May 30: Centers for Disease Control



Dr. Zavala and Jeff Spivey met with representatives from OK Foods and Bachoco on May 9.



Salmonella Workshop attendees



Kate Herndon, an extern from UGA Animal Science.



Len Chappell and Jennifer Wayman, an extern from Berry College Animal Science.

Model Update

The model is really coming into its own! Most of the buildings are in place and we are currently working on detailing, lights and sound. We are now conducting tours of the model every week. If you have not visited in the last few weeks, stop by the lab and see the changes!



Chickenville, USA is coming to life with the addition of lights, sounds, people and storefronts.



The feed mill is nearly complete—the amount of detail is incredible!



Weathering of the buildings and structures is making good progress.



Maple fascia board has been installed around the sides of the model tabletop. It highlights the elevation changes and protects the model.

GPLN Events



We welcome Dr. Katy Burden to GPLN! She is a recent graduate of the UGA College of Veterinary Medicine. She will be the new manager for the Bacteriology department and will also work in the field providing veterinary services to our customers.



Len Chappell teaches students all about poultry during Ag Day at Lyman Hall Elementary on May 10.