

THE CHICK PAPERS

Georgia Poultry Laboratory Network's Monthly Newsletter



Grower Meetings for Biosecurity and Disease Awareness

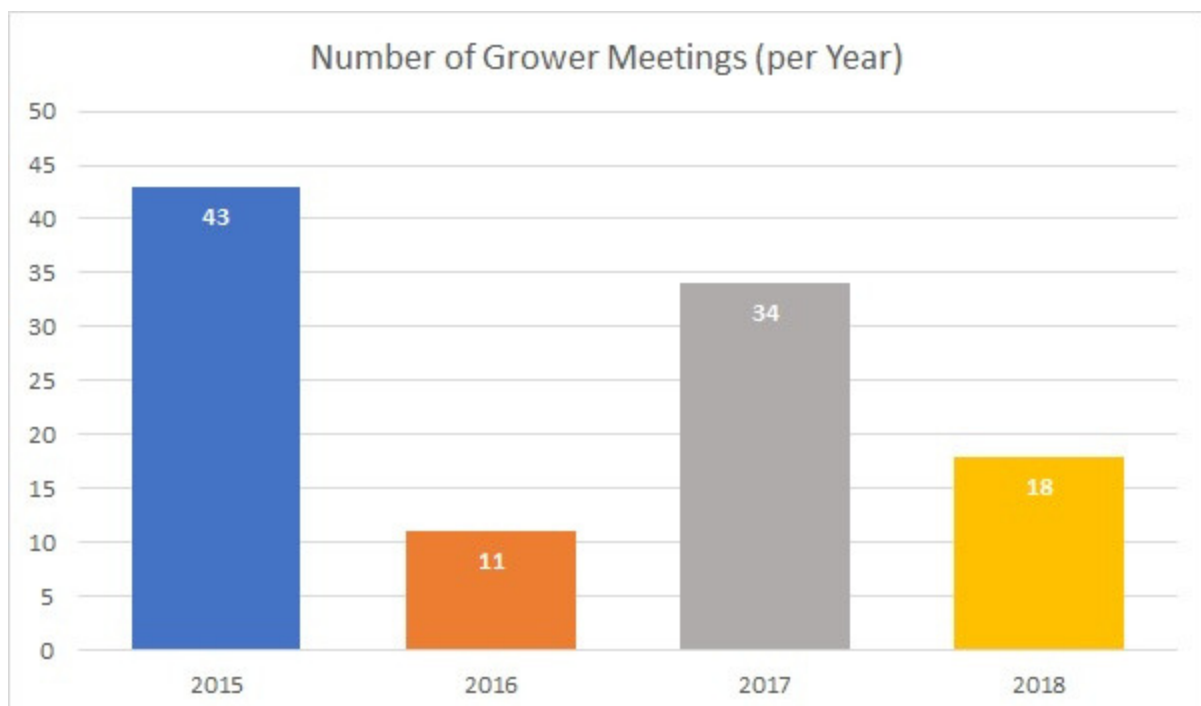
By Dr. Louise Dufour-Zavala

In the fall of 2015, the Georgia Poultry Laboratory Network started a series on Biosecurity and Disease to bring about awareness within Georgia's poultry growers. This began at the same time as the "All In All Gone" email campaign launched by the Georgia Poultry Federation.

Our efforts have been focused in updating growers in person every fall of all the avian influenza happenings in the United States and around the world, as well as reminding them of how to protect their farms.

In 2015, the "What shoes are you wearing" was the take-home message of a long presentation on the disease and the devastation of the 2015 U.S. outbreak of HPAI. In 2016, we reviewed the Indiana outbreak and introduced the biosecurity principles. The intent of the 2017 presentation was to place the growers in the mind of a grower who was just made aware that his birds have avian influenza, as happened to one Georgia grower in March of 2017. That presentation went into the epidemiological aspects of the disease.

In 2018, we updated the groups on recent AI events and the effects of biosecurity on all diseases. We also introduced virulent Newcastle disease into the discussion. The response of the industry to this program has been very good, although there is less motivation to organize these grower meetings when the AI "wire" is quiet. However, the growers are very attentive, and they ask interesting questions even after 4 years of presentations. We feel like this awareness REALLY helps keep Georgia farms disease free.



TOURS, VISITORS, & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- MAY 7TH: GEORGIA POULTRY FEDERATION (GPF)
- MAY 21ST: GEORGIA OFFICE OF PLANNING AND BUDGETING
- MAY 24TH: DR. NIKKI SHARIAT WITH PDRC

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- MAY 7TH: GEORGIA POULTRY FEDERATION ANNUAL MEETING
- MAY 22-23RD: NPIP AVIAN INFLUENZA DIAGNOSTIC WORKSHOP



Outgoing GPF Board Chairman, Mikell Fries (left), presented with his service award alongside the incoming GPF Board Chairman, Phillip Turner (right).



Group photo of the participants, presenters, and helpers from the 2019 NPIP Avian Influenza Diagnostic Workshop held at the PDRC in Athens, GA.