

The Chick Papers

A Monthly Newsletter from the Georgia Poultry Laboratory

November 2017

Georgia Titer Document and Reovirus Thoughts

We have completed our Annual Georgia titers document, which will soon be available on paper and electronically to GPLN customers and interested parties. It will also be available on our website.

Looking at Reovirus titers over the last 7 years is interesting. Five to six years ago, when Reovirus was a significant field problem, the breeder titers at 22-26 weeks of age were at their highest. Was that a response to the important field challenge? By the next 18 months, industry started (and continued) vaccinating breeders heavily using autogenous and conventional killed Reovirus vaccines in their pullet programs, resulting in increasing peak titers at 22-26 weeks of age through to 2017. Titers in broilers at 42-48 days of age are mostly from field challenge and went down after the enhancement of the breeder programs started. We were controlling vertical shed and broiler challenge. 2017 is showing an increased processing Reovirus titer in our flocks, which corresponds to our increased numbers of reovirus cases reported. Is Reovirus coming back?

GA 22-26w REO titers in Breeders GA Processing Age REO titers in Broilers over time over time



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Tours and Visitors

- November 15: USAPEEC and Indian Delegation
- November 28: Dr. David Baum, Iowa State University
- November 30: UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences



USAPEEC and delegates from India toured the lab on November 15.

Devil is in the Diorama Detail

Over the past couple of months we have started to redesign the industrial park to show more of the industrial companies that serve our poultry industry. In addition to the companies that already have a place on the diorama, we are going to add a further processing plant, an egg breaking plant and a rendering plant. To allow these additions, we have started demo work in the current industrial park and over the next couple of months, we will totally rework it. So, let's say for now that a tornado went through!

Come by and see the work in progress and see how the industrial park takes on a new look!

