

# The Chick Papers

A Monthly Newsletter from the Georgia Poultry Laboratory



September 2014

## 2009 FDA “Egg Rule” Importance in Maintaining SE Safe Shelled Egg Products

On July 09, 2009 FDA ruled on a measure to prevent the contamination of table eggs with Salmonella Enteritidis (SE) at layer farms (with more than 3,000 layers) and in storage and transport of shell egg products. The rule requires that eggs be tested for SE following the isolation of SE from the house environment. The guideline states that 1,000 uncracked eggs shall be sanitized and then combined into 50 pools of 20 eggs each. After an incubation period, a portion of the egg homogenate is transferred to an enrichment medium and tested using an FDA approved rapid method specific for SE. The 1,000 egg test is repeated every two weeks (1,000 eggs per submission) until four negative results in a row are obtained. In preparing and practicing for egg tests, we have reduced and streamlined the process time from 3 hours to 45 minutes.



Iyen Omoruyi  
Sanitizing the Eggs



Dr. Doug Waltman  
Transferring Eggs



Bacteriology Team Pooling the Eggs  
(l-r) Kevin Smith, Selena York, Marlie Fredette,  
Lilly Steffey



Sarah Cooper  
Measuring Out the Media

## The New Laboratory Construction: Moving to new lab on October 27 & 28



The New Main Virology Laboratory



Dr. Johnson Checks Out  
His New Office



Jessi Kimbrell Looks Over Administration Area

## Tours and Visitors:

- **Albanian Importers Visits GPLN:** On September 10, 2014, a delegation of Albanian poultry importers visited GPLN for a tour of the lab and Dr. Louise Dufour-Zavala gave a presentation on GPLN's role in the Georgia Poultry Industry. The group was given a demonstration on water base foam depopulation techniques in the parking lot. The group was hosted by USA Poultry and Egg Export Council.
- **North Carolina State Pathologist Visits GPLN:** On 09/24/2014, Dr. Oscar Fletcher visited the Oakwood Laboratory and was given a tour of the new lab. Dr.



Fletcher has been reading our histopathology slides for more than eight years. He is a professor in Poultry Health Management and has co-authored many scientific publications with Dr. Jim Davis and Dr. Arun Kulkarni of GPLN

## GPLN Events:

- **NAHLN's Auditors Pleased with GPLN Quality Program.** It has been more than three years since the GPLN had its last audit of the GPLN Quality Program. On September 16, NAHLN auditors met with the GPLN Quality Team for a day of reviewing standard operating procedures, training records, equipment monitoring, and some vertical auditing. In a post-audit wrap up session, Kelly Burkhart and Dr. Karen Post indicated that they were pleased with the progress the Quality Program has made over the last three years. Congratulations to the entire staff for making tremendous strides in improving our Quality Program.
- **GPLN Meets With Moving Contractor:** In preparations for packing up for the move, GPLN Department Directors and Administration met with Adam Moving and Storage representative Jimmy Maddox to discuss the details of the moving process from the old to the new lab. The move is currently scheduled for October 27 and 28.



Jimmy Maddox of Adams Transfer & Storage

- **GPLN Participates in the Night of Knights 2014:** In August, Dr. Louise Dufour-Zavala served on the Georgia Poultry Federation Welcoming Committee to greet and seat the special guests of this annual event.
- **GPLN Staff Speak at the 2014 Georgia Poultry Conference:** On Sept. 24, Dr. Louise Dufour-Zavala presented "Georgia Disease Update at the General Session of the Poultry Conference. Len Chappell followed that talk with an informative presentation on "GPLN Sample Collection Methods" There were more than 200 in attendance at this year's conference organized by the UGA Poultry Science Department.
- **GPLN Veterinarian Presents at Conference at Penn State:** On Sept. 24 & 25, Dr. Ben Johnson attended the 86<sup>th</sup> Northeastern Conference on Avian Diseases (NECAD) at Penn State University and presented two topics: South Region Disease Update and Local Response Coordination.
- **GPLN Employees Trained in Laboratory Safety Practices :** On Sept. 29, all employees attended a series of seminars on Laboratory Safety and the proper response to lab emergencies. GPLN has introduced a new Lab Safety Program prior to moving to the new lab. The course was taught by Ric Lavallee, Paramedic and Safety Training Specialist.



The Albanian Team at the Georgia Poultry Lab.

Left to Right: Xhevair Kajolli with Ari Frigo, Viron Sauli with Sauli, Grigo Lengo with KMY, Pluton Shyti with Universal Frigo, Alton Brinja, Leonard, Gugu with Dekon Foods; Lisa Linblad-USAPPEEC Europe; Dr. Louise Dufour-Zavala with Ga. Poultry Lab; Greg Tyler-UASPEEC Atlanta; Edi Jacellari, U.S. Embassy Tirana.



THE GPLN QUALITY TEAM (l-r) Dr. Arun Kulkarni, Dr. Karen Post (auditor), Ms. Kelly Burkhart (auditor), Dr. Doug Anderson, Dr. Louise Dufour-Zavala, Dr. Doug Waltman, Len Chappell, Brenda Glidewell (Quality Director)



Ric Lavallee