

THE CHICK PAPERS

Georgia Poultry Laboratory Network's Monthly Newsletter



NPIP Biennial Conference

By: Jeff Spivey

The National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) held its 45th Biennial Conference in Dallas Texas from June 7th - 10th. NPIP is a voluntary program of flock monitoring and management which allows for a degree of self-governance by industry and private participants. Initially, the program was developed to combat the spread of pullorum and typhoid, but the program has grown in scope and size to address new challenges. One function of the Georgia Poultry Laboratory Network (GPLN) is to serve as the official state agency and administer/manage the program in the state of Georgia. Our goal is to assure compliance by commercial industry and private NPIP participants with the Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) and state law in Georgia.

The Biennial Conference is designed to provide input from industry and private participants concerning how they will be governed by the CFR. Most proposed changes to the program are submitted far in advance of the conference. The GPLN sent several delegates to the Biennial Conference to address concerns, discuss proposals, and make changes to the program.

Our delegates were:

Dr. Randi Cran of Sanderson Farms (9 CFR 146 Subpart C)

Lindsey Lackey of the GPLN (9 CFR 145 Subpart E)

Dr. Tyler Gamble of Pilgrim's Pride (9 CFR 145 Subpart C)

Mr. Bastiaan Schimmel of Centurion Poultry Inc. (9 CFR 145 Subpart G)

Dr. Gene Shepard of Cobb Vantress (9 CFR 145 Subpart H)

Dr. Doug Waltman of the GPLN (9 CFR 145 Subpart B and 9 CFR 146 Subpart B)

William Spivey of the GPLN (9 CFR 145 Subpart J)

Prior to the conference, the staff of the GPLN reviewed and discussed the numerous proposals to be voted on at the Biennial Conference. Following our review of the proposals, we presented our delegates our view and position on each of the proposals, and we inquired about their positions. The GPLN wanted a unified interpretation of how the implemented proposal could impact those involved in the various subparts.

Our experience is that without proper context and review, NPIP terminology and phrasing can be difficult to interpret. From Georgia's perspective, through harnessing the experience of commercial and private individuals, the program will be effective, have proper depth and allow for the safe and regulated flow of commerce.



Above: Senator Ossoff and his staff attended a round table discussion at GPLN with members of the agricultural community which included the commissioner and The Georgia Poultry Federation.



Right: This 4-Her group comprised of high schoolers from across the state was one of the most engaged group of high schoolers we have ever had. Truly a pleasure to tour!



Above: Ethan, one of our bacteriology technicians, was the only one ready when Len snapped this photo at our Freddie's Diner cookout.

Left: Ben Souther, republican candidate for Georgia's 9th congressional district, spent time learning about the poultry industry and how it serves Georgians.