

THE CHICK PAPERS

Georgia Poultry Laboratory Network's Monthly Newsletter



Georgia: Avian influenza and vultures

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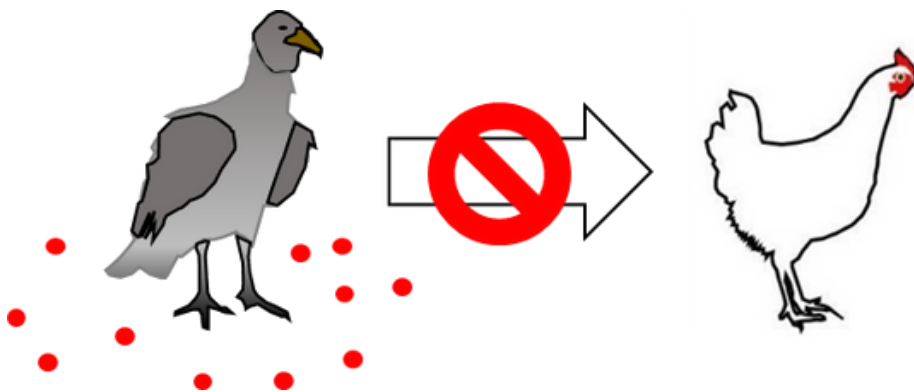
In May 2022, Georgia's Toombs county non-poultry event in a large backyard non-poultry operation was preceded by a black vulture die-off on the same property. The vultures were later confirmed as having highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI). In August 2022, Georgia's Henry county non-poultry event in an animal sanctuary was also preceded by a black vulture die-off on the same property. Those vultures, too, were confirmed as having HPAI.

It is critical that no poultry farm in Georgia act as a vulture attractant, as vultures just may bring HPAI virus with them as they likely did twice this year in our state.

If you raise cattle or other animals, those carcasses may also attract vultures to the farm. Make sure any mortality are found and buried or disposed of by an approved method.

WHAT TO DO ABOUT VULTURES:

1. Make sure your MORTALITY DISPOSAL is done properly as to not to attract vultures.
2. There should be no dead birds laying outside waiting to be disposed of.
3. PITS should be closed and show no evidence of tampering by animals.
4. COMPOST PILES should be odorless, and all carcasses covered completely at all times.
5. INCINERATORS should be in good working order, with no birds or bird parts around them.
6. Vulture die-offs should promptly be reported to the Department of Natural Resources





ABOVE: The Georgia Poultry Federation arranged for an Atlanta youth group to tour the lab. They were an engaging group with many good questions!



RIGHT: Dr. Zavala enjoyed touring the APEX-Brasil team, accompanied by Mike Giles from the Georgia Poultry Federation, around our lab.