MPA MEMBER WINS ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

U.S. Poultry & Egg Association recognized five poultry farms for the annual Family Farm Environmental Excellence Awards during the 2010 International Poultry Expo. The award is given in recognition of exemplary environmental stewardship by family farmers engaged in poultry and egg production.

MPA Member John Logan of Brinson Farms in Prentiss, MS, won the award for the Southeastern Region. Brinson Farm’s was able to edge out the competition in our region with their innovations for litter management practices in place on the farm. They built an anaerobic digester that digests the mortality and litter from the farm. They collect the methane gas from the digestion process and use the gas to run a specially-built generator to supply the electrical needs of the farm. The excess electrical power produced using this process is sold back to the power company. By handling their litter in this manner, they virtually ensure no run off of phosphorus to U.S. waters, making them an environmentally sound operation.

Applicants were rated in several categories, including dry litter or liquid manure management, nutrient management planning, community involvement, wildlife enhancement techniques, innovative nutrient management strategies, and participation in education or outreach programs. Applications are reviewed and farm visits are conducted by a team of environmental professionals from universities, regulatory agencies, and state trade associations in selecting national winners. Winners were chosen from five geographical regions throughout the U.S.:

SOUTHEAST REGION: Brinson Farms, Prentiss, Mississippi
John Logan, Bettye Brinson Logan and Virginia Mikell Brinson, nominated by Tyson Foods and Mississippi Poultry Association

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION: Backes Farms, Eldon, Missouri
Glenn & Tracy Backes, nominated by Cargill Turkey Products

SOUTHWEST REGION: Hibbard Farms, Adair, Oklahoma
Clay & Melissa Hibbard, nominated by Tyson Foods

NORTH CENTRAL REGION: New Day Farms, Raymond, Ohio
Steve Bliesner, nominated by Ohio Poultry Association

NORTHEAST REGION: Evans Poultry, Dorcas, West Virginia
Allen & Beverly Evans, nominated by Pilgrim’s Pride Corporation

We would love to have another winner from Mississippi next year. Contact the Association if you are interested or would like to nominate someone else.

See page 11 for another energy generation idea in Mississippi!
Introducing a new biological tool to fight coccidiosis - New HATCHPAK® Cocci III from Merial Select.

HATCHPAK® Key Advantages:

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- Proven efficacious: stimulates the bird’s natural immune response.²
- Aids in the prevention of coccidiosis caused by *Eimeria acervulina, tenella* and *maxima*.
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- Biological alternative to feed additives and other pathogenic strain coccidial vaccines.
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Value Beyond The Label. Don’t Just Choose a Product, Choose a Company.
The productivity and efficiency of Mississippi’s poultry farms and processing plants is good news, because you produce affordable food for the world, but the world doesn’t always appreciate your productivity.

International trade is vital to the health of the U.S. poultry industry, the world’s largest producer and second largest exporter of poultry meat, but food fights are commonplace among nations. The Russians and Chinese, for reasons unrelated to price and quality, have stopped importing U.S. chicken.

Russia is the #1 export market for Mississippi chicken with 47 percent of all exports heading there. China is second at 23 percent, according to John Henry Jackson at the Mississippi Development Authority. Mississippi chicken exports to the world hit $333 million in 2009 after more than a decade below $100 million annually.

But on January 1, 2010, the Russians blocked all U.S. imports because they have adopted the European ban on the mild chlorine wash given to poultry in American processing plants that makes it the most germ-free in the world. Prices jumped 20 percent in Russia by the end of January, according to Pravda, which also carried a recent article on the need to boost Russian food production.

The Chinese in February imposed preliminary tariffs of 43 percent to more than 105 percent on U.S. chicken imports into their country, effectively stopping U.S. exports to China. In an investigation launched last fall against U.S. chicken producers, the Chinese Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) accused the U.S. industry of dumping chicken on the China market at prices below the U.S. Under international trade rules, dumping is defined as selling a product in a foreign market at prices below what the same product sells for in the exporting country. The U.S. exports mainly chicken feet and paws to China, which bring a premium price as a popular snack food. Because demand for paws is far less in this country, the U.S. chicken industry argues that MOFCOM’s case is groundless.

Regardless of the merits of the case, the tariffs appear to be less about chicken and more of a response to other Chinese trade and geopolitical grievances related to tires, Taiwan and Tibet.

MDA reports that edible frozen chicken ranks fourth in value of all the products exported from Mississippi in 2009. The value of all exports from Mississippi as a percentage of our state’s economy equals the national average for the first time ever. “This shows we are a player in the global market,” Jackson said.

The disruption in export markets comes as poultry is an even more vital part of Mississippi’s economy. According to Mississippi State University’s annual report on agricultural production, 2009 was a bad year for agriculture generally. Poultry production was down from a year earlier, but because other agricultural production suffered more, poultry became a larger share.

Total agricultural production in 2009 fell from $5.9 billion in total crop value to $5 billion, a 15 percent drop. Poultry suffered from the down economy as well, dropping 3 percent from 2008, according to MSU. Rain at harvest time for row crops played a major factor in the drop. Hay was the only increase from 2008 to 2009. Forestry, still suffering from the construction slump, remains the number two crop, but fell below $1 billion for the first time since 1992, which was another recession year.

Even though the value of poultry produced in Mississippi in 2009 was less than 2008, poultry became a larger share of the state’s agricultural economy, rising from 39.3 percent of total agricultural production to 46.3 percent. Poultry is inching toward half of all agricultural production in the state.

As Mississippi depends more on poultry, poultry depends more on exports. Opening markets for Mississippi chicken is key to the industry’s continued growth. The USDA Foreign Agricultural Service predicts a growth in global poultry exports and Mississippi farms and processing plants need to be able to contribute.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>2009 U.S. $</th>
<th>% share</th>
<th>% Change from 2008</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<td>China</td>
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<td>Lithuania</td>
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<td>1,477.9</td>
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<td>1,180.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>S. Korea</td>
<td>1,569,923</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>205.8</td>
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</table>

Source: Mississippi Economic Development Authority
We’ve had a colder-than-normal winter this year all across the broiler belt, but warm weather will be here in Mississippi before we know it. Warm weather means tunnel ventilation and evaporative cooling, and with rising electrical costs, proper maintenance and operation is essential to getting the most out of what you pay in energy costs. Ventilation system maintenance is important for several reasons, including proper performance, life of equipment, and probably most important—economics. A poorly maintained ventilation system is going to cost more than a properly maintained one, both in operation costs and bird performance.

Dirty fans perform worse than clean fans and move less air. As fan blades become weighted down, they spin slower and move less air, which translates into less heat being removed from the birds. Dirty shutters cause an increased back pressure on the fan which can further reduce air movement and air velocity. Studies have shown that dirty blades and shutters can reduce fan output by 30 percent, which means less air velocity down the house.

Worn belts also reduce fan performance by slowing down propeller speed. The ratio of the diameters of the motor drive pulley and the propeller pulley determines the speed of the propeller. A worn belt which runs ¼” low in the pulley reduces the effective diameter of both the drive and propeller pulleys by ½”. This reduction in pulley diameter can reduce propeller speed by 10 percent, which in turn reduces air speed by 10 percent. Ten fans with belts running ¼” low on the pulley means you’re paying the electrical bill for all ten fans, but only getting the benefits of nine fans. Tunnel fans typically run about 3000 hours per year, and at 10 cents per kilowatt-hour for electricity, will cost approximately $330.00 a year in electrical costs. For a four-house farm with 10 fans per house, a 10 percent reduction in fan performance means $1320.00 a year in wasted electricity.

Fan belts should be replaced yearly or when they ride low in the pulley. Increasing tension on a worn belt will not solve the problem. Link belts offer a lower maintenance alternative to traditional V-belts—after 100 hours of run time on a new link belt, simply removing a link provides the proper tension with minimal adjustment needed in the future.

Fans are the most important part of the ventilation system, but proper operation and maintenance of the evaporative cooling system is important as well. Evaporative pads operate most effectively when air velocity through...
the pad is between 350 to 400 feet per minute. Blockages can reduce air speed through the pad making them less effective, so keeping pads clean is important. Supplying enough water to the pad is important as well. The recirculation pump should provide at least \( \frac{1}{4} \) gallon per minute for each foot of pad. For example, if you have 60 feet of pad, the pump should be capable of delivering 45 gallons a minute.

Evaporative cooling systems also require regular maintenance to perform at their best. Just like fans, cleanliness is key. Algae and mineral deposit build-up can block air passages. Blockages are costly, because they reduce the cooling efficiency of the pad and increase the pressure drop across the pad which increases the work load on the tunnel fan motors. In order to keep pads clean and operating efficiently, the following tips can be used as a guide for periodic maintenance:

1. Change sump water on a weekly basis. Since sump water is recirculated in an evaporative cooling system, cleaner water means cleaner pads.
2. Clean troughs and sumps weekly. Dirt and other material, such as grass clippings or leaves, entering the sump is unavoidable and must be cleaned out regularly to prevent algae growth.
3. Check and clean filters weekly. Filters keep particulate matter from escaping the trough and plugging holes in the distribution pipe or passages in the pad.
4. Systems can be cleaned less frequently if your water source has a low mineral content and the system remains cleaner.

While we typically worry about house tightness during cold weather, it can affect the performance of evaporative cooling systems as well. Leaks around evaporative pads mean hot outside air is coming in instead of passing through the pad to provide cooling. Properly sealing gaps around evaporative cooling systems and doghouses will keep air moving through the pads.

As summer gets nearer, preventive maintenance on ventilation systems will keep houses and birds cooler. Keeping fans and shutters clean, as well as replacing worn belts, will make sure that you will get the most bang for your buck when it comes to electrical usage. Evaporative cooling systems that are operating correctly will limit temperature extremes when hot weather arrives and keep birds more comfortable and productive.

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Scholarship Deadline

Do you have a child or grandchild attending a Mississippi college this fall? If so, please have them complete the MPA Grower Advisory Scholarship Form found on our website (www.mspoultry.org) or call J.D. Sumrall at 601-932-7560. Return the form to 110 Airport Road, Suite C, Pearl MS 39208 by May 31, 2010. Don’t miss out on an opportunity for one of two $1,000.00 scholarships for your loved one’s education. We appreciate your membership.
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Brian White • Wayne Smith • David Knight • Wayne Jefcoat
As Mississippi’s poultry industry has grown into a leading economic engine, a few individuals have been honored for their role in steering the industry to prominence. The latest person to be honored is Van R. Bowman of Carthage, MS, who has spent 50 years in the industry.

MPA inducted Bowman into its Mississippi Hall of Fame at the installation ceremony at the Hill Poultry Science Building at Mississippi State University. Bowman, who retired December 31, 2009 from Peco Foods, Inc., also worked for R & R Milling, Arbor Acre Farms, Green Acre Farms, Choctaw Maid Farms and Sanderson Farms in his long and distinguished career that began in 1955 while he was in high school.

For those of you who know Van, you know that he is known for “shooting straight” with everyone. He stands firm in his beliefs and chose to believe in our industry. With that belief, he spent his entire career playing a big part in molding the industry into what is has become today. In addition to serving individual companies, Bowman served the industry through volunteering his time for more than 20 years to help build the Association. He served two terms as Chairman of the Board and was instrumental in developing the MPA Grower Advisory Committee.

In addition to his long list of accomplishments and successes in the Association, Bowman served on the National Chicken Council in Washington D.C., the Mississippi Extension Services Poultry Commodity Advisory Team, Mississippi Board of Animal Health, as an advisor to the Mississippi State University Department of Poultry Science, and mentored many poultry science graduates as he rose through the ranks to become one of the leaders of the industry.

Van has been blessed with a wonderful family; he has been married to his wife, Tillie, for 48 years. As Miss Tillie says, “We have been blessed with a wonderful marriage and children and abundant other blessings. Poultry has been Van’s life, and we have been very fortunate to work for the best companies with the best employees anywhere in the world.”

Along with his success in the poultry industry, Bowman has served in many capacities within his community. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for First Financial Bank, is a member of the Leake County Chamber of Commerce, and has served on the Workforce Development Council at East Central Community College. Van also serves as an elder at the Carthage Presbyterian Church.

If you see Van, please take time to congratulate him and thank him for his dedication to our industry.
As MPA previously reported, a new Animal Feed Operation (AFO) general permit (AFO General Permit) has been adopted by the Mississippi Commission on Environmental Quality (Commission). It provides coverage for all new and existing dry-litter poultry farms that are classified as AFO’s.

An AFO is a farm that will hold chickens for a total of 45 days or more in a 12-month period. AFO’s must not generate process wastewater and have a discharge, and must, at all times, keep waste covered so that it is not exposed to storm water, rainfall and/or runoff.

Your Dry Litter Poultry Notice of Intent (DLP-NOI) should have been submitted last spring to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) if you desired coverage under the general permit. Persons desiring coverage for a new source under this general permit must submit a DLP-NOI form and other required submittals at least 45 days prior to the commencement of a covered activity. Persons desiring coverage for an existing source under this general permit must also submit the DLP-NOI form and other submittals required by MDEQ.

**RECORD-KEEPING**

Record-keeping for this permit must start when you receive your permit from MDEQ and be kept up-to-date. The packet you receive with your permit from MDEQ will have all the record-keeping data sheets you need to fill out according to your permit. You may or may not need all the records listed depending on your management practices. Be sure to make extra blank copies of these sheets for future record keeping.

The following records will need to be maintained on site or locally available for five years from the date they are created and made available to the MDEQ upon request. Record content and retention are obtained by monitoring activities on the farm.

The monitoring activities records must also include the following: (1) the exact place, (2) date and time of monitoring and/or analyses, (3) the person(s) who performed the monitoring and/or analyses, (4) analytical techniques, procedures or methods used, and (5) results of all required analyses.

For the land application record-keeping, the following need to be addressed: (1) the method and equipment used to apply litter, (2) expected crop yields, (3) weather conditions 24 hours prior to and following application, (4) which field(s), and (5) date(s) that litter is applied.

Record-keeping regarding inspection and corrective action requirements for a farm are as follows: (1) monthly inspections of all storm water diversion devices and runoff diversion structures, litter storage structure’s and/or piles and all equipment used for land application of litter, (2) any corrective action(s), and (3) when corrective actions are taken.

Mortality handling record-keeping (1) must be in accordance with all applicable requirements as set forth by the State Board of Animal Health, (2) must not be disposed of in any liquid manure or process wastewater system, and (3) must be handled in such a way as to prevent the discharge of pollutants to surface water.

When transferring litter to other persons, the following must be documented: (1) date of the transfer, (2) name of the recipient, (3) address of the recipient, (4) signature of the recipient, (5) approximate amount of litter transferred, (6) proof that the recipient was provided the most current nutrient analysis of the litter, and (7) proof that the recipient was provided a copy of Management Guidelines for Land Application of Animal Waste. It is important to note that if litter is delivered, the permittee is still responsible for the litter. If the litter is placed or spread where it can pollute the water, then the permittee is responsible for the discharge.

**LITTER AND SOIL SAMPLING**

Litter must be analyzed a minimum of once annually for nitrogen and phosphorus content. Soil must be analyzed a minimum of once every five years for phosphorus content. The results of these analyses are to be used in determining application rates for litter applied to land under the ownership or operational control of the AFO. The application rates must minimize phosphorus and nitrogen transport from the field to surface waters in compliance with the technical standards for nutrient management established by the MDEQ.

**POTENTIAL MDEQ PENALTIES**

Any person found by the Commission to be violating any AFO General Permit or any Commission compliance...
order is subject to a civil penalty of up to $25,000.00 for each violation. On a practical level, MDEQ will propose the amount of the penalties based on analysis of the violation under its penalty policies. Penalties will be assessed and levied by the Commission after a recommendation by MDEQ and either a hearing or an agreement between MDEQ and the permittee. Each day a violation occurs is deemed to be a separate and additional violation.

If you have any questions concerning the matters discussed in this article, please feel free to contact John Milner, MPA Counsel, at jmliner@brunini.com or (601) 960-6842, or contact J.D. Sumrall at MPA.
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CALL TODAY FOR A FREE SITE EVALUATION and Visit our Booth at the Cattle & Poultry Expo. Move to the Top of the Producers’ List!
Spencer Pope of Pope’s Farms in Leake County recently installed a Solar Energy System on top of one of his broiler houses. Cost for the installation was partially offset by a 25 percent USDA grant through the Rural Energy for America Program. This is the first grant of its kind to fund a solar system on a poultry farm in the state. The project’s goal is to reduce the farm’s electricity costs.

The system was designed and installed by Philadelphia-based Mississippi Solar (www.mssolar.net). The 8.4-kW grid-tie system consists of 48 solar panels. The System has an approximate 6.3-year payback with an estimated 30-year service life.

According to Pope, “Integrating solar on your poultry farm just makes sense. First, contrary to what some have been led to believe, there really is enough sun in Mississippi to make solar a viable energy source. And second, most poultry houses have a southern-facing exposure—something needed for efficient use of the panels.”

There are currently several significant incentives for installing solar energy systems. First is the 30 percent federal tax credit. Second is incentives offered by some local participating utility companies, like the distributors that participate in TVA’s Green Power Switch-Generation Partners Program. Under this program, a utility company, such as Central Electric Power Association, will buy back power generated by customers’ solar systems at a rate of 12 cents per kilowatt-hour above the retail rate. All new Generation Partners participants also receive a $1,000.00 incentive to help offset start-up costs. And third, the REAP grant available through USDA can pay up to 25 percent of the cost for installing the system.

“We are fortunate to be in the Central Electric Power Association region and grateful they are embracing solar energy,” stated Will Hegman, owner of Mississippi Solar. “We have a lot of catching up to do to stay in line with other southern states, but there are several other participating utility companies scattered around the state that have adopted the Generation Partners program.”

Brunini’s environmental team is “one of the premier practices in the state” and represents major manufacturers and private industry clients.

Brunini has considerable expertise in environmental litigation, regulatory permitting and compliance issues as well as due diligence and transactional matters. John Milner was noted by Chambers USA as being “instrumental in developing Brunini’s environmental practice” into the leadership position it holds today.

John serves as counsel to the Mississippi Poultry Association and has special expertise in poultry-related environmental issues. Partners John Brunini and Gene Wasson also have impressive abilities in the environmental sector.
Commercial birds are exposed to many microorganisms that are present in the environment in which they live. These microorganisms may be viruses, bacteria, fungi, and parasites. Under commercial poultry conditions, the concentration of some of these organisms can reach very high levels. Some organisms are pathogenic; this means they can induce disease or death. The birds manage to survive microbial infections because their immune system provides protection against the infection and replication of these microorganisms. Therefore, the integrity and proper function of the immune system is critical to produce healthy and productive chickens.

WHAT IS THE IMMUNE SYSTEM?

The immune system is a complex group of organs that are present in poultry as well as in mammals. These organs produce the cells that will play a main role in the defense against pathogenic microorganisms. The bursa of Fabricius and thymus are the most important immune organs. The bursa is a sac-like organ located at the end of the digestive tract in the upper part of the cloaca, and the thymus is located along both sides of the neck. These two organs produce the cells that will colonize other immune organs during the development of the immune system. The cells that are generated in the thymus are known as T-lymphocytes (T for thymus). These lymphocytes will respond to the exposure to pathogens by the production of cytokines, which are substances that express different signals between cells to defend the body. These substances interact with several cells and tissues to mount a defense system known as cellular immunity. This immunity is especially important in the response to viruses and some bacteria and fungi. In the bursa, B-lymphocytes (B for bursa) are produced and they will produce proteins called antibodies that will establish what is known as humoral immunity. These antibodies can block (neutralize) viruses and bacteria and thus make them unable to infect. Cellular and humoral immunity are complementary for the proper immune response of the chicken. Therefore, both cellular and humoral responses are necessary to keep the birds healthy. Any factor with adverse effects on either one or both arms of the immune system will increase the susceptibility to diseases.

IMMUNOSUPPRESSION AND ITS EFFECT ON THE CHICKEN’S HEALTH

As mentioned above, when the immune system is not working properly, there is an increase in the susceptibility to several diseases or to infections by opportunistic microorganisms that in normal conditions do not cause problems. This condition characterized by a dysfunctional immune system with an increased susceptibility to infections is known as immunosuppression. Immunosuppression in the poultry industry is associated with increased mortality, poor productive performance, higher feed conversions, and depressed average daily weight gains. In addition, immunosuppression has a negative impact on poultry processing because of increased plant condemnations due to airsacculitis or to lesions associated with E. coli infections. Furthermore, immunosuppression may produce reduced responsiveness to vaccinations, and may contribute to long-lasting (rolling) and severe postvaccinal reactions.

WHAT CAN INDUCE IMMUNOSUPPRESSION IN CHICKENS?

There are a number of factors that may induce immunosuppression, such as viruses, stress, mycotoxins and even nutritional problems.

Viruses that can infect and destroy immune cells are important immunosuppressive agents, such as infectious bursal disease virus (IBDV), chicken infectious anemia virus (CAV), Marek disease virus (MDV), avian reovirus, and even some virulent strains of avian influenza and Newcastle disease viruses.

Infectious bursal disease is a widely disseminated problem in the United States and worldwide. This disease is characterized by destruction of the bursal tissue with consequent bursal atrophy. Infection with IBDV at an early age significantly compromises both humoral and cellular immunity, although cellular immunity is compromised apparently to a lesser extent and for a shorter period. Therefore, the immunosuppression by IBDV mainly results in direct destruction of B-lymphocytes and impairment of the production of antibodies.

Chicken infectious anemia virus causes a disease in young chicks which is characterized by generalized destruction of lymphoid cells with increased mortality and severe anemia. This virus targets the T-lymphocytes precursors; this results in a decrease of the number of two types of cells known as cytotoxic T-cells and T helper cells that play a key role in the defense against other viruses.

The environment also exerts a considerable influence on immune status. The role of environmental stress induced by several management factors has been described as one of the most common sources of immunosuppression in modern poultry operations. The common sources of stress can be grouped under the following categories:

a) Climatic (extreme heat, cold, or humidity)

b) Environmental (poor ventilation, wet litter, harsh caretakers)

c) Nutritional (shortages of nutrients, feed intake problems)

d) Physiological (rapid growth, sexual development in pullets)

e) Physical (catching, immobilization, injections, transport)

Nutritional factors that can be immunosuppressive also include variations in energy levels or intake, feed restriction for broiler breeders, and withholding feed in forced molting practices.
WHAT CAN BE DONE TO REDUCE THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE POULTRY FLOCKS GET IMMUNOSUPPRESSED?

Several things can be done to reduce the possibility that birds develop immunosuppression or to decrease the severity of the condition. These measures include the prevention of infection by immunosuppressive viruses such as IBDV and CAV, improvement of environmental conditions, and biosecurity.

To control IBDV infections, it is very important to have birds protected at the time of placement, since early IBDV infections are the most damaging. The most popular strategy for IBDV control is hen hyperimmunization. This means that poultry integrators use live IBDV vaccines and two or more inactivated vaccines in replacement pullets and hens in order to generate high levels of antibodies (hyperimmunization). When the hen has high levels of antibodies, these are transferred to broiler progeny providing some level of early protection against field challenge. This is also known as “passive immunity.” In addition to passive immunity, live IBDV vaccines may be given to broilers in an effort to gain active immunity against IBDV. Live IBDV vaccines are administered either in ovo, at hatching, and by booster vaccinations in the field. Live Delaware variants and classic combinations are often recommended.

To prevent problems due to CAV, breeder immunization with inactivated CAV vaccine may be also recommended. Vaccinated hens produce progeny less susceptible to CAV, and in some cases these flocks may perform better than progeny from unvaccinated hens, based on livability, body weights, and feed conversion.

Additional strategies to control immunosuppressive diseases or their effects occur in the management area. Providing an environment with less stress is important to maintain bird health. Poor ventilation and cool temperatures are stressors that make birds more susceptible to disease.

Finally, hygiene and biosecurity are important to reduce the exposure of the birds to pathogenic agents. To reduce birds’ susceptibility, vaccination against other diseases such as Marek disease and infectious bronchitis is also important. The vaccination techniques should be monitored routinely to guarantee the birds receive the vaccine properly.

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The annual MPA Poultry Management School program is almost complete, and we are looking forward to our annual event on May 4 and 5, 2010. Starkville, MS, and the College of Veterinary Medicine will be the location of this year’s event. Activities will begin on Tuesday this year.

MPA will kick off at 1:00 p.m. at the College of Veterinary Medicine. At 5:30 p.m., buses will be available to take those who want to ride to the crawfish boil and hospitality time being held at the VFW on old Highway 25. Don’t worry, there will be other food available for those who don’t eat crawfish.

On Wednesday morning, we will all meet at the vet school for our wet labs. There will be a continental breakfast served. You don’t want to miss out on the wet labs; this year the new chicken house on wheels will be completed and will be used for one of the labs. After the wet labs, lunch will be sponsored by First South Farm Credit and served at the Mississippi Poultry Science Building before you head home. Please see the schedule below for more information.

To best utilize time at registration, we appreciate your support in pre-registering your personnel on the attached form and mailing it back to the Association as soon as possible. If you have pre-registered, you may pick up your name badge and program between noon and 1:00 p.m. on May 4. For those who do not pre-register, you will need to be at the registration desk in the lobby of the vet school by noon on Tuesday. The cost of registration is $100.00 per person for members, $150.00 per person for non-members, free to MPA growers members, and $30.00 for growers who are not MPA members.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2010

11:00AM REGISTRATION
College of Veterinary Medicine Lobby

1:00-4:30PM GENERAL SESSION
Dr. Ryn McDonald, MPA Chairman of Board - Presiding

1:00-1:05 WELCOME
Dr. Ryn McDonald, MPA Chairman of the Board

1:05-1:15 ASSOCIATION UPDATE
Mark Leggett, MPA President

1:15-4:30 COMMUNICATIONS
Larry Cole, Ph.D (further agenda to be announced later)

2:15-2:30PM BREAK
Sponsored by International Paper & Cobb-Vantress

5:00PM HOSPITALITY TIME
Sponsored by Merial Select - Jeff Little and Scott Wallace

5:30PM DINNER & ENTERTAINMENT
Sponsored by The Allied Industry. Crawfish boil & door prizes
at VFW of Starkville, Old Hwy 25. You must be present to win.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 2010

7:30-11:00AM REGISTRATION
MSU College of Veterinary Medicine. Assorted pastries and biscuits will be served.

8:00-11:30AM DEQ Regulations – Tracy Tompkins
Department of Environmental Quality

Male Management – Huey Hilburn
Consultant

Parasites – Dr. Kelli Jones
Assistant Clinical Professor, Mississippi State University

Ventilation – Dr. Jody Purswell
USDA-ARS

11:30 LUNCH
Mississippi State University Poultry Science Department. Served at VFW of Starkville, Old Hwy 25. You must be present to win.

REGISTRATION

Mississippi Poultry Association • 110 Airport Road South, Suite C • Pearl, Mississippi 39208 • 601-932-7560 • mpaoffice@bellsouth.net

NAME________________________  COMPANY________________________
ADDRESS____________________  CITY, STATE, ZIP____________________

☐ I will ride the bus to the crawfish boil.

REGISTRATION: The fee is $100.00 per person for members, $150.00 per person for non-members, free for MPA grower members and $30.00 for non-grower members. Due to contractual obligations, MPA cannot refund registrations after April 20, 2010.

☐ Enclosed is my payment of $_______________.

☐ I will attend free of charge as a Mississippi Poultry Association Grower Member.

PAYMENT: ☐ Check. Make checks payable to MPA, Inc. Checks MUST accompany this registration form.
☐ Credit Card. MPA now accepts all major credit cards. ☐ AmEx ☐ Discover ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa

NAME ON CARD________________________  ACCOUNT#________________________
EXPIRATION DATE____________________  SIGNATURE________________________
UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 8 – MAGNOLIA BEEF & POULTRY EXPO
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM at the Smith County AG Complex in Raleigh, MS

MAY 4-5 – POULTRY MANAGEMENT SCHOOL
MSU Vet School Registration at 10:00 AM. General Session at 1:00 PM. See page 15 of this newsletter for more details.

MARCH 9 – GROWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
10:00 AM at Western Sizzlin Magee, MS

MAY 31 – SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE

JUNE 8 – GROWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
10:00 AM at Morgan’s on Main in Collins, MS

SEPTEMBER 7 – GROWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
10:00 AM at Country Fisherman in Mendenhall, MS

SEPTEMBER 16-19 – MPA 73rd ANNUAL CONVENTION
Hilton Sandestin Golf & Tennis Resort in Destin, FL. Call Becky Beard at (601) 932-7560 for more information.

DECEMBER – GROWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Morgan’s on Main in Collins, MS. Time to be announced.

If you want to join the Mississippi Poultry Association as a Grower Member, call the MPA office at 601-932-7560 for more information!

MISSISSIPPI POULTRY ASSOCIATION

Mark Leggett, President
leggett@mspoultry.org

Dr. Ryn McDonald, Chairman

Larry Gandy, Vice Chairman

Sam LeNarz, Treasurer

Ronnie Ingram, Grower Advisory Committee Chairman
J. D. Sumrall, Grower Relations Coordinator
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