EVERYONE’S ALL IN

by Mark Leggett, President, Mississippi Poultry Association

The threat of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, means everyone in the poultry industry must be All In for biosecurity or the industry in Mississippi could be threatened. You have already seen the All in or All Gone messages from your company service technicians or via email from MPA.

The Mississippi Poultry Association and it’s member companies are participating in the All In or All Gone program developed by the Georgia Poultry Federation. Growers in other states across the South are receiving the same messages.

I know it can get tiring hearing the same message over and over, but as the All-In or All Gone website reminds us, HPAI is real and the economic impact on states and across the nation could be devastating.

When you click on the All In logo on the MPA website www.mspoultry.org it will take you to the site where you can click on Mississippi to get information specific to Mississippi. There is information from the U.S Department of Agriculture, the Miss. Department of Agriculture of Commerce, the State Board of Animal Health, Mississippi State University and others.

MPA is working closely with State Veterinarian Dr. Jim Watson and his staff at the Board of Animal Health. The Board has created a HPAI website hpai.ms.gov website. You can also text Poultry to 70000 to begin receiving alerts in the event of an outbreak.

Everyone is working together to prevent an outbreak and plan a rapid response if the virus hits in Mississippi. In October, Gov. Phil Bryant convened a panel of state agency heads at the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency to outline what each agency will do in the event of an outbreak. The National Guard and the volunteer fire departments can supply water if there is the need to use foam for depopulation. The Mississippi Departments of Health and Environmental Quality, and Cooperative Extension Service, were among those that attended.

Gov. Bryant assured State Veterinarian Dr. Jim Watson that all the executive agencies represented would provide whatever assistance was needed saying, “I appreciate all the preparation of the state agencies here today.”

Several times in the meeting Gov. Bryant and others compared HPAI to a hurricane, an event Mississippians know well. We all hope avian influenza misses us, but everyone is working to be ready if it hits.
All live vaccines produce immunity by causing a mild form of disease. The challenge is to hit the target to produce strong immunity without causing excessive disease—miss the mark and your flock may not be protected, or your flock’s performance may be reduced. The precocious strains in HatchPak® Cocci III make it the ideal vaccine for coccidiosis. It’s on target to produce both strong immunity and minimal damage.¹

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
Randy White, Area Sales Manager
Randy.White@Merial.com
206.577.6043

¹ Merial Study #05-017MS. Data on file. HatchPak® Cocci III is a registered trademark of Merial. ©2015 Merial, Inc. Duluth, Georgia. All rights reserved.
Two large fundraising events happen every September for the small MPA Staff. The MPA Convention and the Mississippi Poultry Foundation Auctions.

The annual meeting is the largest event MPA has each year. The funds raised for the meeting keep our association operating so we can provide many services to our members, promote our industry and actually pay of the meeting and the activities at the meeting.

This year’s convention was the most well attended meeting in many years. Four hundred and fourteen members and guests began arriving in Destin during the week of September 14th. It is always fun to be able to re-connect with friends you haven’t seen, in some cases, since last September.

The Thursday night kick-off reception on the Barefoot’s Deck was well attended, not to mention beautiful with the soft wind blowing, the waves lapping, and the sun setting over the emerald green waters. Great food and conversation was everywhere.

The business part of the meetings began on Friday morning with speakers. House Speaker Phillip Gunn spoke to the MPA Past Chairmen of the Board. Transportation Commissioner Dick Hall and Dr. Dallas Breen of the Stennis Institute were also speakers for Friday and Saturday meetings.

As always golf and fishing were the afternoon activities. The fishing tournament was the largest group we have had in years. In fact, the morning before the tournament began at noon, I found myself searching for extra boats. With all of the ten boats loaded, the fishermen fed by International Paper and supplied with drinks from Agri-Business, set off on a five hour search for the largest fish, most fish caught etc. The fishermen were diligent in their quest to win the great prizes sponsored by American Packaging Company and Briggs Equipment Co. These companies were very generous with the prizes such as The Green Egg Grill as the top fishing prizes and many other items. They also gave away cash prizes to the fishermen.

Vendworks, LLC, McNeely Plastics, and International Paper had their hands full with over 90 combined golfers for the two tournaments.

The ladies in attendance were certainly not left out of the fun. Cobb-Vantress and Huvepharma hosted over 80 ladies to a brunch and a painting party. The ladies all went home with their paintings and a large sack full of gifts from Cobb-Vantress and Huvepharma. This event just gets better every year. I had so many good things said about the painting party that some of the ladies want to paint again next year.

I would like to say thank you to all of our sponsors. We could not have a successful meeting and fun activies without your support.

Mr. Glenn Sowell with Southern Ag Credit was elected as the MPA Allied Industry Person of the Year Award. The winner is chosen from the nominations made by the people within the poultry companies that the salesperson called on during the year. Please congratulate Mr. Sowell next time you see him on this honor.

Mr. Henry Welch was nominated and elected into the Mississippi Poultry Association Hall of Fame. Mr. Welch was honored with a reception held at the Mississippi State University.
Poultry Science Department in November. Please congratulate Mr. Welch next time you see him on this honor. See page 15 for more information on Henry Welch and his Hall of Fame induction.

After all the business meetings and tournament fun was over and the prizes awarded it was time to get serious about fundraising for the Mississippi Poultry Foundation. The auction provides scholarship money that is given each year to four deserving students attending or about to begin college. Grower’s children and grandchildren are the recipients of the scholarships given each year.

The last order of business was a $500 cash prize given by American Packaging and Briggs Equipment Company.

Our meeting this year was successful in raising funds, reconnecting everyone and educating us on issues of importance. Everyone have a great time. I hope to see everyone next year in September.

---

**Build your nest egg.**

**EQUIPMENT FINANCING**

At Mississippi Land Bank, we don’t count your chickens before they hatch. Instead, we come up with flexible rates and terms to help you succeed from the beginning. And our unparalleled experience in the industry will give you the tools you need to hatch a successful business. Now that’s something to crow about.

---

To learn more about our financing options, give us a call or stop by our office to speak with a member of our dedicated staff.

WWW.MSLANDBANK.COM
TOLL FREE 866.560.9664

Senatobia · Clarksdale · Cleveland · Corinth · Tupelo
Starkville · New Albany · Indianola · Kosciusko · Louisville
The Mississippi Poultry Association donated 50,000 pounds of broiler meat and 32,400 eggs to Governor Phil Bryant on November 9. Governor Bryant directed the donation to the Salvation Army in Jackson. This was the fifth year that MPA broiler and egg companies made a donation to the Governor to direct to a charity of his choice.

This year’s donation is MPA’s largest poultry and egg donation to date. Last year MPA donated 50,000 pounds of chicken and 25,000 eggs. The first year of donations, MPA donated 10,000 pounds of meat and 10,000 eggs to Governor Haley Barbour who chose the Mississippi Food Network.

The Salvation Army will directly distribute portions of the donation to the people they serve and will work with other charitable organizations to spread the donation throughout communities.

Lending A Helping Hand

First Financial Bank makes poultry loans wherever poultry growers are located. Our commitment to customer service, our financial strength and our poultry loan specialists make choosing First Financial Bank a sound business decision. We are dedicated to providing the very best financial services. Call us today, we’ll come to you!
Growing Mississippi’s Economy Since 1937

Heat powerfully and efficiently
With nearly half a million available BTUs and 5,000 CFM airflow, the Lee Energy BIO holds up to the coldest conditions. And its calibrated computer system & uniform heat dispersion ensure industry-leading in-field efficiency.

Savings and reliability over propane
Fuel savings & healthier growing environment means money in your pocket. The BIO boasts an ultra-competitive ROI while providing positive cashflow. And wood pellets are sustainable, renewable, reliable and right in your own back yard.

Reduce moisture and fossil fuel byproducts
Wood pellet heat not only helps reduce ammonia during the critical time of brooding, CO2 is kept outside your house to start to finish.

Deliver better products to market
Studies prove what you already know: Cleaner, drier air means better products, livability, growth & improved health in the operating environment.

Protect the environment
Wood pellets are a carbon-neutral, sustainable, domestic fuel source that reduces dependency on foreign sources.

See how the Lee Energy BIO wood pellet-burning, forced air furnace can save you money, reduce your independence on traditional fuels and help you grow healthier birds. Get a savings estimate today!

LeeEnergySolutions.com • (855) 966-3432
Biosecurity is a process to prevent disease from entering your farm or poultry flock. Avian influenza (AI) makes it extremely important for commercial producers and backyard flock owners to protect their flocks by having a strong biosecurity program in place. There are two main pathways for disease transmission in most poultry flocks:

1. Direct transmission (physical contact between infected and healthy individuals)
2. Indirect transmission (disease agent is carried to susceptible individuals) by
   - humans
   - feed
   - water
   - environment (contaminated pens, pastures, or water sources)
   - shared equipment
   - rodents and other vermin
   - pets

Two Sets of Biosecurity Practices

1. Prevent direct transmission.
   - Acquire birds only from National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) flocks.
   - Quarantine birds for 30 days after purchase or returning from shows/fairs.
   - Do not mix multiple species, particularly ducks and chickens, or ages.
   - Do not allow your flock contact with wild bird droppings by keeping domestic poultry under a roof (impossible if you free-range).

2. Prevent indirect contact.
   - Post “No Visitors” and “Restricted Area” signs at road entrance to farm.
   - Do not allow visitors access to your birds and do not visit other poultry farms.
   - Have dedicated clothing and footwear for use when working in/near your flock.
   - Essential visitors should wear disposable coveralls, boots, and headgear; multi-house farms should practice this between individual houses.
   - Clean and disinfect feeders and drinkers every day. Clean and disinfect poultry houses and equipment at least once a year.
   - Clean/disinfect all coops, crates, and other poultry containers or equipment before and after use. Use plastic or metal, not wood; wood is difficult to clean.
   - Do not keep feeders or other sources of food for wild birds on your property.
   - Use sound deterrents to keep wild birds from roosting on your property.
   - If one of your birds becomes sick or dies, do not move the other birds to a different farm, even if they appear healthy.

   • When possible, cover pens and vents and openings in the poultry house with narrowmesh wire screen to keep out wild birds.
   • Monitor all vehicles entering the farm to determine if they have been properly cleaned and disinfected, including the tires and undercarriage.
   • Maintain an effective rodent control program (rodents can carry many diseases).
   • Do not share equipment with friends or neighbors.
   • Purchase feed from a trusted source; keep it safe from wild birds and rodents.
   • All persons entering poultry facilities should use footbaths, and footbaths should be changed frequently to help maintain effectiveness.
   • Wash hands and use hand sanitizers both before and after visiting the resident birds.
   • Bird- and varmint-proof your coop, pens, and houses.
   • Keep poultry houses securely locked; lock from inside while working inside.
   • Dispose of dead birds in an approved manner (composting, incineration, burial).
   • Hunters and anyone handling wild game (especially waterfowl) must completely change clothing and shower or bathe before entering flock area.

USDA has created six simple biosecurity steps that can help lower the risk of disease entering your flock:

1. Keep your distance.
2. Keep it clean.
3. Don’t haul disease home.
4. Don’t borrow disease from your neighbor.
5. Know the warning signs of infectious bird diseases:
   - coughing, sneezing, watery eyes, nasal discharge, and gasping for breath
   - lethargy, depression, and decreased feed and water intake
   - swelling around the eyes, neck, and head
   - purple discoloration of the wattles, comb, and legs
   - watery or green diarrhea
   - drop in egg production or increase in soft- or thin-shelled and misshapen eggs
   - sudden increase in bird deaths in your flock

   - If you suspect a problem, say something immediately. Don’t wait for things to possibly get worse. Sick and dying birds should be submitted to a diagnostic laboratory for proper diagnosis of the problem.
   - If you are a commercial producer, contact your service tech for guidance and assistance at the first sign of a potential disease issue. If you are a backyard producer, contact your local county Extension agent, your veterinarian, the Mississippi Veterinary Research and Diagnostic Laboratory (601-420-4700), the Mississippi State University Poultry Science Department (662-325-3416; ask for a poultry Extension biosecurity measure).
Growing Mississippi’s Economy Since 1937

The Ecodrum™ In-Vessel Composter is a proven technology to handle daily poultry mortalities throughout North America. The Ecodrum™ system is perfect for any size of poultry operation.

**BENEFITS:**
- Clean and simple to operate
- Creates a nutrient rich soil amendment
- Biosecure and low odor
- Eliminates ground and water contamination

**COST EFFECTIVE:**
- Very low cost of operation
- Minimal operator time required

The Ecodrum™ may be eligible for EQIP cost share. Please contact your dealer or NRCS office to inquire.

To learn more about how the Ecodrum™ can benefit your operation, contact us at:

701-446-6139 Atlanta, GA
byron@ecodrumcomposter.com

www.ecodrumcomposter.com

However, a drastic change in flock health status or sudden large increase in mortality should be reported. The Mississippi Board of Animal Health, in conjunction with USDA, will implement a five-step process to deal with AI cases:

1. Quarantine. Restrict movement of poultry/equipment into and out of the control area.
2. Depopulate. Humanely euthanize the affected flock(s).
3. Monitor region. Test wild/domestic birds in a broad area surrounding quarantine zone.
4. Clean and disinfect. Kill the virus in the affected locations.
5. Test. Confirm that the poultry farm is AI virusfree before allowing repopulation.

These steps limit the exposure of healthy, noninfected flocks in order to help contain the disease. This will help ensure a secure food supply by humanely euthanizing infected flocks, thus removing them from circulation. Poultry is still safe to eat. Cooking methods that are already recommended by the USDA and the FDA for poultry and eggs to prevent other infections will also destroy influenza viruses. It is recommended that poultry be cooked to at least 165 degrees Fahrenheit. Consumers may wish to cook poultry to a higher temperature for personal preference. This is true for all poultry all the time, not just in a disease outbreak situation.
In what was a low turnout, voters returned all statewide incumbents and all but 10 legislators who ran for re-election. Voters also decided against amending the constitution.

Mississippi will have 35 freshman legislators when it convenes January 5, 2016 for the first session of the 2016-2019 term. 25 in the House and 10 in the Senate. Three in the Senate and one in the House have served in the Legislature before.

Gov. Phil Bryant and Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves were re-elected by large margins. House Speaker Philip Gunn had no opposition and has been re-elected as speaker by the majority Republican caucus. The return of all three could lead to a shorter session than the 125 days that normally follows an election.

One November House race could be decided in January. The House Republicans increased their numbers from 67 to 73 members in the elections and because Rep. Jody Steverson who was unopposed as a Democrat switched parties the day after the election. With 74 votes, the GOP has a 3/5th majority which is required to pass revenue measures such as tax and bond bills.

One November House race will be decided in January, incumbent Democratic Rep. Bo Eaton tied with Republican attorney Mark Tullos and Eaton won by a coin toss, but Eaton had already appealed to the House to decide. If Tullos is declared the winner the House will have 74 Republicans.

Republicans picked up new districts drawn after re-election and defeated some Democrats. Notably, Sanderson Grower Vince Mangold defeated Democratic Minority Leader and trial attorney Bobby Moak in House District 53. The GOP only lost one seat held by a Republican when Jay Hughes defeated Rep. Brad Mayo of Oxford.

In the Senate, there will be 32 or 33 Republicans: depending on whether Democratic Sen. Bob Dearing or Republican Sen. Melanie Sojourner who unseated him four years ago wins. Sojourner appealed to the Senate to decide that contested election.

All statewide elected officials were returned to office including the lone statewide elected Democrat, Attorney General Jim Hood. The three transportation commissioners were re-elected. There are two new Public Service Commissioners: Sam Britton in the Southern District and former Rep. Cecil Brown in the Central District. Britton is the husband of Robin Robinson with Sanderson Farms. Both Britton and Brown are outspoken critics of the Kemper County lignite coal plant where costs have tripled initial estimates and now exceed $6 billion.

Voters rejected initiative 42, a proposed constitutional amendment proponents said would mandate full funding of the Mississippi Adequate Education Program, the funding formula for public schools. MPA, other business groups, and legislative leaders opposed the amendment which could have meant cuts of 8 percent to Miss. State University, community colleges and agencies the poultry industry depends on such as the Departments of Agriculture and Environmental Quality.

---

**“FOR ALL YOUR POULTRY FARM NEEDS”**

**COLUMBIA STORE:** 601-731-2415

1329 HWY 13 N. COLUMBIA MS HOURS M-F 8A.M-4:30P.M.

**WAYNESBORO STORE** 601-735-4371 M-F 8A.M – 5P.M.

113 TURNER STREET WAYNESBORO MS

**BAY SPRINGS STORE** 601-764-2445 M-F 8A.M. – 4:30P.M.

172 GEORGIA PACIFIC ROAD BAY SPRINGS MS

We do new houses and retrofits on existing houses for broiler, breeder and pullet farms. We also are a full service poultry supplier with 24 hour service.
Cumberland, Working Together

From feeding to ventilation, alarms and controls, we have what you need to maximize the growth potential of every bird and every aspect of your business. We’re more than an equipment supplier. We’re a team. Your team.

PROVEN & DEPENDABLE™

1004 E. Illinois St., Assumption, IL 62510 • www.cumberlandpoultry.com
Copyright © 2015 AGCO Corporation • Cumberland is a part of GSI, a worldwide brand of AGCO
The 2015 Mississippi State University 4-H Poultry Chain show was once again a huge success. Even though we faced a few challenges our participants worked hard through the small setbacks and still did an outstanding job.

With the potential threat of disease outbreak our state fair this year was slightly modified. In order to attempt to take every precaution for the safety of our state and local poultry industry, participants were limited to only participating with a showmanship bird if they wanted to participate in that category. If not, instead of being judged on bird performance, they prepared record books and show boards that illustrated their hard work over the course of rearing birds for 20 weeks.

The judges were amazed at the creativity they observed from the participants and their knowledge of their project. Although our participant numbers were slightly lower than the previous year we still held a successful show with a large turn out and received a lot of positive feedback. This year’s monetary donations were greatly appreciated and allowed for winners to receive the following amounts for their hard work:

**Senior Layer: Grand Champion**  
Jessica Baker (Stone County) $1000.00  
**Senior Layer: Reserve Champion**  
Alyssa Alford – (Calhoun County) $500.00  
**Senior Layer: 1st Place**  
C.J. Weddle (Calhoun County) $300.00  
**Senior Layer: 2nd Place**  
Keri Moore (Lauderdale County) $250.00  
**Senior Layer: 3rd Place**  
Anna Claire Rucker (Chickasaw County) $200.00  
**Senior Layer 4th Place**  
Grace Hutson (Sumrall) $150.00  
**Senior Layer 5th Place**  
Blake Bradshaw (Rankin County) $100.00  
**Senior Meat: Grand Champion**  
Morgan Baker (Stone County) $1000.00  
**Senior Meat: Reserve Champion**  
Jessica Runnels – (Rankin County) $500.00  
**Senior Meat: 1st Place**  
Hannah Hutson – (Sumrall) $300.00  
**Senior Meat: 2nd Place**  
Sandy Garner (Chickasaw County) $250.00  
**Senior Meat: 3rd Place**  
Erika Wright (Holmes County) $200.00  
**Senior Meat: 4th Place**  
Madison Cox (Calhoun County) $150.00  
**Senior Meat: 5th Place**  
Lindsay Middleton (Jones County) $100.00  
**Junior Layer: Grand Champion**  
Zeke Pulido (Lauderdale County) $1000.00  
**Junior Layer: Reserve Champion**  
Tristan Callaway (Lawrence County) $500.00  
**Junior Layer: 1st Place**  
Mason Yawn (Covington County) $300.00  
**Junior Layer: 2nd Place**  
Layla Bramlitt (Calhoun County) $250.00  
**Junior Layer: 3rd Place**  
Cooper Lacy (Simpson County) $200.00  
**Junior Layer: 4th Place**  
Adaline Rouse (Jackson County) $150.00  
**Junior Layer: 5th Place**  
Ella Shepard (Lowndes County) $100.00  
**Junior Meat: Grand Champion**  
Jonathon Baker (Stone County) $1000.00  
**Junior Meat: Reserve Champion**  
Sam Line (Lamar County) $500.00  
**Junior Meat: 1st Place**  
Ayden Wolken (Simpson County) $300.00  
**Junior Meat: 2nd Place**  
Micah Taylor (Lee County) $250.00  
**Junior Meat: 3rd Place**  
Jay Moore (Lowndes County) $200.00  
**Junior Meat: 4th Place**  
Maggie Boswell (Rankin County) $150.00  
**Junior Meat: 5th Place**  
Skylar Noblin (Hinds County) $100.00  
**Junior Showmanship: Grand Champion**  
Micah Taylor (Lee County) $300.00  
**Junior Showmanship: Reserve Champion**  
Cooper Lacy (Simpson County) $150.00  

Once again this poultry chain project would not have been made possible without the generous donations from the following:

$5000.00 Mississippi State University Extension Service  
$2500.00 Mississippi Poultry Association  
$1500.00 Cal-Maine Foods Inc.  
$1000.00 Peco Foods  
$500.00 Howard Industries  
$300.00 Steve and Kay McLaurin  
$250.00 Henry and Lynn Welch
Growing Mississippi’s Economy Since 1937

~ Multiple layouts to meet your specific cooling needs.
~ Highest quality at lowest price.
~ Best Service, GUARANTEED!

REEVES SUPPLY
1-888-854-5221
reevessupply.com

~ Heavy duty steel doors or lightweight corrosion resistant fiberglass doors.
~ Heavy duty extruded aluminum hinge.
~ All doors available in black or white.
BankPlus has been your community bank since 1909 when it was formed in Belzoni, Mississippi, as Citizens Bank and Trust Company. Since our inception, we knew our bank was created to meet the needs of small, agricultural communities. In fact, many of our first clients were farmers who placed their trust in us to help grow and protect their farms.

Noticing a need in other underserved agricultural communities, BankPlus decided to carefully and strategically grow to better meet those needs. We were able to do so by practicing conservative business values that enabled BankPlus to provide the needed capital to many Mississippi communities, helping them expand and sustain their businesses and farms. Throughout our time in Mississippi, growing from our original location in Belzoni to over 60 locations in 34 communities, we have not lost sight of our unique community-based banking experience.

BankPlus places an emphasis on each of our customers and prioritizes their needs. We believe in providing the highest quality of service and adding value to each customer’s experience with BankPlus.

We take pride in never losing sight of the importance of providing the face-to-face experience you find in a community bank, while complimenting the personal experience with the competitiveness and technological capabilities that a large bank has to offer. And we prove our commitment to remaining a community bank by making all of our banking decisions locally, by Mississippians for Mississippians.

It was here in Mississippi that BankPlus decided to direct our experience and knowledge in agricultural lending to create a lending program specifically designed to meet the needs of poultry producers throughout the state. We entered into poultry lending not only to offer the most competitive rates, but also to build valued relationships based on respect and understanding. We recognize the important role poultry producers have in feeding the world and their significant contributions to the local and state economies. BankPlus also understands the risks poultry producers take every day, so we designed our services to provide a customer experience that offers stability and alleviates certain risks.

BankPlus builds relationships based on trust and friendship. We diligently explain every loan and address specifically each question a client has. We also meet all of our poultry clients face-to-face in locations that are convenient for them, no matter which part of the state, often on their own farms.

BankPlus, “It’s more than a name. It’s a promise.”

Are you interested in learning more about BankPlus and the services we have to offer poultry producers? You can contact Kenny Williamson, First Vice President of Commercial Lending, at his office 601-607-4402 or on his cell 601-850-7306.

This is the first of a series of Member Spotlights that will focus on lending institutions who offer financing to poultry producers. If your institution is interested in participating in a Member Spotlight, please contact MPA.
Sunbelt Rentals offers a wide range of poultry facility solutions including efficient condensation control and heat treatment solutions for virus elimination. We offer the newest fleet of chillers, industrial air conditioners, heaters, drying equipment, temporary power, blended systems and more. Designed to be self-contained, our equipment provides efficient, dependable performance with easy operation and mobility. In addition, we offer unmatched 24/7 emergency response, turnkey service and highly trained specialists with the knowledge and experience to respond quickly to all of your needs.

- Maintain Compliance With USDA Standards
- Reduce Risk Of Microbial Growth
- Decrease Labor Costs Associated With Wiper Crews
- Save Energy By Reducing Defrost Frequency
- Uphold Production Schedules And Avoid Shutdowns

sunbeltrentals.com

888-379-7454 24/7
Henry Welch, who chaired both the Mississippi Poultry Association and the U.S. Poultry and Egg Association, was inducted into the Mississippi Poultry Association Hall of Fame. Henry is director of live operations for Peco Foods based in Tuscaloosa.

“This honor is reserved for those who have devoted their lives and made significant contributions to this industry,” said Steve McLaurin, chair of the Mississippi Poultry Association Board of Directors. The announcement was made at MPA's convention and Welch's portrait was recently installed in the halls of Mississippi State University Poultry Science Department.

A Magee native, Henry is the son of the late Delma and Frances Welch. His family had a farm and a small grocery store. After graduating from Magee High School in 1968, he went to Mississippi State University.

He started his career in the poultry industry with Marshall Durbin Co. in Haleyville, Ala., and later worked for Perdue Farms, Cagle Foods, Choctaw Maid and Peco Foods.

He has given his time to serve the industry by serving on the MPA Board of Directors and was elected chair in 1993-94. He worked during that time to get a growers association incorporated into MPA. Welch served on the Board of Directors of the US Poultry and Egg Association from 1998-2008 and as chair of the US Poultry Board in 2007.

Mississippi State University's College of Veterinary Medicine awarded Welch its Pegasus Award given to those who have a commitment to animal health, promoting an exceptional learning environment and other activities related to advancing veterinary medicine.

Poultry is Mississippi's largest agricultural industry, providing more than 55,000 jobs and resulting in a $20 billion impact on the state's economy. MPA, founded in 1937, is the voice of the industry representing poultry companies, allied industries and growers.
Medicators
Accurate • Durable

Order online or over the phone
Contact us to request a FREE Parts & Supply Catalog!

AquaBlend $175

The AquaBlend injector was specifically engineered to accurately medicate and/or treat water in most agricultural environments. The AquaBlend is offered in different adjustable and fixed ratio models.

• Easiest maintenance of any medicator
• 1 year warranty on motor
• Manufactured in the USA

Chemilizer

The Chemilizer is the injector for accurate and dependable injection. The Chemilizer is a proportional liquid chemical injector that injects a precise amount of chemical in proportion to a volume of water. The Chemilizer can be ordered as a fixed pump with ratios of 1:128 or 1:00. Adjustable pumps are also available.

• Durable and rugged performance
• Simple to install
• Water filtration not required
Biosecurity is a series of practices, methods and procedures designed to prevent the spread of disease among poultry farms. Biosecurity consists of different stages: isolation, traffic control, cleaning and disinfection. Isolation or segregation.

Segregation involves the creation of barriers and the control of what passes through them. The barriers should be physical and also procedural. Barriers are the most important measures that any poultry farm can take to decrease the risk of infection. This will drastically reduce the possibility that avian influenza virus will enter via infected birds and contaminated materials. Without such a barrier it is difficult to ensure proper biosecurity.

It is also important to keep in mind that live infected birds multiply and can transfer the virus easily. They are the most dangerous means of spread. Chickens may shed virus for up to four days before obvious signs such as mortality are detected. The movement of contaminated chicken litter is critical because litter is also an important source of viruses and it is also a significant source of virus. Wild birds can introduc and disseminate the infection but this is uncommon compared with spread between domestic poultry.

Traffic and visitor control. Since it is not possible to completely isolate the flock and the farm, it is essential to follow proper protocols for movement onto and within the operation. Allow only certain authorized and necessary personnel to enter poultry houses. Visitors should wear clean coveralls (disposable is preferred), mask, hair protection (cap) and disposable footwear. Regular necessary visitors such as meter readers, fuel and feed delivery drivers and service personnel, must also use all necessary clothing and footwear as mentioned. Keep a record of the movement of personal into and among the facilities as well as records of all visits in a designated logbook. Bird catchers must use separate clothing, footwear, mask, and hair gear for each farm. Clean and disinfect properly catching equipment after each loading and before entering the next farm. This is extremely important if only part of the flock is shipped to the processing plant.

If using a footbath, follow label instructions for the disinfectant to ensure appropriate concentration and refill as necessary. Improper management of footbaths increases the risk of infection.

Cleaning. With this procedure we should remove most of the contaminating virus. Any materials that must pass through the segregation barrier (in either direction) should be thoroughly cleaned. There should be no visible dirt on the surface of materials. Soap, water and a brush are adequate for small objects, but a high pressure washer is needed for large vehicles such as trucks or tractors. The difficulty of properly cleaning large complex items such as trucks emphasizes the need for segregation as the first and best line of defense.

Disinfection. This is an important components of a biosecurity program. Influenza virus is an enveloped virus, and this makes it very sensitive to a greater range of chemical disinfectants. A large choice of chemical agents is available. The objective of disinfection is to reduce viral populations. It is very important to review labels and instructions for proper use. Disinfectants may have a limited lifespan after their initial dilution and it is possible that heat, sunlight, time, organic matter, and adulterants may reduce their efficacy. Under ideal controlled conditions, there are many disinfectants that destroy avian influenza viruses but under field conditions they are often much less effective. Disinfectants will not necessarily penetrate into dirt in sufficiently high concentrations to be effective and many disinfectants are inactivated by organic materials such as wood or fecal material.

Classes of disinfectants include phenolics, quaternary ammonium compounds, halogens, oxidizing agents, chlorhexidine compounds, and alcohols.

Chlorine is electronegative and therefore oxidizes peptide links and denatures proteins. The disinfectant property of this group is due to the hypochloric acid produced in the presence of water and at low pH. Sodium hypochlorite (household bleach) is less priced and easily available. Sodium hypochlorite is usually available in liquid form at a concentration of 10–12% and its use is recommended at a final dilution of 2–3% in water. Compounds derived from chlorine are widely used and available in both liquid (sodium hypochlorite) and solid forms (calcium hypochlorite). They are inexpensive and rapidly efficacious but corrosive and inhibited by organic material, and their stability is pH dependent.

Oxidizing agents. The efficacy of any oxidizing agent decreases in the presence of organic material. Therefore, surfaces must be completely cleaned prior to disinfection with these agents. They are corrosive for metals and irritating for mucus membranes, eyes and skin. A concentration of 0.5% of Virkon was able to fully inactivate avian influenza virus after 90 min, while complete inactivation was achieved at 1% and 2% after just 30 min. Also, there is data that indicates that the disinfectant activity of Virkon-S is dependent on the freshness of the solution.

Aldehydes. Although several compounds of this group have a viricidal effect, only three agents are widely used for disinfection: glutaraldehyde, formaldehyde and formalin. Formaldehyde can be used in liquid and gaseous forms. Formalin diluted in water at a concentration of 8% is an active disinfectant against many viruses belonging to different families. However, formalin is toxic for humans and is a more unstable than formaldehyde. Formaldehyde can also be combined with other agents, especially with quaternary ammonium disinfectants.

Phenol compounds are synthetic phenols that exhibit viricidal activity. They are generally safe for users, although in some cases, skin irritation can occur following exposure with products containing cresol. O-phenyl phenol is less toxic and less corrosive than other synthetic phenols and it is often used in combination with halogenated phenols to enhance their efficacy.

Quaternary ammonium compounds are efficacious against all enveloped viruses such as avian influenza. These compounds bind organic material and soaps, therefore, the area to be disinfected must be cleaned and rinsed before using these disinfectants. They are safe for personal use and inexpensive. Quaternary ammonium compounds activity decreases in the presence of hard water and for this reason they are used in combination with chelating agents, such as EDTA.

Alcohols are efficacious against avian influenza and other enveloped viruses. Their efficacy decreases suddenly at concentrations below 50% (v/v). Alcohols are inflammable and...
POULTRY FACILITIES LOANS

Chicken Farming Has Never Been “Cooler”

BankPlus has a strong commitment to agriculture and to integrated poultry lending. For over 100 years BankPlus has built our success on providing Mississippi farmers with customized financial services, great products and support that promotes agricultural production.

Our loan officers understand the unique challenges that modern farming operations face and are equipped with the skills and expertise to craft flexible loan products to meet your individual needs.

For more information contact:
Kenny Williamson
First Vice President, Commercial Lending Group
601-607-4402
KennyWilliamson@BankPlus.net

FREE GIFT!
Retro Fit, Refinance or Purchase your poultry facility with a $500K+ loan from BankPlus and we’ll bring you a K2 Cooler at closing!

BankPlus
It’s more than a name, it’s a promise:
www.BankPlus.net

Environmental Law Group

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 Milner serves as counsel to the Mississippi Poultry Association and has special expertise in poultry-related environmental issues. Partners Gene Wasson and Richard Cirilli, Jr. also have impressive abilities in the environmental sector.

R. Richard Cirilli, Jr.  John E. Milner  Gene Wasson

Biloxi  228-435-1198  Columbus  662-240-9744  Jackson  601-948-3101

www.brunini.com

Listing of areas of practice does not indicate any certification of expertise. Any decision with respect to legal service should not be based solely on this or any other advertisement. Free background information upon request.
The EPA published its Clean Power Plan (CPP) rule (Carbon Pollution Emission Guidelines for Existing Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units) on Friday, October 23, 2015. States, industry, and labor organizations immediately filed at least 17 petitions for review in the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit on the first day that the court had jurisdiction, seeking initially to stay the rule pending disposition of the litigation. The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) is one of the petitioners that have filed a motion to stay the CPP.

The Clean Power Plan will mean higher electric bills for poultry growers and all consumers. The EPA admits electricity rates will be higher - “an average of 6.5% in 2020, 2.9% in 2025, and 3.1% in 2030 - but it assumes there will be so much energy efficiency that consumers will pay less” the U.S. Chamber of Commerce notes. The EPA projections of price hikes are too conservative according to other sources.

As background, the CPP sets emission guidelines for States to follow in developing Clean Air Act plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from existing fossil-fueled electric generating units. In sum, the CPP requires States to reduce EGU-Generated Carbon Dioxide as greenhouse gas emissions by 32% over the next 15 years. The rule becomes effective on December 22, 2015. The States’ initial submission deadline is on September 6, 2016, and might be extended into 2018.

MDEQ recently filed its Corrected Motion to Stay the implementation of the CPP on November 6, asserting that, under the applicable standards for judicial stays and preliminary injunctions, that:

MDEQ is likely to succeed on the merits since:

The CPP goes beyond EPA’s authority under the Clean Air Act Section 111(d), arguing, among other positions, that “EPA seeks to reach beyond the affected sources [power plants] and far ‘beyond-the-fenceline’ to require an increase in generation from non-affected sources for utilities to be able to meet their emission limits [including MMA members and other business entities]” since it is “clear that EPA’s emission limits are not achievable at the affected sources themselves.” (emphasis added); and

“EPA defies all logic by imposing [through the CPP] standards on existing sources that are more stringent than the standards it is imposing on new sources.... EPA cannot occupy the entire field of the electricity sector, and Congress has not granted it the authority to do so.”

MDEQ will suffer irreparable injury absent a stay since: The CPP “usurps MDEQ’s authority to establish standards of performance and take into account necessary considerations, such as the sources’ remaining useful life” and “forces MDEQ to begin immediate work on implementing a plan to comply with ‘the most complex air pollution rulemaking undertaken’ in Mississippi’s history;

Requires MDEQ to potentially seek “[b]road new State Legislative authority” since it “does not currently have the regulatory authority” to implement the CPP; and

The state’s utilities “are required to make decisions regarding their future investments, and these decisions cannot be later reversed,” noting that “[i]t can take anywhere from four to seventeen years to plan and implement significant changes to the State’s generating resources.”

The balance of harms and the public interest favor a stay since: a stay would “temporarily silence the whirlwind of confusion that springs from uncertainty about requirements of the new Rule and whether they will survive legal testing,” particularly since “EPA seeks to accomplish its goal of shuttering fossil fueled power plants through unlawful rules prior to allowing the Court to assess the merits of its Final [CPP] Rule.”

MDEQ Executive Director Gary Rikard submitted an affidavit in support of MDEQ’s motion to stay, stating emphatically:

Given the sweeping nature of this Rule relative to all previous air rules, and the significant impact implementation may have on Mississippi ratepayers and the state’s overall economic competitiveness, MDEQ will be required to devote even more resources from work on other Clean Air Act requirements as well as other public interest programs MDQ is responsible for managing and supervising. Completing all of this work within the prescribed timeframe, given all of the other Clean Air Act requirements already imposed on MDEQ, will be challenging, if not impossible. (emphasis added)

If you have any questions or need any additional information regarding this article, please contact its author, John Milner, MMA Environmental Counsel, at jmilner@brunini.com or 601-291-4696.

MPA MEMBERSHIP PAYS

MPA membership pays for itself. MPA’s Emerging Trends newsletter alone is worth more than the $30 in dues for grower members. Currently, almost 900 growers are members of MPA.

The MPA staff prepares educational seminars and works at the Legislature and with federal and state regulatory agencies to represent the interests of growers. We have achieved tax cuts and paperwork reductions and made sure your voice is heard.
**SUBMIT SALES TAX AFFIDAVIT FOR REDUCED SALES TAX RATES FOR APPROVED FARMING PURCHASES**

MPA would like to remind each of our grower members, if they have not already done so, to complete and submit their 2016 Sales Tax Affidavit Form. The form can be found on our website www.mspoultry.org at the top left hand corner. By completing this form, growers will be authorized to continue to receive the discounted sales tax rate of 1.5% on approved farm implements used directly in the production of poultry.

Growers will need to complete the form and have it notarized. Upon notarization, the form will need to be submitted to each agricultural vendor where the grower purchases eligible farm items.

Please contact Bill Rosenblatt, Grower Relations Coordinator, with questions. His office number is 601-932-7560 or you can reach him on his cell at 601-942-9269.

**APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR POULTRY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP**

Applications for the 2016 Poultry Foundation Scholarship are now available. Interested graduating high school seniors and enrolled college students whose parent or grandparent is a member of MPA are eligible, including students majoring in poultry science at Mississippi State or attending a community college. The application can be found on MPAs website, www.mspoultry.org. The deadline for submitting an application is February 29, 2016.

The award money for the foundation scholarships is raised from an auction at the Mississippi Poultry Association annual convention and through donations to the Foundation. The Poultry Foundation Scholarship Committee, composed of educators, grades each application based on ACT scores, grade point average, essays, knowledge of the poultry industry and references and other factors.

---

**Disinfection Continued from Page 17**

damage plastic objects and therefore they are not recommended for wide disinfection of poultry premises but only for restricted use on staff and laboratory decontamination.

The environmental temperature is an extremely important factor that influences the efficacy of disinfecting procedures. Disinfectants are the most efficacious at high temperatures, most of them reaching optimum efficacy above 20C. Some products may be combined with anti-freeze compounds to retain their activity. However, the product chosen should be either efficacious at low temperatures or should not be inhibited by an anti-freeze product.

As explained above, the viricidal activity of most disinfectants is partially or totally inhibited by the interaction with organic material and for this reason decontamination procedures must include effective cleaning prior to disinfection.

Products should be used at a concentration that has demonstrated efficacy against avian influenza viruses. Also, disinfectants require a minimum contact time, which is usually never less than 30 min and depends on environmental conditions.

Please review the following website for more information on products against avian influenza, http://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-09/documents/list-m-avianflu.pdf.

---

**Correction:** The article titled Cleaning and Disinfection published in Emerging Trends number 3 failed to list all of the authors. The other two authors are Dr. Scott McKenzie and Dr. Tom Tabler.
Producing a budget, the one necessary element of every legislative session will determine what happens with a host of other competing priorities such as schools and roads. The Joint Legislative Budget Committee and Gov. Phil Bryant adopted a revenue estimate in November that reduced expected revenue for the current fiscal year ending June 30 by $65 million and forecast only a 1.1 percent growth in revenues for FY2017 beginning July 1, 2016.

Sales tax collections, which provide 40 percent of the general fund have not met projections. Mississippi appears to be suffering from the Great Recession longer than some off its neighbors. Voters in November rejected a constitutional amendment supporters claimed would have required the Legislature to fully fund the Mississippi Adequate Education Program which could require an extra $200 million. The $2.2 billion MAEP which covers certain K-12 education costs is about a third of the state general fund. All education funding including community colleges and universities makes up 57.5 percent of the $6.26 billion state support budget. How to meet the obligations with stagnant revenues will make for some tough choices.

During the 2015 legislative session Gov. Phil Bryant proposed tax cuts and the Senate and House each passed their own versions of even larger tax cuts. None of the tax cuts passed. Now with a Republican super-majority of 3/5ths in the House, there is likely to be increased drive to reduce spending and cut taxes.

In 2015, lawmakers did divert some gaming tax revenue to transportation projects, but it was not anywhere near the more than $400 million needed to keep pace with the maintenance needs of state highways and county roads and city streets. About half the states facing similar problems have made the decision in the last three years to increase fuel taxes to keep up with maintenance costs. Governors in Alabama and Tennessee have proposed tax increases for transportation in their states.

Sanderson Farms CEO Joe Sanderson chairs a Blueprint Transportation Task Force that hired experts at Mississippi State University, the University of Southern Mississippi and the consulting firm Cambridge Analytics to study the state’s transportation needs and ways to fund them that confirmed the widening gap between maintenance needs and current funding. The key to keeping ahead of crumbling pavement and bridges may be to increase the gas and diesel tax paid by those who use the roads and the key to that is convincing the new Republican majority that more revenue is an investment in economic development.
We manufacture the strongest feed bins in the business and sell them direct to you. Every Georgia Poultry feed bin is backed with an extended five-year warranty.
Dr. Ryn Laster, Director of Food Safety for Cal-Maine Foods, Inc., begins her term on January 1 as the chair of the board of the Mississippi Poultry Association. She has more than 20 years experience in the poultry industry. She replaces Steve McLaurin who becomes immediate past chair. Dr. Laster holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from Mississippi State University in English (B.A.) Poultry Science (B.S.), Food Science (M.S.), and a Ph.D. in Food Science with an emphasis in Poultry Science. She served as the chair in 2010.

Dr. Laster has two daughters Carlee (18) and Camryn (14).

Other officers include Greg Jordan, Wayne Farms, LLC in Laurel, the incoming vice-chair, Steve McLaurin, Peco Foods, Inc. in Sebastopol, is the immediate past chair, Bob Billingsley, Sanderson Farms in Laurel, is the past chair, Ray Ables, Tyson Foods, Inc. in Carthage, is the treasurer, Joe Colee, Mar-Jac Poultry MS, LLC in Hattiesburg, is the Executive Committee at large member and Cindy Tucker is the new chair of the MPA Grower Advisory Committee. Tucker, a Peco grower, replaces Danny Thornton on the MPA Executive Committee.

Wayne Farms’ Grower is an Environmental Award Semifinalist

Mr. Robert Allred is a semifinalist for USPOULTRY’s Family Farm Environmental Excellence Award. The Family Farm Environmental Excellence Award recognizes exemplary environmental stewardship by family farmers engaged in poultry and egg production. The award program is open to family-owned poultry growers or egg producers who supply a product to a USPOULTRY member or an independent producer who is a USPOULTRY member.

Mr. Allred will be notified at the end of January if he is selected to be a finalist. Wayne Farms and MPA are proud of the environmental friendly practices that Mr. Allred exemplifies.
EXTRAORDINARY SHOULD BE EXPECTED

PLT® remains the top litter amendment because it does what it’s supposed to—eliminate ammonia and lowers litter pH. But to us, a product living up to its claims is expected.

Extraordinary is about giving more when you could get away with less. It’s about doing the research and gaining the experience to implement real solutions. It’s about building a network of applicators to help customers get the best results possible.

EXPECT MORE. EXPECT EXTRAORDINARY. EXPERIENCE JONES HAMILTON.

Zach Nightower
Exclusiver PLT® Applicator
for Jones-Hamilton Co.
The Mississippi Poultry Association and several of its members were invited by Dr. Kelly Wamsley to participate in judging her students communication projects. The students created presentations designed to promote a positive image of the poultry industry.

Students were in six groups where they developed material (coloring books, games, films, and even constructed a model layer house and a chicken digestive track) to be used to educate and inform their targeted audience of either adults or youth. Groups were judged on a wide array criteria ranging from multimedia elements, information structure, quality of content and presentation.

There were two winners selected, one that targeted adult audiences and the other youth. Each team received a $500 prize from MPA for their exceptional work. The winning team of the adult audience category was team Last Pick. The winning team of the youth audience category was Poultry Pals.

The overall goal of the assignment was not only to provide an opportunity for students to learn how to address myths about the industry, but to create educational material that can be used by MPA and Mississippi State Extension to teach both adults and youths about Mississippi’s largest agricultural commodity.

We are proud of Dr. Wamsley’s students who worked all semester researching and gathering sources to provide well developed and scientifically proven messages to address false and negative beliefs of the poultry industry. MPA and Mississippi State Extension look forward to incorporating their educational material in our own efforts to help further advance poultry, Mississippi’s number one agricultural commodity!
POULTRY FINANCING

GROUND UP CONSTRUCTION | PURCHASE | RETRO-FIT & EXPAND | REFINANCE

Our team has over 60 years of combined lending experience working with poultry growers nationwide.
Let us be your finance partner, contact us to learn more.

©2015 Live Oak Banking Company. All rights reserved. Member FDIC
Cindy Tucker was recently elected by the Grower Advisory Committee to serve as their new Chair. Danny Thornton, current Chair, will take the role as Vice Chair.

Mrs. Tucker has been a poultry producer since 1995 for Peco in Jasper County. Her love for poultry has been passed on to two of her sons, who also operate their own farms. You can say that farming is certainly part of her family’s present and future. Mrs. Tucker loves being on the farm and helping other farmers. She strongly believes that farmers need each other to continue to learn and prosper. She looks forward to working with other poultry producers throughout the state.

The Grower Advisory Committee is made up of growers from Mar-Jac, Peco, Sanderson Farms, Tyson and Wayne Farms. Members of the committee provide insight and recommendations to MPA on the needs of poultry producers on legislative and regulatory concerns.

MPA looks forward to working with Mrs. Cindy Tucker to help further the needs of Mississippi’s number one agricultural commodity. Her term will officially begin on January 1, 2016.
UPCOMING EVENTS

COMPLETE NEW SALES TAX AFFIDAVIT
(Can be found on MPA Website)
December 31, 2015

LEGISLATIVE SESSION BEGINS
January 5, 2016

INTERNATIONAL PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING EXPO
Atlanta, GA
January 26-28, 2016

POULTRY HEALTH SEMINAR
February 2016 TBD

MISSISSIPPI POULTRY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS DUE
February 29, 2016

MISSISSIPPI POULTRY ASSOCIATION

Mark Leggett, President
leggett@mspoultry.org

Steve McLaurin, Chairman

Dr. Ryn Laster, Vice Chairman

Danny Thornton, Grower Advisory Committee Chairman

Bill Rosenblatt, Grower Relations Coordinator
bill@mspoultry.org

Becky Beard, Administrative Assistant
beard@mspoultry.org

CONTACT INFORMATION
110 Airport Road South, Suite C
Pearl, Mississippi 39208
Phone: (601) 932-7560
Fax: (601) 932-7568
www.mspoultry.org

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

GROWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mala Burns
Peco Foods

Lee McCollough
Mar-Jac Poultry MS, LLC

Danny Thornton
Peco Foods

Kim Caldwell
Peco Foods

Cindy Tucker
Peco Foods

Ronnie Ingram
Tyson Foods

Peter McKinley
Sanderson Farms

Kenneth Upton
Sanderson Farms

Ted Mangum
Wayne Farms LLC

Robert Smith
Wayne Farms LLC

Jon Wilson
Peco Foods