

AVIAN INFLUENZA ALERT

You probably have seen in the news that poultry flocks on the east coast, in the southwest, and in Canada have tested positive for Avian Influenza. There are several points you need to know and should share with your fellow poultry fanciers and friends:

- + The strains of Avian Influenza that have recently been found in the United States are NOT the same as the strain that can be contagious to humans.
- +The strains of Avian Influenza currently being investigated in the United States are different from the Asian Bird Flu.
- +A highly pathogenic (Hi Path) strain of Avian Influenza was discovered in a chicken flock in Gonzales, Texas on February 23rd. The birds were being raised for the Live Bird Markets (LBN). 6,608 birds on this farm were depopulated. In addition, 2,300 birds at 5 LBN in Houston were also depopulated.
- +Routine swabbing picked up the Avian Influenza in Texas. Although the strain is categorized as Hi Path, no deaths in the chickens were observed.
- +Live poultry have been banned from the grounds of the Houston Livestock Show and Market due to the outbreak. A poultry judging contest and commercial egg clinic have been cancelled by the Texas Poultry Federation. Any gathering of poultry or poultry people is considered to be a biosecurity risk at this time.
- +The Hi Path strain isolated in Texas is NOT the same as the Bird Flu in Asia.
- +Low pathogenicity Avian Influenza was discovered in Maryland on March 5th. The flock of 118,000 chickens was depopulated. Two other farms owned by the same person and within a mile of the first farm, were also depopulated (some 200,000 additional chickens).
- +Surveillance for Avian Influenza is continuing in Delaware.
- +Remember the importance of “DelMarVa” (Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia when it comes to broiler production). Any flocks on the DelMarVa peninsula experiencing more than 3 deaths per 1000 birds are being tested.
- +A Hi Path strain of Avian Influenza has been found in a chicken flock in British Columbia. Importation of live poultry and poultry products from British Columbia was banned by USDA on March 10th.

2004 California State Fair

Fur and Feathers is on the move at State Fair

Fur and Feathers will no longer be located at Expo Center. The lower grandstand area at the race track is being converted into a new Fur and Feathers area. The move will have poultry and the other small animals closer to the rest of the animal exhibits. However, we will still be in an air conditioned area. State Fair will have on-site security for after-hours supervision.

2004 Egg Preparation Qualifier Will another Californian capture the national title?

In 2003, California's Marta Kroger won the National 4-H Egg Preparation Demonstration Championship. Marta gave an excellent presentation on her strategies at this year's Avian Science Day. In addition, Marta has made videos and DVDs that illustrate preparing for and doing an actual Egg Preparation Demonstration. To obtain information on purchasing a video or DVD, call Marta at 707-446-8757.

Our 2004 State Egg Prep Qualifier will be held at State Fair on Wednesday morning, August 25th. This is the same day as Avian Bowl. So...for those of you who are unable to make multiple trips to State Fair and, therefore, do not enter birds...here's a chance for you to compete in TWO great events on the same day.

We will send out the entire Egg Preparation Packet to all those seriously considering competing. To have a packet mailed to you, please call Jeri Hansen at 530-752-9040 or e-mail her at jghansen@ucdavis.edu. You may also download this information from Dr. Ernst's website: <http://animalscience.ucdavis.edu/Avian> under "4-H Poultry Information."

2004 Avian Bowl Qualifier

This year's qualifier will be held on Wednesday, August 25th at the California State Fair: Check-in time is 5:00 p.m. and the competition will begin at 6:00 p.m.

The Avian Bowl Qualifier forms are included in this newsletter on pages 4 and 5. **PLEASE NOTE THERE IS A SEPARATE FORM FOR JUNIORS AND SENIORS: THE FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN OUR OFFICE OR POSTED MARKED BY JULY 15th.**

Avian Bowl Study Sections

Section	Pages
Poultry Judging	pp. 9 -16
Raising Waterfowl	pp. 21 - 33
Breeds, Varieties, & Strains, (Introduction to Asiatics)	pp. 67 - 72
Eggyclopedia: Salmonella through Yolk	pp. 144 - 150
Raising Home Chicken Flock	pp. 151 - 162
Fact Sheet: Contributions of Poultry to the Development of Science	pp. 169 - 170
Fact Sheet: Biosecurity	pp. 179 - 180

Note: These study sections will not be used until the Qualifier in August 2004.

The 2002 version of the National Avian Bowl Manual is available from the Clemson University Bulletin Room. The cost is \$ 12.00 per copy and may be ordered online using either a VISA or MasterCard by going to the following URL: <http://cufam.clemson.edu/olos/>

Payment should only be for \$12.00 per copy. There is no tax or shipping/handling charges. Shipment is via USPS fourth-class mail.

If you prefer to pay by check, you may send payment to:

Clemson University Bulletin Room
96 Poole Agricultural Building
Clemson, SC 29634-0129
(864)-656-3261 - Phone
(864)-656-0742 - Fax.

Checks should be made payable to: Clemson University.

Purchase orders with the necessary authorized signatures may be mailed or Faxed to the above.

2004 Avian Bowl Qualifier

Wednesday, August 25th (check-in 5:00 p.m.) Contest begins at 6:00 p.m.

JUNIOR ENTRY FORM

4-H Avian Bowl Contest Entry Form

FORMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT COMPLETE BIRTH DATE FOR EACH MEMBER

Entries must be postmarked by July 15, 2004

Juniors must have completed third grade by July 1, 2004 and must be younger than 14 years of age on January 1, 2004.

County _____

Team One name _____

Team members' names: Month/day/year

1. _____	Birth date _____
2. _____	Birth date _____
3. _____	Birth date _____
4. _____	Birth date _____
Alternate _____	Birth date _____

Coach _____

Name	Address	
_____	_____	
City	Zip	Phone #
_____	_____	_____

Team Two name _____

Team members' names: Month/day/year

1. _____	Birth date _____
2. _____	Birth date _____
3. _____	Birth date _____
4. _____	Birth date _____
Alternate _____	Birth date _____

Coach _____

Name	Address	
_____	_____	
City	Zip	Phone #
_____	_____	_____

**Send entries to: Dr. Francine Bradley, Animal Science, UC Davis,
Davis, California 95616-8521; FAX (530) 752-8960.**

2004 Avian Bowl Qualifier

Wednesday, August 25th (check-in 5:00 p.m.) Contest begins at 6:00 p.m.

SENIOR ENTRY FORM

4-H Avian Bowl Contest Entry Form

FORMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT COMPLETE BIRTH DATE FOR EACH MEMBER

Entries must be postmarked by July 15, 2004

Seniors must be 14 to 18 years old as of January 1, 2004.

County _____

Team One name _____

Team members' names: _____ Month/day/year

1. _____ Birth date _____

2. _____ Birth date _____

3. _____ Birth date _____

4. _____ Birth date _____

Alternate _____ Birth date _____

Coach: _____
Name Address

_____ City Zip Phone #

Team Two name _____

Team members' names: _____ Month/day/year

1. _____ Birth date _____

2. _____ Birth date _____

3. _____ Birth date _____

4. _____ Birth date _____

Alternate _____ Birth date _____

Coach _____
Name Address

_____ City Zip Phone #

Send entries to: Dr. Francine Bradley, Animal Science, UC Davis,
Davis, California 95616-8521; FAX (530) 752-8960

State Fair Junior Poultry Calendar

Thur July 15		Entry forms and entry fees due for Junior Poultry and Avian Bowl.
Thur July 15		County Fair Best of Show Small Animal Master Showmanship entries due. All market classes, egg, turkeys, chicken meat pens, entries are \$3.00.
Sun Aug 15	8:30 a.m.	Check- in and Weigh-in Chicken Meat Pens (inside Building 6) Check-in Turkeys and Weigh-in (lawn area between Building 5 & 6) Judging to follow weigh-in starting with Turkeys
	11:00 a.m.	Check-in and judge Market Eggs
Fri Aug 20	9:00 a.m.	151st California State Fair opens to the public
Mon August 23	6:30 a.m.	Check-in Waterfowl (exhibitor may also check in his/her land fowl at the same time)
	7:30 a.m.	Coop-in Junior Poultry
	8: 30 a.m.	Judge Waterfowl. Section & Reserve Champions to be cooped, other Waterfowl cooped if space is available. Judge Junior Poultry following Waterfowl.
	8:30 a.m.	All land fowl should be in place.
	12:00 noon	Champion Challenge Finals (Cal Expo Administration Building)
	2:00 p.m.	California State Fair Crowing Contest
	3:00 p.m.	Poultry Demonstrations
	4:30 p.m.	Social Event for Sale of Champions
	6:00 p.m.	Sale of Champions (Grandstand) (Exhibitors must be in uniform and in place with animals by 3:30 p.m.)
Tue Aug 24	10:00 a.m.	Poultry Showmanship (FFA followed by 4-H Junior followed by 4-H Senior) Continue judging Junior Poultry following Showmanship
	3:00 p.m.	California State Fair Crowing Contest Junior Division
	3:30 p.m.	Judge County Fair Best of Show Poultry
Wed Aug 25	8:00 a.m.	Check-in Egg Preparation Demonstration State Qualifier
	9:00 a.m.	Judge Egg Preparation Demonstration State Qualifier
	1:00 p.m.	Chicken Costume Contest
	3:00 p.m.	California State Fair Crowing Contest
	4:00 p.m.	Adult Poultry Showmanship
	5:00 p.m.	Check-in Avian Bowl
	6:00 p.m.	Avian Bowl
Thur Aug 26	1:00 p.m.	Poultry Demonstration
	3:00 p.m.	California State Fair Crowing Contest
	5:00 p.m.	Poultry Demonstration
	7:00 p.m.	Awards Ceremony and Presentation of Junior Division Best of show and Reserve Best of Show Poultry. Each Best of Breed winner to be prepared to introduce themselves and talk briefly about their bird/waterfowl.
	1:00 p.m.	Release all Junior Poultry

REMEMBER: Entries for Egg Prep Demo and Avian Bow are to be mailed directly to Dr. Bradley. Bird and all other State Fair entries are handled by State Fair.

Diseases to the east, diseases to the north, what can I do?

With current airline schedules, Texas and British Columbia are just a few hours away from California. It has been a year since the last case of Exotic Newcastle Disease (END) in our state. With 12 months of poultry disease-free news in California, some people may be slipping back into their old, sloppy habits.

“Biosecurity always” should be your motto. Please dig out the materials you received in 2002-3 on Biosecurity and review them. You may also visit Dr. Ernst’s website: <http://animalscience.ucdavis.edu/Avian> And look under “Disease Control and Biosecurity.”

Should you experience sudden and high mortality in your flock, call the Avian Health and Mitigation Group of the California Department of Food and Agriculture: 1- 800-491-1899 or 1-909-947-4462

When you have routine mortality (that is, you have just one bird die). Take advantage of the free diagnostic services offered to backyarders by the California Animal Health and Food Safety (CAHFS) System. You may get a list of all the CAHFS labs in the state by clicking on “IC Diagnostic Lab” on Dr. Ernst’s website. Or, you may call the CAHFS Lab at Davis (530) 752-8700 to obtain the location and phone number of the lab nearest you.

Poultry Health Inspection (PHI) Certification Class

Our next scheduled class to train PHI is Tues., April 20 at the Earl Warren Show Grounds in Santa Barbara. PHIs are needed to conduct the mandatory health checks of poultry at all county, district, and state fairs.

You must be 19 years and older, or a high school graduate, to be eligible for training. Classes are limited to 30 individuals. If you wish to receive the training in Santa Barbara, you must register by calling Jeri Hansen at 530-752-9040. If you leave a voice message, clearly state your name, mailing address, and phone number. No fee to take the class. However, PHI will be paid for their services when they conduct health checks at the fairs.

You must pre-register; there will be NO on-site registration.

2004 Poultry Judging Champions

The State 4-H Poultry Judging Qualifier was held this February at the always-fun Greater California Society of Poultry Fanciers’ Show in Fresno. The team of Dr. Ralph Ernst, Mrs. Pauline Smoke, Mr. Lester Fuqua, Sara Leisgang, Ruth Parsley, and Dan Ryan put on a great contest. Emerging as our State Champions were Natalie Russell, Paul Soto, and Kyle Linfor on the Senior Team from Sacramento Co. They were coached by Mrs. Jan James and Mrs. Debbie Russell.

Our top place Juniors were Jeffrey DeFreeze, Tommie Nakanishi, Sean O’Brien, and Matthew O’Boyle on The Chickeneers from Contra Costa Co. They were coached by Mrs. Corrine DeFreze.

Pre-August 25th Avian Bowl Competitions

There are a number of Avian Bowls scheduled before State Fair. Your editor is aware of Bowls at Del Mar, Nevada, and Orange County Fairs. The study material for those bowls is the same as was published in Avian Science Notes April 2003:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Pages</u>
Avian Systems (Female Reproductive; Male Reproductive; Circulatory, Nervous, Muscle, Excretory)	37-39
Growing Blue Ribbon Pullets	57-65
Breeds, Varieties, and Strains Continental All Other Standard Breeds	77-80
Eggcyclopedia Germinal Disc through Roasted Egg	127-144
Fact Sheet - Ratite	171-173
*Above study sections apply for all bowls to State Fair 2004	

CALENDAR

- April 20, 2004 Poultry Health Inspection (PHI) Certification Class, Santa Barbara (see article in this issue)
- April 17, 2004 Picnic Day, UC Davis; visit the campus-wide open house; be sure to stop by Meyer Hall for the avian exhibits
- July 15, 2004 Junior Poultry and Avian Bowl entries due for State Fair
- August 2004 State Fair (see article in this issue for full schedule)
- February 7, 2005 Avian Science Day, UC Davis