

# TPA NEWSLETTER

*"Serving the integrated broiler/breeder industry in Tennessee"*



Summer 2023

## TPA names new Executive Director

The Tennessee Poultry Association is excited to announce Tracy Rafferty as our new Executive Director beginning June 15th. She joined TPA in 2013 and has been a valuable part of the growth that our association has experienced over the past almost ten years.

Tracy graduated from the University of Kentucky with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing and started her career in the early days of the cellular industry. First, she worked as a successful outside Sales Representative and later as a Market Manager for Middle Tennessee. When Tracy and her husband, Mike, decided to grow their family, she accepted the position of Office Manager for the Willamette Industries / Weyerhaeuser sales office in Shelbyville so she could spend less time traveling and more time being a mom to her two boys.

Over the years, she also worked as the director of a preschool and as an independent insurance agent before finding her way to TPA. She has spent much of her adult life serving on the boards of various non-profit organizations and is currently the Vice President of the wellness center that serves the local area where she lives.

Tracy steps into the role being vacated by former TPA Executive Director, Dale Barnett. Dale has accepted a position with TPA Allied Member Johnson Energy Solutions as their VP Business Development, but he will remain with TPA on a part-time basis through September. We wish him all the best in his new role and are very thankful for everything he has accomplished during his time with TPA. □

## The ever-changing poultry industry

By Dale Barnett

It has been a very eventful past few months with respect to regulatory changes and threats under the current administration. **Proposition 12** in California was given the green light by the SCOTUS on May 11th, which will greatly impact how table eggs, pork, and veal are housed and produced by those selling into these markets. Lawmakers in Congress are considering whether to introduce a provision in the farm bill that would potentially block California from enforcing these Prop 12 regulations. On May 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Supreme Court clarified the scope of wetlands jurisdiction for **WOTUS** under the Clean Water Act (CWA) to read that only those wetlands that share a "continuous surface connection" with a jurisdictional water will be protected under the CWA. This likely isn't over yet as EPA is still figuring out its next move.

A ruling came out in May from **EPA** mandating that **FSA** is to require all medium-sized poultry operations (<125,000 broilers or <82,000 breeders on dry litter) to go through the **NEPA environmental review** process for all new **guaranteed construction loans**, even if they are classified as an AFO and not a CAFO. (The state of TN does not require medium dry litter poultry AFOs to obtain a CAFO state operating permit, but this EPA ruling does not distinguish between AFOs and CAFOs.) This ruling by EPA is the result of the recent court decision *Dakota Rural Action vs. USDA* on April 4th. However, everyone is not in agreement as to whether dry litter AFOs are to be included. *The TPA office is still waiting for an official statement from the state FSA office in Nashville or USDA/FSA.* Nobody seems to know what the decision is to be, and everyone appears to disagree with one another. TPA and other allies are of the firm opinion that this court decision does not change things for medium-sized AFOs. Meanwhile, site work was halted for a new breeder farm, and the growers were left with no choice but to seek a loan that does not require a guarantee. The complexes that have new housing scheduled are very concerned now about meeting timelines. It could be months before we have an official ruling. They'll give us an answer when they give us an answer yet will continue eating our chicken while expecting there to be no changes in production or cost on our end. *(continued on page 4)*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

P 2:	TPA Annual Meeting Informational Flyer	P 26-27:	Scholarship Fundraiser Updates
P 4:	Advertising Index	P 38-43:	Regulatory Interests
P 5, 9-15:	Bird Flu in the News	P 42-43:	The Latest on Prop 12
P 7:	Complex & Allied Member News	P 44-47:	Commodity Report
P 7:	Dates to Remember, 2023 TPA Event Calendar	P 47-48:	Tabler - Keeping Poultry Safe with Biosecurity
P 16-18, 20-22:	Live Production Topics	P 49-51:	Allied Membership Directory
P 19:	Propane Report	P 52-53:	TPA Art Contest Announcement







# ANNUAL MEETING AND SUMMER GETAWAY

at Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center in Nashville, TN

## AUGUST 18TH & 19TH, 2023

Register by July 14th



For more information, contact Tracy Rafferty  
[tracy@tnpoultry.org](mailto:tracy@tnpoultry.org) | (270) 363 - 2078

Special Group Hotel Rate is available  
until July 17th at 4:00 PM CST.

Hotel reservations can be made in the link below  
<https://book.passkey.com/go/tpa2023>







**FIRST FINANCIAL BANK**  
In the Business of YOU.

# Poultry Solutions

**Whether you're buying, starting, or expanding a poultry farm, we'll make the financing part painless and fast.**

As one of the nation's leading poultry lenders, we finance a wide range of poultry-related needs. We offer convenient one-on-one service that operates around your schedule. We offer competitive rates, local processing, and quick approval. Contact one of our local Ag lenders today.



**Greg Graham**  
Ag Lending Officer, SVP  
(256) 845-4270  
ggraham@ffb1.com



**Clint Russell**  
Ag Lending Officer  
(256) 997-6568  
crussell@ffb1.com



**Hunter Crowson**  
Ag Lending Officer  
(731) 318-2648  
hcrowson@ffb1.com



## Experience Matters

With over 200 years of combined experience in lending, we have a close understanding of the agricultural industry and how that applies to you.



## How We Can Help

- 1 Construction of a new poultry farm**
- 2 Purchasing or refinancing an existing operation**
- 3 Breeder farm financing**

Approved to offer SBA loan products under SBA's Preferred Lender Program. FSA and Farmer Mac Preferred Lender.

[www.ffb1.com](http://www.ffb1.com) | @FFBank1

**2201 Gault Ave. North, Suite G  
Fort Payne, AL 35967**

## TPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President** - Clint Lauderdale  
Poultry Guard LLC - Hanceville, AL  
(256) 636-3303  
clintlauderale@poultryguard.com

**1st VP** - Jeremy Martin  
Aviagen NA - Huntsville, AL  
(256) 777-8213  
jmartin@aviagen.com

**2nd VP** - David Wilds  
Koch Foods - Morristown, TN  
(423) 586-5722  
david.wilds@kochfoods.com

**Secretary/Treasurer** - Andy Todd  
MP Equipment - Cookeville, TN  
(256) 698-1310  
andrew.todd@mpequipment.com

**Immediate Past President** - Chynette Todd  
BioSafe Systems & CT Consulting -  
Cookeville, TN  
(931) 704-2336  
chynette.todd@gmail.com

### TPA Board Members

Scott Black - Cobb-Vantress  
Andrew Blair - Tyson Shelbyville  
Darryl Brown - Grower, Lawrenceburg, TN  
Chase Cloyd - Perdue Monterrey  
Andy Goldman - Aviagen, Inc.  
Shane Joyner - Tyson Obion County  
Vance Keaton - Live Oak Bank  
Melissa Marler - Koch Foods Chattanooga  
Dale McLerran - Grower, Moss, TN  
Heath Morrow - D&F Equipment Sales  
Brad Nance - Pilgrim's Chattanooga  
Richard Stewart - River Valley Ingredients  
David Tallent - Grower, Spring City, TN  
Joe Williams - Huvepharma  
Vacant - Tyson Humboldt

## **The ever-changing poultry industry** *(continued from front page)*

The poultry growers in **Gibson County** had a **recent victory** with respect to their property taxes. Gibson Co. has had the highest property tax rates of any county in the state for our growers, coupled with excessively high SSD (special school district) taxes. Some growers with 8 houses had been paying as much as \$25,000 annually. Greg Graham with First Financial Bank (FFB) first brought this concern to my attention, and then Humboldt's broiler manager, Matt Mauk, asked for assistance to have this addressed. Vance Keaton with Live Oak Bank was the first to point out that forced assessments were likely occurring and helped us all to better understand that. **Hunter Crowson** with FFB is the one who championed this challenge on behalf of the growers in Gibson Co. Long story short, after a group of us meeting with the county tax assessor, several virtual meetings, and calls with Andy Holt with TDA, TN Farm Bureau and Tyson corporate folks, Hunter then got a meeting with the Appeals Board on behalf of a half-dozen growers and won the appeal. Assessments will be lowered 31% for these growers because of Gibson Co. finally conceding to our challenge of their real vs. personal property determinations on the equipment in these houses. Building new houses? Be sure to go to the tax assessor's office and declare your property value (real, excluding personal) so that a forced assessment at possibly a higher rate is not assessed. Think you have an appeal to make? If so, go to your county tax assessor's office *very politely and nicely ask for guidance* on how to make an appeal. There are timelines for making an appeal that may have already passed, and it is not possible to be refunded for previous years – it's all about going forward in trying to right-size any situations. The key is to *stay humble*; you can't do anything about previous assessments.

Speaking of change, TPA recently announced that **Tracy Rafferty will be your new Executive Director effective June 15<sup>th</sup>**! Tracy will do a great job for you and most everyone already knows her from her previous 9.5 years of service with TPA as our former Member Services Director. I (Dale) will continue working part-time through the annual meeting and convention in August and then help Tracy with a smooth transition this fall. It has not yet been determined what my level of involvement may be or not after September, for I have accepted a position with one of our TPA allied member companies and will still be "around". I've enjoyed being your Executive Director for the past 11 years and 8 months. We've experienced a lot of growth and have accomplished a lot of great things together as an association for the industry.

Respectfully,  
/dale

**What else is EPA up to?** What are they not up too is the better question. **EPA is in the process of revising effluent limitation guidelines** for the Meat and Poultry Products industry. According to Paul Bredwell, VP for Environmental Regulations with USPOULTRY, EPA will likely lower wastewater effluent thresholds for nitrogen, phosphorus, and chlorides for wastewater treatment plants that directly discharge effluent from industry operated full-treatment plants. They are also considering lowering the discharge thresholds for Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD), Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and Oil & Grease (O&G). Additionally, EPA will likely establish pre-treatment standards for indirect discharge plants (industry wastewater treatment plants that partially treat wastewater and then discharge the effluent to a municipal wastewater treatment plant for further treatment.) *(continued of page 38)*

## ADVERTISING INDEX

Ag Lighting Innovations - 25  
BankPlus - 21  
Big Dutchman - 12  
BioSafe Systems - 13  
Boehringer Ingelheim - 10  
Clear View Enterprises - 20  
Diversified Ag - 8

Farm Credit Mid-America - 18  
First Financial Bank - 3  
Georgia Poultry Equipment - 31  
Hubbard - 36  
Jones-Hamilton PLT- 28  
Lewis Environmental - 16  
Live Oak Bank - 22  
Lubing - 35

Poultry South - 6, 32  
Proxy-Clean Products - 14  
Randy Jones & Associates - 23  
River Valley AgCredit - 5  
Southland Organics - 33  
Sunbelt Rentals - 17  
Thompson Gas - 19



## SPECIALIZING IN POULTRY FINANCING

At River Valley AgCredit we customize our products to fit your needs. We assist with guaranteed loans through FSA to make financing easy and attainable.



**Call Your Local Lender Today!**

**877-422-4203**

### HPAI

#### How To Protect Your Flock Against Clostridial Dermatitis

March 8, 2023 at [HybridTurkeys.com](https://www.hybridturkeys.com) by William Alexander

Clostridial dermatitis is a damaging disease that continues to present itself in flocks all across North America. When a turkey is affected, the disease causes disruption of the gut microflora and can result in overgrowth of clostridia. Bacteria, viruses, parasites, and toxins will all challenge the gut barrier, and a breach will allow clostridia to enter the blood stream. Besides negatively affecting the growth and performance of the flock, this disease is a serious concern for animal welfare. [Click here for full article](#) □

#### Study Links High Winds to Campylobacter Spread on Chicken Farms

March 16, 2023 at [Food-Safety.com](https://www.food-safety.com)

A study conducted by Washington State University researchers found that high winds increased the prevalence of Campylobacter among outdoor chicken flocks. The researchers are calling attention to their findings so that organic and free-range chicken farmers whose flocks are exposed to the outdoor environment can better mitigate the food safety risk of high winds. [Click here for full article](#) □

#### Five Things to Know About One Health in the WHO European Region

March 23, 2023 at [WHO.int](https://www.who.int)

The concept of One Health is not new, but it has become more important in recent years. The approach – focusing on the connection between the health of people, animals and ecosystems – is here to stay, as we see a rise in zoonotic diseases (including COVID-19, avian influenza and mpox) in the WHO European Region. So, what should we know about One Health? And how is WHO/Europe supporting countries across Europe and Central Asia to put One Health into practice? Here are five things to know about One Health in the WHO European Region. [Click here for full article](#) □

# WE DON'T JUST LIST, **WE CLOSE.**

***Anyone can list a poultry farm, but it takes knowledge and experience to get a listing to closing. The PoultrySouth Team can do just that!***

- ① We physically visit each farm and work to serve YOU - the seller.
- ② National Exposure & Local Service with 20+ Team Members throughout the Southeast
- ③ 100+ years of combined poultry experience
- ④ **240+ Farms Sold and Counting**

**POULTRY**  
SOUTH.COM

**The PoultrySouth Team at  
Southeastern Land Group**  
256-475-0490  
psteam@poultrysouth.com  
**www.poultrysouth.com**





TTU had their first birds placed in the new poultry research facility on March 10. Enjoy these pics of some of the students caring for the chicks.



TPA is so excited to welcome **Jocelynn Magan** to the team as our Events Planning and Promotion Intern. Jocelynn is entering her senior year at WKU pursuing a major in Social Media Marketing.



**Lida Phengmany** has also joined us on a part-time basis to help out with some of the office functions in Shelbyville as well as the annual meeting silent auction. Lida will begin her sophomore year at MTSU in the fall majoring in Business Marketing. We are so happy to have both of them on board!



## DATES TO REMEMBER

### USPOULTRY FINANCIAL MGMT SEMINAR

June 19-21, 2023  
Fernandina Beach, FL

### REAP GRANT DEADLINE

June 30, 2023  
See page 19  
[usda.gov](https://www.usda.gov)

### USPOULTRY HATCHERY-BREEDER CLINIC

July 20-21, 2023  
Nashville, TN

### TPA ANNUAL MEETING & SUMMER GETAWAY

August 18-19, 2023  
Gaylord Opryland Resort  
Nashville, TN

## NEWS FROM AROUND THE COMPLEXES

**Aviagen** is pleased to announce the appointment of **Alan Thomson** as Global Vice President (VP) of Aviagen's Technical Operations. He succeeds Dr. Bryan Fancher, who will retire in September this year. Thomson, latterly Aviagen's Global Head of Technical Transfer, has assumed his new role effective from March 1st and will collaborate closely with Dr. Fancher over the coming months to ensure a seamless transition. In his new position, Thomson will become a member of Aviagen's Executive Management Board and reports to the Chief Technical Officer of Aviagen Group Dr. Alfons Koerhuis.



TPA Board Member **Shane Joyner** has been promoted to a VP of Live Production for **Tyson Foods**. Shane has been with Tyson since 1996 and was previously the Senior Manager of Live Production at Tyson's Obion County Complex. He has a Bachelor's degree in Natural Resource Management from UT Martin. **Rob Brown** is now serving as the Senior Live Production Manager at the Obion County Complex.

## ALLIED MEMBER NEWS

**First Financial Bank** is happy to announce that **Hunter Crowson** has joined their team as an Ag Lending Officer. Hunter has worked in the poultry industry since 2015 as a breeder tech for both **Cobb** and **Tyson**. He's also an accountant for the TN National Guard and serves as a part-time youth pastor.



**Meyn America**, a leading poultry processing solutions company, today announced plans to construct an 80,000-square-foot, Green Globes-certified parts distribution facility in the economic development business park of Oconee County, South Carolina. The facility is intended to accelerate and improve the accuracy of Meyn's growing parts business to support customers throughout the U.S., Canada, Mexico, and Latin America.

## WELCOME NEW ALLIED MEMBERS



Renew Solar of  
Tennessee  
Chip Mincey  
865-207-7122



Global Animal  
Products  
Randy Maclin  
706-338-8778



Precision Lighting  
Systems  
Danny Cross  
501-624-5566



Cor Solar and  
Electric  
Peter Richardson  
417-771-5616



# DIVERSIFIED

DiversifiedAg.com

The **Rotem One** controller provides an intuitive, easy-to-use touch screen interface, improving flock performance and profitability.

- Simplifies configuration, control and farm monitoring
- Real-time alarms and remote access via the Internet
- Guard door keeps toggle switches securely in place
- Trouble-free installation and maintenance
- Supports a large number of devices and up to 200 2HP heavy duty relays



Controllers &  
Communication



Heating



Ventilation



Feeding & Watering

## ALWAYS THE RIGHT FIT

Diversified's complete solutions enhance performance and maximize results.





## USPOULTRY Foundation Awards \$4,620 Student Recruiting Grant to the University of Tennessee

March 8, 2023

The USPOULTRY Foundation recently awarded a \$4,620 student recruiting grant to the University of Tennessee. The grant was made possible in part from an endowing Foundation gift from Centurion Poultry.

The University of Tennessee will use the grant funds to purchase recruitment materials, provide a poultry judging contest award banquet and fund the attendance of graduate students at the International Poultry Scientific Forum.

The USPOULTRY Foundation board recently approved student recruiting grants totaling \$306,366 to 28 colleges and universities across the United States with a poultry science department or industry-related degree program. The USPOULTRY Foundation provides annual recruiting funds to colleges and universities to attract students to their poultry programs. The grants are made possible by gifts to the Foundation from companies, individuals and families, in addition to funds earned over the years from the International Poultry Expo, part of the International Production & Processing Expo.



*Dr. Yang Zhao, along with interim dean of the Herbert College of Agriculture, Dr. David White, and several students with the USPOULTRY Foundation grant check.*

*Photo courtesy of U.S. Poultry & Egg Association.*

□

### HPAI

## VIDEO: Is HPAI in commercial poultry here to stay?

April 5, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](https://WattAgNet.com) by Elizabeth Doughman

The current H5N1 strain of (HPAI) is now found in wild birds in North and South America, Europe, Asia and Africa and has caused record losses of domestic poultry in Europe and North America. [Click here for full article](#) □

## The bird flu vaccine isn't available in the U.S.

April 7, 2023 at [FoodSafetyNews.com](https://FoodSafetyNews.com) by Dan Flynn

The United States is not ready to vaccinate against High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza (HPAI). According to John R. Clifford, veterinary trade policy advisory for the USA Poultry & Egg Export Council, an approved vaccine is not yet available that is a "good match to the virus." That leaves biosecurity measures as the best U.S. weapon against the virus. [Click here for full article](#) □

## USDA Starts Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Vaccine Trials

May 1, 2023 at [AVMA.org](https://AVMA.org) by R. Scott Nolen

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is testing the efficacy of a handful of vaccines against the current strain of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) hoping to stem the spread of the largest outbreak of bird flu in the nation's history. The virus has so far been reported in all but one state, Hawaii, and has resulted in the deaths of nearly 60 million poultry. [Click here for full article](#) □

## Bald eagles aren't fledging as many chicks due to avian influenza

April 6, 2023 at [PoultryTimes.com](https://PoultryTimes.com) by University of Georgia

Bald eagles are often touted as a massive conservation success story due to their rebound from near extinction in the 1960s. But now a highly infectious virus may put that hard-fought comeback in jeopardy. [Click here for full article](#) □



**Strong**  
ACTIVE  
**PROTECTION**  
that starts at the  
very source.

**THE VAXXITEK® PORTFOLIO OF VACCINES**  
FOR A LIFETIME OF PERFORMANCE.

Visit [www.poultryhealthusa.com](http://www.poultryhealthusa.com) for more information.



VAXXITEK® is a registered trademark of Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health USA Inc. ©2023 Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health USA Inc., Duluth, GA. All Rights Reserved. US-POU-0020-2021-V3

Original Solutions •  Boehringer  
Ingelheim



## Wishful thinking on HPAI from the Biden administration

March 15, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](https://www.wattag.net) by Austin Alonzo

The White House wants to stop avian influenza by vaccination but, for now at least, it simply cannot.

In March 2023, the New York Times reported the executive branch is considering action to mandate mass vaccination of commercial poultry against highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI). This comes as the disease continues to take its toll on consumers in the form of sky-high egg prices and presents a frightening possibility of more cross-species infections.

The same report said President Joe Biden's re-election campaign is sweating pressure from inflation, too. An action could show Americans the White House is doing something to stop the disease and its economic effects.

From a practical standpoint, the U.S. can't vaccinate its birds right now. HPAI vaccination is not federally authorized and there is no clearly effective vaccine currently available for use against the H5N1 strain of HPAI in the U.S.

### HPAI goes global

The current HPAI outbreak, which began in North America the winter of 2021-2022, is the largest in the history of the U.S. It damaged the domestic egg industry and turkey industries. It continues to threaten breeder flocks and other long-lived poultry.

Furthermore, the disease is now a global issue. Migratory birds carry it freely across borders in Asia, Europe and the Americas affecting commercial poultry around the world. Recently, farmers in South America began depopulating flocks in response to outbreaks all over the continent.

### Vaccination abroad

In response, vaccination is picking up steam in Europe. In March, the European Union will change its trade rules to allow its member states to vaccinate against HPAI and sell products from vaccinated birds. This is a forerunner to possible other international deals which would allow trading partners to accept vaccinated products. A vaccine is reportedly being tested in France, Italy, Hungary and the Netherlands.

Vaccination is a major stumbling block in international trade since the product will, by definition, have exposure to HPAI. The U.S. broiler industry depends on its export markets. This could become less important, though, as HPAI continues to become a more common problem globally.

Some countries, including Mexico, China, Egypt and Vietnam, already vaccinate commercial birds against HPAI. Significant poultry producers Peru, Colombia and Argentina are mulling vaccination programs, too.

### The power of the president

The way-too recent COVID-19 pandemic showed when the impetus and funding are available, a vaccine can be developed and rolled out relatively quickly.

The same report from the New York Times said the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service is already developing HPAI vaccines made to combat the current outbreak and it hopes to test them soon. Approving new vaccines for use can take as many as three years, though.

Recent reporting from WATT Global Media indicates vaccination would be two to three years away, if ever pursued in the U.S.

If the Biden Administration wants to press forward with HPAI vaccination, its first move should be to increase the money and research time available for developing an effective vaccine against the H5 strain of the disease.

The COVID experience demonstrated when the political will exists, a vaccine can be developed and rolled out relatively quickly. Will the same thing happen in the commercial poultry industry? Only time can tell.

The most impactful part of a presidential announcement would be a clear signal the U.S. federal government truly intends to roll ahead with national vaccination.

This would set the wheels in motion for hashing out international agreements ahead of any real-world vaccinations. It would also show the political intent of the government to move ahead with vaccination in spite of any hesitation from commercial producers. ▢

---

## Human avian flu vaccine on standby for potential outbreak

April 13, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](https://www.wattag.net) by Emma Cottrell

While human cases of avian flu and the risk of human-to-human transmission are low, vaccine manufacturers GSK Plc, Moderna Inc. and CSL Seqirus are developing avian flu vaccines for humans just in case of an outbreak, according to Reuters. [Click here for full article](#) ▢

---

## Brazil investigating possible H5N1 human infections

May 24, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](https://www.wattag.net)

With the detection of avian influenza subtype H5N1 in Brazil, the country's health authorities are investigating possible spread to humans. [Click here for full article](#) ▢

## Vaccination will be a good option when available

April 7, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](http://WattAgNet.com) by Austin Alonzo

Avian influenza vaccination is coming to the western world. It's a good thing and should be helpful when used properly.

### Taboo

Vaccination against highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) is a touchy subject and for good reason. The prevailing view of international trade is: If you're vaccinating, it must mean HPAI is out of control in your area and your products aren't safe to import.

In the U.S., if any party were to begin vaccinating today, then – by the rules all parties follow – the more than \$5 billion broiler export market would be gone, along with all other poultry exports. That's a steep price to pay, but it's based on an increasingly shaky argument.

HPAI is everywhere now, thanks to migratory birds, and it continues to spread to individual farms by way of wild birds. Countries will have a harder time arguing they are protecting themselves from HPAI when the disease is already present in its domestic poultry operations.

### Presidential panic

I believe a perhaps unnecessary flutter was created when the New York Times and others publicized a White House rumor about a mass vaccination campaign against HPAI.

First, that can't happen today due to extant regulations. Second, vaccination wouldn't be conducted on a large scale in the U.S. unless of extreme circumstances.

### DIVA

The fact is, HPAI isn't going away, and it continues to evade biosecurity defenses. A modern vaccination strategy could, in theory, be carried out in a developed country like the U.S.

This vaccination concept would be focused on a differentiating infected from vaccinated animals (DIVA) surveillance strategy. Under this plan, only a small amount of birds in a targeted area would receive a vaccine when necessary. Then there would be strict surveillance to ensure infected birds are kept out of international trade.

It's something we must consider, especially for parties that want or need vaccination. □

## Think **Big**!

Big ideas, bigger service  
and the biggest results.



### LOCATE A BIG DUTCHMAN DISTRIBUTOR NEAR YOU:

Reliable Poultry  
1235 Manufacturers Row  
Trenton, TN 38382  
Phone: (731) 470-4470

Volunteer Poultry  
5823 Water Level Highway  
Cleveland, TN 37323  
Phone: (423) 473-3977

Volunteer Poultry  
12941 David Crockett Pkwy.  
Huntland, TN 37345  
Phone: (931) 469-7486



**Big Dutchman**  
Innovation Breeds Success

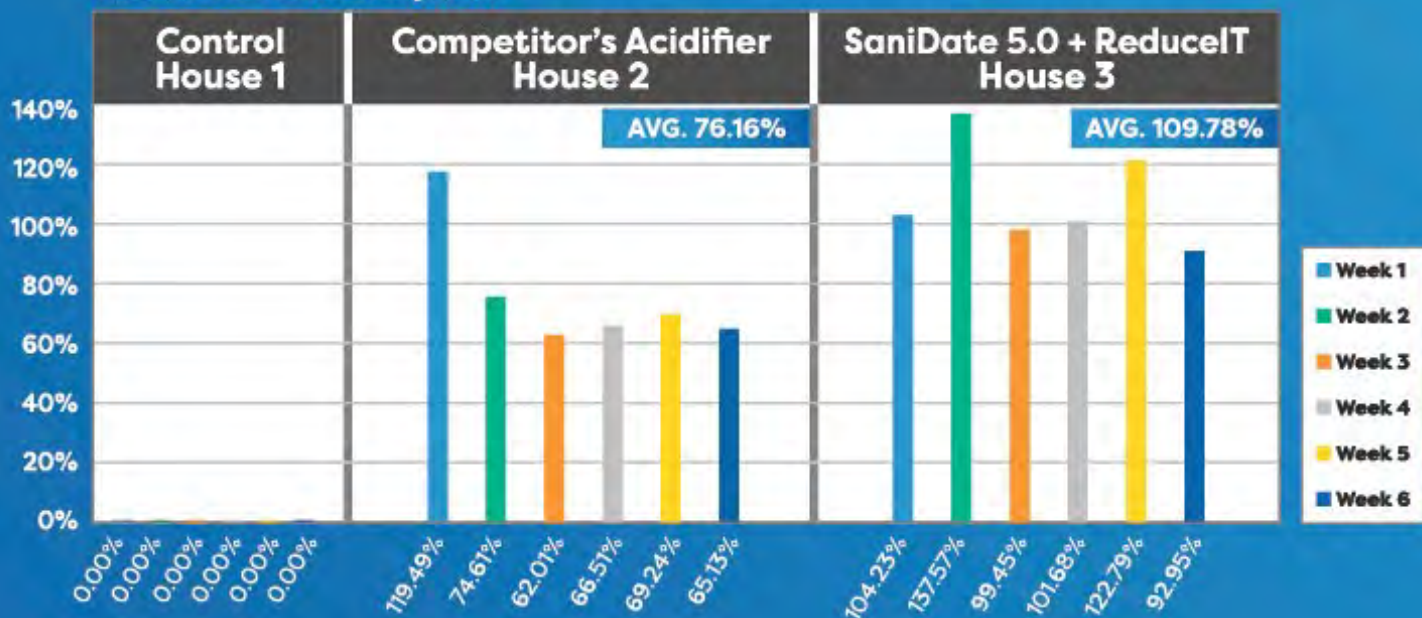


# Reduce pH, ↑ Increase Success

BioSafe Systems conducted a farm trial in the fall of 2021 to compare the weekly average water consumption between the control house (house 1), the competitor's acidified product (house 2), and SaniDate® 5.0 + ReducelT™ (house 3). Products ran from placement of baby chicks through catch. House 3 drank 109% more than house 1, and 33% more than competitor's acidified product.



## %Δ Water Consumption



Keep water clean and clear, provide greater antimicrobial control, and promote a healthy gut flora. Use SaniDate 5.0 + ReducelT to quickly lower drinking water pH, prevent scale buildup, bacteria growth, and algae in water lines.

### ReducelT™

- Sulfuric acid (strong acid) + sodium sulfate (buffering salt) formula
- Acidifier and pH control
- Ideal for use while birds are present
- Improves water palatability and efficacy of disinfectants<sup>1</sup>
- Buffered acids are less corrosive, protecting equipment and workers

### SaniDate® 5.0

- Peroxyacetic acid + hydrogen peroxide formula
- Sanitizer/disinfectant
- Chlorine free
- No harmful residues
- OMRI-Listed



<sup>1</sup> Vagstad S, Kataria J, Rama E.N., Moller A.E., Gauru A, Singh M, Thippareddi H. Impact of pH on efficacy of peroxyacetic acid against Salmonella, Campylobacter, and Escherichia coli on chicken wings. Poultry Science, Volume 100, Issue 1, Pages 256-262, ISSN 0032-5791, 2021

# Proxy-Clean®

Proxy-Clean® is a hydrogen peroxide-based product,  
specially formulated for use in livestock drinking water systems.

Equipment  
Friendly



Exclusively  
Formulated



Environmentally  
Safe



Cost  
Effective



No Heavy  
Soils



The Most Trusted Brand in Waterline Cleaning

Learn More At

[proxycleanproducts.com](https://proxycleanproducts.com)



## HPAI

### HPAI Spreads to Major Brazilian Poultry Producing State

May 30, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](https://WattAgNet.com)

Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) has been detected in Brazil's third-largest poultry producing and exporting state – Rio Grande do Sul. On May 29, the state's authorities informed that black-necked swans had tested positive for the virus in the coastal municipality of Santa Vitoria do Palmar. This is the first time that the virus has been detected in the state since HPAI entered Brazil two weeks ago, bringing the total number of states to register outbreaks to three. [Click here for full article](#) □

### Roslin: Multi-Species Study Aids Understanding of Bird Flu

March 17, 2023 at [efeedlink.com](https://efeedlink.com) by Roslin Institute

Investigations of how various bird species respond to avian flu have enabled insights into the disease, said Roslin Institute scientists. The findings pointed toward immune processes and key genes that may play a part in how various species respond to infection. Outcomes from the study may help inform development of commercial poultry that are resistant to the disease. [Click here for full article](#) □

### Dog in Canada dies from avian influenza

April 5, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](https://WattAgNet.com) by Roy Graber

Canadian officials reported the first dog to have died as a result of contact with a bird that had highly pathogenic avian influenza. [Click here for full article](#) □

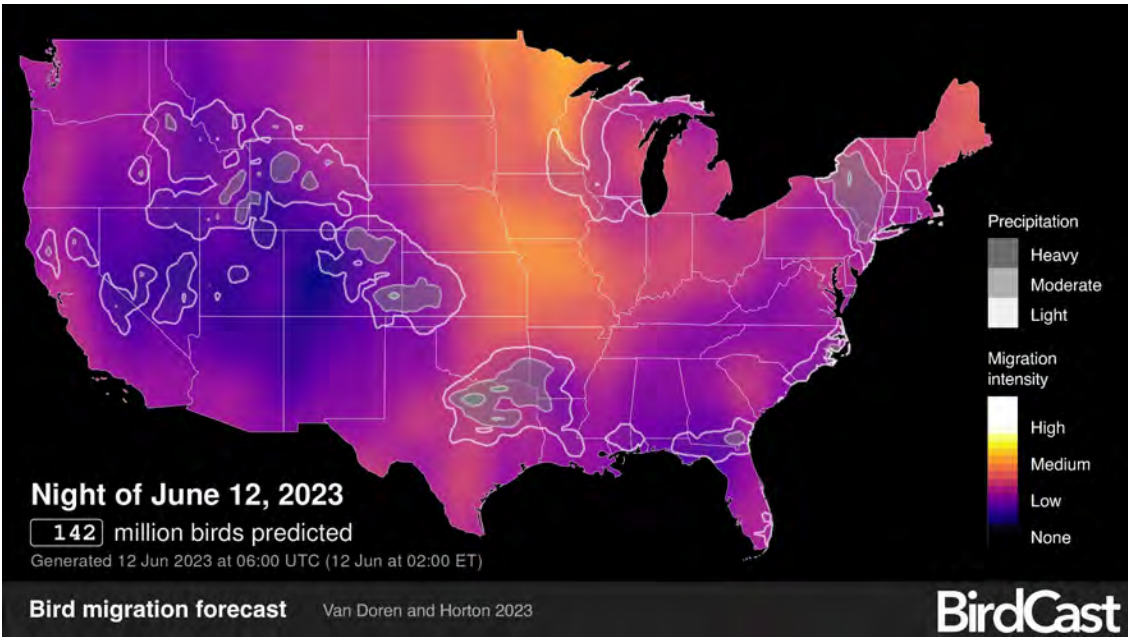
### Alarm as HPAI kills almost 9,000 sea creatures in Chile

May 30, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](https://WattAgNet.com) by Mark Clements

Over 8,887 sea creatures have been recorded dead on the Chilean coast so far this year due to infection with the highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) virus. [Click here for full article](#) □



Live bird migration maps

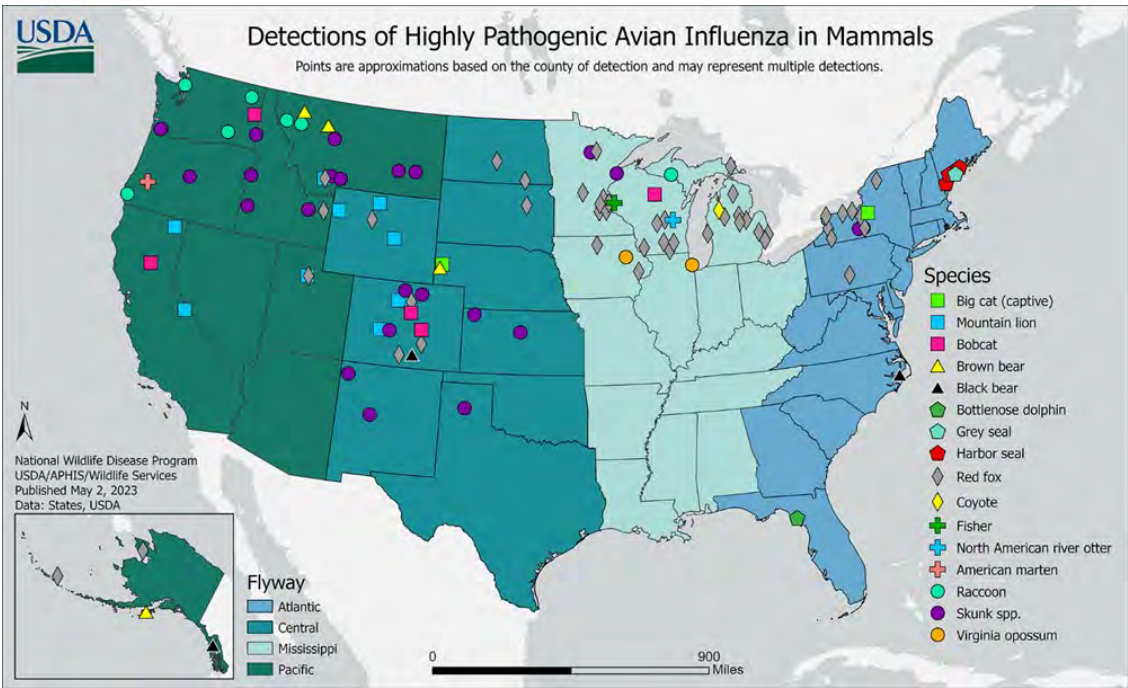


Real-time analysis maps show intensities of actual nocturnal bird migration as detected by the US weather surveillance radar network between local sunset to sunrise. All graphics are relative to the Eastern time zone. When present, the red line moving east to west represents the timing of local sunset, the yellow line represents the timing of local sunrise. Areas with lighter colors experienced more intense bird migration. Orange arrows show directions to which birds flew. Green dots represent radar locations for which data are available; red dots represent radar locations with no data available. Note that many radars in mountainous areas (e.g. the Rockies) have obstructions that restrict radar coverage, providing the appearance of no migration where migration may be occurring.

Brighter colors indicate a higher migration traffic rate (MTR) expressed in units birds/km/hour. The migration traffic rate indicates the number of birds per hour that fly across a one-kilometer line transect on the earth’s surface oriented perpendicular to the direction of movement of the birds.

Cornell Lab of Ornithology currently produces these maps. Support for this research came from NASA, Edward W. Rose Postdoctoral Fellowship, and Amazon Web Services. The BirdCast project was created by grants from the National Science Foundation and supported by additional grants from Leon Levy Foundation.

Dokter, A. M. Year/s of live migration map image. BirdCast, live migration map; date and time (most easily accessible from image file name/ s). Cornell Lab of Ornithology. <https://birdcast.info/migration-tools/migration-forecast-maps>. Date/s of access or download.



## Flockmate or Loner? Genes Behind Sociality in Chickens Identified

March 20, 2023 at [ThePoultrySite.com](https://www.thepoultrysite.com) by Linköping University

Five genes that affect sociality-related behavior in chickens have been identified by researchers at (Linköping University) LiU. Several of the genes have been previously linked to nervous system function or behavior. The new study is the first that assigns these genes a role in sociality. [Click here for full article](#) □

## Gene editing given the green light in England

March 27, 2023 at [AllAboutFeed.net](https://www.allaboutfeed.net) by Tony McDougal

Crop production in the UK has been given a boost following the coming into law in England of the Genetic Technology (Precision Breeding) Act. [Click here for full article](#) □

## Case Concerning Genetically Selected Chickens Dismissed in England, UK

May 29, 2023 at [eFeedLink.com](https://www.eFeedLink.com)

A legal challenge over the use of fast-growing chickens on farms in England, the United Kingdom, has been dismissed in the high court. Animal welfare campaigners claimed the genetically selected breeds suffer serious health problems. A judge dismissed the case on May 24th. [Click here for full article](#) □

## Sexing Chicken Eggs by Scent

May 23, 2023 at [FeedStuffs.com](https://www.FeedStuffs.com)

Fertilized chicken eggs can be sexed by “sniffing” volatile chemicals emitted through the shell, according to new work by researchers at the University of California, Davis, and Sensit Ventures Inc., a startup company in Davis. The work is published May 22nd in PLOS ONE. The study shows that it is feasible to sort eggs by sex, early in incubation, based on volatile organic chemicals, said Professor Cristina Davis, associate vice chancellor for interdisciplinary research and strategic initiatives at UC Davis and co-author on the paper. [Click here for full article](#) □

# THE TRUSTED AVIAN FLU RESPONSE PARTNER

Proven USDA Contractor  
performing biosecurity services:

- Composting
- Cleaning & Disinfection



**lewis**  
ENVIRONMENTAL

FOR SUPPORT CONTACT:

Rich Budka, Response Coordinator  
[rbudka@discoverlewis.com](mailto:rbudka@discoverlewis.com)  
mobile: 610-290-6690

DiscoverLEWIS.com

24 Hour Emergency Response: 800-258-5585





WE'LL MAKE  
IT HAPPEN



**WE BRING MORE "YES" TO YOUR PRODUCTION**

When it comes to your processing plant, you can't afford excessive downtime. You need a partner who can take on anything from planned maintenance to an emergency outage and get the job done safely and effectively. As your one-stop shop for total plant solutions, Sunbelt Rentals is expertly equipped to address your evolving operational needs. From condensation control and power generation to air compressors and material handling, our team provides full turnkey solutions, customized to elevate performance and keep your production rolling. Make it happen today with the industry leader in comprehensive rental service and support.

Visit [sunbeltrentals.com](https://sunbeltrentals.com) or call 800-736-2504 to bring more "Yes" to your processing plant.

© 2019 Sunbelt Rentals. All Rights Reserved.





## NRCS Refines Nutrient Management Strategies

March 20, 2023 at [MorningAgClips.com](https://www.morningagclips.com) by Terry J. Cosby

For decades, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has supported producers and landowners in addressing their nutrient management and water quality concerns. We continue to refine our strategies as we learn more, including from data in a recent report on cropland conservation outcomes from our Conservation Effects Assessment Project. [Click here for full article](#) □

## Coarser limestone blends may improve eggshell quality

March 30, 2023 at [FeedStrategy.com](https://www.feedstrategy.com) by Emma Penrod

Laying hens may benefit from the inclusion of more coarse limestone in their diets, research concludes. [Click here for full article](#) □

## Heat Stress in Poultry

March 23, 2023 at [ThePoultrySite.com](https://www.thepoultrysite.com) by Guillermo Gaona and Marisabel Caballero

Stress in animals can be defined as any factor causing disruptions to their homeostasis, their stable internal balance. Stress engenders a biological response to regain equilibrium (1). We can distinguish four major types of stress in the poultry industry: technological or management-related stress; environmental stress; nutritional stress, including due to heavy metals, mycotoxins, and low-quality ingredients; and internal stress, which is related to health status and health challenges. (2). All types of stress lead to molecular and cellular changes that decrease health and productivity. [Click here for full article](#) □

## Respiratory challenges: Breathing space for antibiotic reduction?

March 29, 2023 at [ThePoultrySite.com](https://www.thepoultrysite.com) by Kowsigaraj Palanisamy and Ruturag Patil

How to manage respiratory challenges in poultry with fewer or without antibiotics? [Click here for full article](#) □



# FARM REAL ESTATE LOANS FROM A FARMER-OWNED LENDER.

A farmer-owned lender knows you need flexibility. That's why Farm Credit Mid-America offers designed farm real estate loans to meet farmers' needs.

- **Patronage** – Our farmers can invest more in their operations because they've received an average 1.5% of their average daily loan balance back in cash over each of the last 4 years through our Patronage program.\*
- **Loan Products** – We offer a variety of loan product options, including adjustable, variable, and fixed rates.
- **Loan Conversion Program** – If conditions change, you can convert to a lower rate without the headache of refinancing.\*\*

TO LEARN MORE, VISIT  
[FCMA.COM/REAL-ESTATE](https://fcma.com/real-estate)

Loans subject to credit approval. Additional terms and conditions may apply. Farm Credit Mid-America is an equal opportunity lender.  
\*Patronage is an annual decision made by the Board of Directors to return earnings to eligible customers. For more information on the Patronage program or patronage eligibility, please visit our website at [fcma.com/patronage](https://fcma.com/patronage)  
\*\*Conversions subject to eligibility requirements. Fees of \$500 may apply. Fee subject to change without notice. There may be additional fees associated with the conversion, such as a wholesale conversion fee.





SEVIERVILLE, TN 866-908-1001  
ATHENS, TN 423-745-3561  
LYNCHBURG, TN 931-759-4114  
LORETTO, TN 931-583-7166  
WAYNESBORO, TN 931-724-5627



WE BELIEVE IN  
**A FAIR PRICE  
FOR PROPANE,  
TOP NOTCH SERVICE**  
and  
**THE LOCAL FOLKS  
THAT MAKE IT ALL HAPPEN**

**NOW SIGNING GUARANTEED DELIVERY PROPANE CONTRACTS FOR THE  
2023/2024 SEASON WITH REASONABLE CREDIT TERMS AVAILABLE**

## Propane prices are currently at their lowest for the year

The Mont Belvieu Propane **Spot Price** on June 5, 2023 was at **\$0.603/gal.** which happens to be the lowest spot price experienced so far this year. The highest spot price this year was seen on Jan. 26th when it reached \$0.938.

Allowing for an average of \$0.60 per gallon for tariffs, handling and delivery to most areas, **the average current retail prices can be expected to be roughly \$1.20/gal.** Larger accounts can often negotiate a lower price agreement by as much as \$0.05/gal., or more. To follow Mont Belvieu spot pricing go to [https://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/hist/er\\_epllp\\_pf4\\_y44mb\\_dpgD.htm](https://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/hist/er_epllp_pf4_y44mb_dpgD.htm). TPA's allied member propane companies welcome discussing this with you to obtain best pricing and service. Their contact information is listed at the back of this newsletter in the allied membership listings.

Propane futures are projecting spot prices to stay fairly stable over the summer, with the low currently set for August at \$0.579 before slightly increasing later into the year to \$0.655 in Dec. To follow the futures trading for spot pricing go to <https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/energy/petrochemicals/mont-belvieu-propane-5-decimals-swap.html#>.

For **REAP grant funding** for energy retrofit projects go to <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-energy-america-program-renewable-energy-systems-energy-efficiency>. The next **application deadline** is **June 30, 2023**. Visit your local NRCS office for more information.

For an update on current **FMCSA emergency declarations, HOS waivers, and exemptions** go to <https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/emergency-declarations>. □

## Have you registered for the 2023 TPA Annual Meeting & Summer Getaway?

Register by **July 14** at **Tennessee Poultry Association (tnpoultry.org)**

More details on page 2 of this newsletter

## 4 common poultry leg issues explained

January 6, 2021 at [WattAgNet.com](https://www.wattagnet.com) by Elizabeth Doughman

Leg problems are a prevalent cause of mortality, production losses and welfare issues in chickens and turkeys. [Click here for full article](#) □

## Bacterial vaccine could reduce broiler lameness

April 26, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](https://www.wattagnet.com) by Elizabeth Doughman

University of Arkansas researchers are developing a vaccine that includes multiple bacterial species to reduce the incidence of bacterial chondronecrosis with osteomyelitis (BCO), a costly leg lameness in broilers. [Click here for full article](#) □

## Preseason Tune-Up for Summer Ventilation Fans

April 2, 2023 at [ThePoultrySite.com](https://thepoultrysite.com) by Hog Slat / Georgia Poultry

Performing preseason maintenance on summer fans will ensure they operate to their full capacity during hot weather ahead. Here's a basic preseason tune-up checklist. [Click here for full article](#) □

## Solar for Commercial Poultry

The "Solar for Commercial Poultry" webinar, presented by Dennis Brothers at Auburn University, is now live on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com). Thirty minutes of basic solar information focusing on poultry application is presented. [https://youtu.be/-uH\\_nLYvqw](https://youtu.be/-uH_nLYvqw) □

## Cleaning and Disinfection of Drinker Lines

March 29, 2023 at [CanadianPoultryMag.com](https://canadianpoultrymag.com) by Andrew Bourne

The importance of supplying clean and fresh water to flocks cannot be overemphasized. Water is the most important nutrient. After establishing the chemical and microbiological quality as well as the temperature of the water supply, it is important to ensure that these qualities are preserved. The house environment is conducive to the growth of bacteria, which, in turn, is potentially harmful to the health of the flock. Therefore, it is critical to have an established program of regular cleaning and disinfection of drinkers that should be designed to prevent or remove organic material and biofilm from inside the drinker lines. [Click here for full article](#) □



ClearViewEnterprises

Clear View Enterprises, LLC (CVE) was formed in 2004. We have taken over 40 years of service and experience, combined with our vendors' technical support teams, to bring you — the poultry producer — a complete line of nutritional supplements, insecticides, rodenticides and sanitation products.

*Over 40 years of service with your performance in mind*

710 Industrial Blvd • Gainesville, GA 30501  
Contact Johnny Smith at (770) 712-0015  
or visit our website [www.cvear.com](http://www.cvear.com)

## Mutant Salmonella 'more severe' in poultry tests

April 12, 2023 at [MeatingPlace.com](https://meatingplace.com) by Chris Scott

New research to determine how pathogenic bacteria colonize in the intestines of chickens indicates that mutant forms of salmonella caused more infections than related bacteria found in the wild.

Brazilian researchers deleted two genes from salmonella bacteria and previously discovered when tested in mice that the mutation allowed salmonella to survive in an environment without oxygen. That capability promoted intestinal colonization and dissemination in the guts of chickens when exposed to a production environment, the study found. "When these two genes were deleted, (salmonella bacteria) found other survival mechanisms and became even more pathogenic in birds," said one of the authors of the study, which was published in the journal Scientific Reports and released through Nature online.

The researchers at São Paulo State University's School of Agricultural and Veterinary Sciences (FCAV-UNESP) expressed surprise that the mutated salmonella strain caused more severe infections in chickens than bacteria found in the wild. The findings reinforce the need to launch animal health measures as soon as chicks are hatched through the period when the chickens are slaughtered, the researchers noted. Because very young chicks do not have fully formed immune systems, blocking potential routes for these bacteria to be introduced into poultry farms is critical, the researchers added. □



TENNESSEE  
FARMER SUICIDE  
PREVENTION

WE ARE HERE TO HELP:



1-800-273-TALK (8255)  
OR  
TEXT TN TO 741741





POULTRY FACILITIES

*Loans*

## A very specific loan product for a very specific client

BankPlus has a strong commitment to agriculture and to integrated poultry lending. For over 100 years, BankPlus has built our success on providing 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. Also, BankPlus has been recognized as a Top SBA Lender.**

## FREE GIFT!

Retro Fit, Refinance or  
Purchase your poultry  
facility with a \$500K+ loan  
from BankPlus and  
we'll bring you a free gift  
at closing!

# BankPlus®

BankPlus.net

### Leigha McLendon

Senior Vice President &  
Director of Guaranteed Lending  
601-607-4389  
LeighaMcLendon@BankPlus.net

### Kenny Williamson

Senior Vice President &  
Commercial Lending Team Leader  
601-607-4402  
KennyWilliamson@BankPlus.net



## Biden-Harris Administration Announces Availability of \$1 Billion to Help Farmers, Ranchers and Rural Businesses Invest in Renewable Energy Systems and Energy-Efficiency Improvements

WASHINGTON, March 31, 2023 – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that USDA is accepting applications starting on April 1 for \$1 billion in grants to help agricultural producers and rural small businesses invest in renewable energy systems and make energy-efficiency improvements. USDA is making the \$1 billion in grants available under the [Rural Energy for America Program](#) (REAP), with funding from President Biden's landmark Inflation Reduction Act, the nation's largest-ever investment in combatting the climate crisis.

"Supporting renewable energy and energy-saving systems helps the people of rural America create thriving, livable communities," Vilsack said. "When we invest in rural communities, we are supporting hard work that sends a ripple effect across our country. Clean energy is critical to the future of our economy, and the Inflation Reduction Act provides the Biden-Harris Administration with the resources to build a more prosperous rural America while tackling the climate crisis and lowering energy costs."

Recipients may use REAP funds to install renewable energy systems or to make energy-efficiency improvements. Eligible applicants include rural small businesses and agricultural producers. USDA will hold competitions quarterly through Sept. 30, 2024. The funding will also include the creation of the first underutilized technology fund in the REAP program, with \$144.5 million available in dedicated funding.

USDA is particularly interested in REAP projects that will help rural communities recover economically through more and better market opportunities and improved infrastructure, reduce climate pollution, and increase resilience to the impacts of climate change, conserve and protect farmland, and invest in underserved communities. The program is part of the Biden-Harris Administration's [Justice40 Initiative](#), which aims to ensure that 40% of the overall benefits of certain Federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized, underserved and overburdened by pollution.

To ensure that small projects have a fair opportunity to compete for the funding, USDA will set aside at least 20% of the available funds until June 30 of each year for grant requests of \$20,000 or less, including the grant portion of a combined grant and guaranteed loan request.

The maximum federal share which may be requested is up to 50% of the total project cost for all energy-efficiency projects and zero-emissions renewable energy systems. An award of up to 50% of the total project cost is also available for any project in a designated energy community and/or submitted by an eligible tribal entity. All other projects are eligible to apply for grants of up to 25% of the total project cost. The maximum grant is \$1 million for renewable energy systems and \$500,000 for energy-efficiency projects.

For additional information on application deadlines and submission details, see page 19239 of the March 31 [Federal Register](#). □

JUST  
**DON'T START A  
PULTRY FARM.**


**INVEST IN YOUR FUTURE.**

No matter your goals, we offer creative loan solutions for your poultry farm.

To learn more, visit [liveoakbank.com/ag](https://liveoakbank.com/ag)



**LiveOakBank®**

©2023 Live Oak Banking Company. All rights reserved. Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender. 



# DOING BUSINESS WITH A LOCAL FEELS GOOD.

I am your hometown  
Trusted Choice® insurance  
agent and I want to help protect  
what's important to you.  
#iamyourtrustedchoice

I am Independent.  
I am in your Community.  
I am your Trusted Choice®  
Independent Insurance Agent.



**RJA** Randy Jones  
& Associates

**Lecil Brothers**  
**(615) 790-6555**  
**lecil-brothers@leavitt.com**  
**rjainsurance.com**



## USPOULTRY Publishes Resource on Accident Prevention and Response for Cryogenic Chemicals

TUCKER, Ga. – March 27, 2023 – Cryogenic chemicals, such as liquid nitrogen, liquid carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), and solid CO<sub>2</sub> (dry ice), are often used in food processing. This includes grinding, mixing, coating, freezing and packaging foods. Food processors use these liquids to produce a variety of foods, including meat, poultry, baked goods and prepackaged meals.

To assist member companies in preparing staff to work with these chemical systems, a resource has been developed by USPOULTRY in concert with safety professionals. The resource is a collaboration of USPOULTRY and the National Association of SARA Title III Program Officials (NASTTPO) and is meant to inform industry and community emergency planning personnel and first responders on cryogenic chemicals and emergency response actions. NASTTPO is made up of members and staff of State Emergency Response Commissions (SERCs), Tribal Emergency Response Commissions (TERCs), Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) and various federal agencies. Cooperating and coordinating with the emergency response community provides the opportunity to advance their knowledge of poultry processing facilities and the operations that occur within them. This, in turn, can benefit their response efforts and enhance their safety if an event occurs that requires a response by emergency personnel.

There are additional items the poultry industry can focus on to facilitate using these chemicals safely. First, provide an industry tabletop exercise program for emergency preparation and planning with local emergency officials. Second, develop an inspection and testing program for cryogenic liquid freezers and associated equipment that will be comprised of routine and preventive maintenance intervals and equipment testing of key safety features. Third and finally, incorporate an industry safety management system that will focus on employee training, auditing and risk analysis of cryogenic chemical systems. This program will include the importance of adequate ventilation and air monitoring in areas where cryogenic equipment is in operation.

The resource is available free of charge to USPOULTRY members and can be accessed by clicking [here](#). □

---

## Better Chicken Commitment or Worst Chicken Commitment?

May 2, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](#)

Retailers and other people affiliated with all stages along the poultry supply chain were urged not to engage in conversations about adopting the Better Chicken Commitment, saying it is all part of a plan for animal rights activists to put an end to animal agriculture. [Click here for full article](#) □

---

## Phytogenic Water Blends Inhibit Campylobacter in Broilers

March 17, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](#) by Elizabeth Doughman

Providing a blend of phytogenic supplements to broilers in drinking water could improve Campylobacter control. "Since the use of antibiotics in the poultry industry contributes to various antibiotic-resistant Campylobacters, it is very important to control them at the production level to promote public health. Moreover, under antibiotic-free production conditions, identifying effective antibiotic alternatives is critical for sustainable poultry production," said Hanseo Ko, a graduate research assistant and Ph.D. student in the University of Georgia Department of Poultry Science. [Click here for full article](#) □

---

## Are cameras the future of woody breast detection?

March 13, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](#) by Emma Cottrell

The University of Arkansas's Agricultural Experiment Station is in the research and development stage of a hyperspectral camera that can help make the detection of poultry breast defects faster and more accurate. [Click here for full article](#) □

---

## High-tech cameras focused on chicken breast defect detection

March 29, 2023 at [ThePoultrySite.com](#) by John Lovett

Some research for poultry processing automation is more than meets the eye.

A multidisciplinary team of scientists at the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station are testing to see if hyperspectral images can be used to detect a chicken breast defect known as "woody breast" that costs the poultry industry millions of dollars annually and decreases customer satisfaction. [Click here for full article](#) □

---

## E. coli superbugs found in 40% of retail poultry, meat

April 17, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](#) by Elizabeth Doughman

Antibiotic use in poultry and other livestock is under scrutiny due to growing antibiotic resistance and consumer concerns. [Click here for full article](#) □





**AG LIGHTING**  
INNOVATIONS

An American Company 

# AG 25

DIMMABLE LED FIXTURE

**Brighter** - The AG25 LEDs create unmatched brightness while using less energy. This also leads to less light loss over time.

**Waterproof** - The low profile design is not only sleek and dustproof, but it is also fully enclosed making it 100% waterproof.

**Guaranteed** - Every AG25 comes with a 5-year warranty.

**Brighter.  
Waterproof.  
Guaranteed.**



**Better light.  
Better life.**

**NEW**

**AG3-30**

THE  
**FEEDER**  
LIGHT

**3000k or 5000k**  
*temperature*

**24V DC**  
*power*

**200 Lumens**  
*brightness*

**Easy Install**

See more at [PoultryLights.com](http://PoultryLights.com)





# FUNDRAISER HIGHLIGHTS

TOTAL RAISED FOR  
SCHOLARSHIPS  
**\$51,500**

On Tuesday May 23rd, we had the first leg of our annual scholarship fundraiser at the beautiful Hermitage Golf Course in Old Hickory, Tennessee. At 8 AM, the 96 golfers had perfect weather conditions and a smooth shotgun start!

With that many golfers, you can bet we had a lot of awards to give out. Off the first flight, coming in to take first place at eighteen under was Chemstation. Following close behind for second place was International Paper and Tyson Shelbyville at sixteen under.

*1st, Chemstation Team:* Ronnie Powell, Jacob Dotson, John Schmitt, Graham McBride

*2nd, International Paper and Tyson Shelbyville Team:* Russ Bratton, Andrew Blair, Josh Whitley, Hayden Blair

Off the second flight, Farm Credit Mid-America and Darling Ingredients tied at eight under, and after the scorecard playoff Farm Credit came in first.

*1st, Farm Credit Mid-America Team:* Cory Collier, Jake Young, Tyler Arms, Rick Collier

*2nd, Darling Ingredients Team:* Terry Paschall, Tim O'Connor, Tim Reeves, Jonathan Fox

We had a few Closest to the Pin winners too: Chase Cloyd with Perdue Farms and Micheal Vann with Proxy-Clean Products. Our longest drive also came from Chemstation; congratulations Hunter Bolden!

And a huge shout out to MTSU's Assistant Golf Coach Avery George and BackSwing Golf Events for hanging out with us on Hole 12 with a fundraiser of her own!

Thank you to everyone who came and played, donated, or just hung out with us! Your support is so appreciated.

Out at Cross Creek Clays in Palmyra, Tennessee on Wednesday May 24th, we had our second leg of the annual scholarship fundraiser. There were 64 shooters, 1 amazing lodge, and ideal weather for clay shooting.

Like the golf scramble, we had two flights. Our first flight winners were Keith Riley coming in first with a 108; first place alternate was Mark Turner with a 103. Second place was Brain Tacto shooting a 101. And third place with a 100 was Matthew Butler.

*1st, Tyson Foods OBC:* Keith Riley

*1st Alternate, TN Farm Bureau Federation:* Mark Turner

*2nd, Bank OZK:* Brian Tacto

*3rd, Cobb-Vantress Lafayette:* Matthew Butler

Off the second flight, David Wilds came in first with a 78. Second and third place had a playoff resulting in Greg Muir coming in second and Steven Carpenter coming in third, both shooting a 77.

*1st, Koch Foods Morristown:* David Wilds

*2nd, Pilgrim's:* Greg Muir

*3rd, Poultry Guard:* Steve Carpenter

Lastly, we had two individual winners this year as well! Lauren Hull of Cobb-Vantress Dry Creek was the highest scoring female with a 64! And 10 year old Acts Evans was our youth winner shooting a 58.

Thank you to everyone who came out and supported; we love spending time with you all and are so thankful for everything you do.



# Fun & Raiser

MAY 23RD - HERMITAGE GOLF COURSE  
MAY 24TH - CROSS CREEK CLAYS



# Fun & Raiser





## **WHEN BIRDS STAND ON PLT, PROFITS STACK UP**

Consistent quality. Predictable performance. Safe application – anytime.  
Don't settle for anything less.





## The future of Salmonella as an adulterant in poultry

November 2022 at [Watt Poultry USA](#) by Austin Alonzo

The Food Safety and Inspection Service is looking to declare the pathogen an adulterant. It remains unclear how soon the decision will carry the weight of law. [Click here for full article](#) □

---

## Mutated Salmonella provokes a bigger poultry immune response

April 12, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](#) by Elizabeth Doughman

A mutated Salmonella strain caused more severe infections in layer hens, reinforcing the importance of preharvest interventions against the foodborne pathogen. [Click here for full article](#) □

---

## NCC Expresses Grave Concerns with New FSIS Salmonella Regulation

April 25, 2023 at [NationalChickenCouncil.org](#) attributable to NCC President Mike Brown

The National Chicken Council today released the following statement in response to FSIS announcing its plans to declare Salmonella an adulterant in frozen, raw, breaded, stuffed, chicken products.

“NCC is gravely concerned that the precedent set by this abrupt shift in longstanding policy has the potential to shutter processing plants, cost jobs, and take safe food and convenient products off shelves, without moving the needle on public health.

“As these products often appear ready to eat, but contain raw chicken, we recognize their nature raises special considerations that merit additional attention. The National Chicken Council (NCC) and our member companies have invested millions of dollars and have worked for more than a decade to develop and refine best practices for these products to reduce Salmonella and protect public health. These efforts have been paying off, demonstrated by a significant decline in illnesses over the past seven years.” [Click here for full article](#) □

---

## USDA-FSIS Summarizes Foodborne Illness Outbreak Investigations, Sampling Activities for 2022

April 2023 at [Food-Safety.com](#)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food Safety and Inspection Service (USDA’s FSIS) has published two reports on its foodborne illness outbreak investigations and sampling activities for fiscal year (FY) 2022 (spanning Oct. 1, 2021–Sept. 30, 2022). [Click here for full article](#) □

---

## Meat and Poultry Label Requests

April 14, 2023 at [The Feed](#) on Behalf of the National Agricultural Law Center

Perdue Farms has asked USDA’s Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) to establish rules separately defining “free range” and “pasture-raised” on approved meat and poultry labels. This joins other pending requests for FSIS to alter its labels in some way, including PETA’s [2022 request](#) for the agency to remove itself from approving any kind of “animal raising claims.” Click [here](#) for the NALC Food Labeling Reading Room. □

---

## VIDEO: Inflation to drive chicken consumer behavior in 2023

March 28, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](#) by Elizabeth Doughman

Inflation is expected to be one of the biggest macroeconomic trends impacting chicken consumption this year. [Click here for full article](#) □

---

## Tyson completes Williams Sausage Company acquisition

May 23, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](#)

Tyson Foods completed the previously announced acquisition of Williams Sausage Company, Union City, Tennessee, furthering the company’s strategy to increase its capacity and product portfolio. [Click here for full article](#) □

---

## National Safety Month

June is recognized as “National Safety Month” by the National Safety Council (NSC). Each week in the month will have a different safety focus. Week one’s topic is Emergency Preparedness. Below are industry developed and NSC useful links on Emergency Preparedness.

USPOULTRY Training Resources: <https://www.uspoultry.org/programs/employee-safety/training-resources/>

NSC Week One – Emergency Preparedness: <https://www.nsc.org/workplace/national-safety-month/nsm-public-materials/week-1-public-materials> □



# 2023 Tennessee Poultry Live Production Workshop

On Wednesday, June 7th at the Farm Bureau Expo Center in Lebanon, TN, the TPA had it's yearly Live Production Workshop.

We had many great speakers. The first was Dr. Joel Cline with Wayne-Sanderson Farms talking about biosecurity and how to constantly improve. Next, we had Dr. Rachel Thiemann from Koch Foods sharing the enterococcus concerns and management.

Right before the lunch break, and chance to check out the 17 vendors booths, Chynette Todd with BioSafe Systems and CT Consulting spoke on water quality issues and cool cell management.

To wrap up the workshop, we had two Technical Representatives talk to us about breeder management tips: Daren Rakestraw (Aviagen) focusing on males and Jeff Steed (Cobb-Vantress) focusing more on females.

Thank you to everyone who came to learn and to all those who made this day possible.





## CAES Researchers Find Improved Treatments for Removing 'Forever Chemicals'

May 23, 2023 at [MorningAgClips.com](https://www.morningagclips.com) by Emily Cabrera

University of Georgia researchers in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and the College of Engineering are wrapping up the final year of a study to develop improved, cost-effective treatment systems with advanced technologies for removing polyfluoroalkyl and perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) from water, wastewater and biosolids. [Click here for full article](#) □

## FAO assesses the impact of gene editing on food safety

April 22, 2023 at [FoodSafetyNews.com](https://www.foodsafetynews.com) by Joe Whitworth

It is not essential to create a brand new set of regulations for gene editing and food safety, according to the FAO. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) reviewed food safety issues related to gene editing and said while approaches may vary, many countries have found a way to include gene-edited foods in an existing regulatory category to manage such issues. [Click here for full article](#) □

## Tyson Foods to test self-driving poultry delivery trucks

April 21, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](https://www.wattag.net) by Elizabeth Doughman

Tyson Foods will partner with C.R. England Inc. and Kodiak Robotics Inc. to pilot autonomous shipping of poultry and other meat products between Dallas and San Antonio, Texas. [Click here for full article](#) □

## Perdue's Beer Can Chicken Beer kicks-off grilling season

May 22, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](https://www.wattag.net) by Elizabeth Doughman

Perdue Farms released Beer Can Chicken Beer to help consumers grill that perfect beer can chicken just in time for Memorial Day, the unofficial start of summer. [Click here for full article](#) □

# TARGET YOUR FLOCK'S FEED CONVERSION



Don't risk your flock's feed conversion because of old, inefficient pans. Upgrade them with GrowerSELECT® Classic Flood feeders available in 10 different configurations. Extended, non-prorated 5 year warranty



105 Anthony Lane  
SHELBYVILLE, TN 37160

(931) 680-0742

[www.hogslat.com](http://www.hogslat.com)

© 2022 Hog Slat Inc. All Rights Reserved. Prices and promotions subject to change without notice. Hog Slat reserves the right to correct printing and pricing errors.

### Americans Love Meat and Say It's a Healthy Choice

May 24, 2023 in [Drovers Daily](#) by Jennifer Shike

A majority of Americans regularly eat meat and believe that it's a healthy choice, according to an exclusive Newsweek poll of 1,500 U.S. voters conducted by Redfield and Wilton Strategies. They also don't think the meat industry is bad for the climate.

- ◆ The poll showed 35% of people strongly agreed with the statement that it's healthy to eat meat, with 41% selecting "agree" and 17% selecting "neither agree nor disagree." Only 4% said that they disagreed, and a further 1% said that they strongly disagreed.
- ◆ In addition, 81% of people eat meat at least once a week, and 10% said that they ate it only once or twice a month. Only 4% and 3% of the respondents said that they rarely or never ate meat, respectively.
- ◆ The poll showed 55% would not feel safe eating lab-grown meat and 57% would not eat it. Although 30% of people said that they believed lab-grown meat provides a realistic alternative to meat produced from animals, 51% said they did not and 19% said they didn't know.

"Despite the great strides made by the vegetarian and vegan movements over the past few decades, most Americans aren't going to give up their meat-based diets anytime soon," the Newsweek article said. [Click here for full article](#) □

### Biden administration reaffirms commitment to cultivated meat

May 3, 2023 at [Alt-Meat.net](#) by Melissa Sue Sorrells

US Science and Technology Policy director wants to maintain leadership in the field. [Click here for full article](#) □

### Marel Announces Partnership with ADM to Accelerate Alternative Protein Innovation

March 7, 2023 at [Marel.com](#)

Marel announces a partnership with ADM to open a state-of-the-art taste and texture innovation center. The anticipated opening is scheduled to occur in the second half of 2024. The new facility, located in the heart of the Wageningen Campus in the Netherlands, will offer a unique space, including a pilot plant and laboratory, to further boost plant-based innovation, from concept to commercialization.

[Click here for full article](#) □

### Alternative Protein Labeling

April 14, 2023 at [The Feed](#) on Behalf of the National Agricultural Law Center

The Fifth Circuit has released its ruling in a challenge to the Louisiana law limiting packages using the label of "meat" or "meat products" to those derived from animals. The District Court had previously ruled that the law was unconstitutional because it violated the plaintiff's First Amendment right to commercial speech. After hearing arguments in February 2023, the Fifth Circuit reversed the district court ruling and upheld a "narrow reading" of the law. Specifically, it allowed enforcement of the law, but only against those companies who "actually intend" to mislead consumers. To learn more, a series of NALC publications about these types of statutes and the cases challenging them is available [here](#). □

**POULTRY**  
SOUTH.COM

*The Leaders in Marketing Poultry Farms!*

256-475-0490  
psteam@poultrysouth.com  
**www.poultrysouth.com**

**TENNESSEE  
FARMER SUICIDE  
PREVENTION**

**Cultivating Hope**  
*stress & suicide prevention in agriculture*



**Free & Anonymous**  
**CALL 1 - 800 - 273 - 8255**  
or **855 - CRISIS - 1**  
**WE ARE HERE TO HELP:**  
**TEXT TN TO 741741**







**SOUTHLAND**  
ORGANICS

**BETTER GUT  
HEALTH**

**BETTER BIRD  
PERFORMANCE**

MAXIMIZE YOUR FLOCK'S POTENTIAL  
WITH BENEFICIAL BIOLOGY AND ORGANIC ACIDS  
PROBIOTICS | VITAMINS | ACV

SOUTHLANDORGANICS.COM 800-608-3755  
ALLEN@SOUTHLANDORGANICS.COM

## Meat/Alt Protein

### Alt-protein is 'hungry for scientists and engineers'

April 10, 2023 at [Alt-Meat.net](https://alt-meat.net) by Melissa Sue Sorrells

The alt-protein sector needs to focus on attracting highly specialized talent to keep the industry moving, according to a new report from the Good Food Institute. [Click here for full article](#) □

### Solar Foods to debut 'air protein' in Singapore

May 24, 2023 at [Alt-Meat.net](https://alt-meat.net) by Melissa Sue Sorrells

Solein, the byproduct of microbes fed carbon dioxide, to get first public tasting. [Click here for full article](#) □

### Cultivated meat gets closer to U.S. commercialization

March 22, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](https://wattag.net) by Elizabeth Doughman

A second cultivated meat manufacturer, Good Meat, a subsidiary of Eat Just, received preliminary approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), moving lab-grown meat closer to commercialization. [Click here for full article](#) □

### Tufts reduces need for animal biopsies for cultivated meat

May 8, 2023 at [Alt-Meat.net](https://alt-meat.net) by Melissa Sue Sorrells

Research out of the Center for Cellular Agriculture focuses on immortalized cell lines. [Click here for full article](#) □

### [.....] Vegan sets up shop at Braves stadium

April 5, 2023 at [Alt-Meat.net](https://alt-meat.net) by Melissa Sue Sorrells

Baseball fans will have access to Pinky Cole's plant-based options throughout the 2023 season. [Click here for full article](#) □

### 'Plant-based'? Or face plant?

March 22, 2023 at [MeatingPlace.com](https://meatingplace.com) by Lisa M. Keefe

(The views and opinions expressed in this blog are strictly those of the author.)

"Meat and two veg" is the arrangement of a standard western dinner plate: The center of the plate protein and two plant-based side dishes, one of them most likely potatoes or other starch. But these long-term veggie sidekicks are doing more to push the animal proteins to the side — or off the plate entirely — than the "plant-based meat" products that the industry has focused its efforts on fighting.

And while overall per capita meat consumption, especially poultry, in the U.S. is up over levels just five years ago, the trend may not be obvious to the meat industry's workers reading inflammatory, anti-meat headlines. In response, many of the industry's players commenting on the Meatingplace website have taken aim at meat analogues: "Read the chemicals used to grow this. People will get sick" is one recent example. "Fake food" and "pink slime" and "Frankenfood" are common terms.

The data show that's not where the real pressure is coming from, in terms of what consumers are putting on their plates instead of animal protein.

Statista, working with the World Economic Forum, notes that the self-reported incidence of vegetarianism among U.S. consumers has risen to 5.1% of the total in 2022 from 2.9% just three years ago. In the U.K., the percentage has risen to 6.5% of all consumers, up from 5.5% three years ago, and in Germany the number is 6.0% up from 4.1%.

(At the same time, the incidence of vegetarianism in countries like India, China and Brazil have dropped, in some cases dramatically.)

In the U.S., restaurant industry research firm Datassential reports that "mushroom" appears on more than three-quarters of all menus in the country and "bean" on nearly two-thirds of all menus. "Cauliflower" is found on 21.4% of menus, but the number of dishes featuring the vegetable have risen 19% in the last four years.

Meanwhile, "veggie burger" pops up on 12.5% of menu, down 12% over the last four years. And as for those meat analogues, well, "plant-based burger" shows up on 6.7% of menus, "Impossible" on 3.3% and "Beyond" on 2.7%.

Think about it: When Chick-fil-A decided to woo flexitarians/vegetarians, they didn't do it with a plant-based faux chick'n — they went with a seasoned cauliflower sandwich. The Culinary Institute of America, where most of the country's most influential chefs got their start, is pushing hard on an initiative called The Plant-Forward Kitchen, launched in conjunction with the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

Plant-forward cuisine, the school says, is "a style of cooking and eating that emphasizes and celebrates plant-based foods — [produce]; whole grains; beans, [pulses] and soy foods; nuts and seeds; plant oils; and herbs and spices."

When a platter of chicken wings is easily, and inexpensively, substituted with roasted Buffalo cauliflower, is a spicy plant-based chick'n patty really the biggest challenger? When some 16% of consumers are looking to reduce their meat consumption, and lower their costs, by mixing their ground beef with mushrooms, are Beyond Crumbles the biggest threat?

Nobody's going to tell consumers to stop eating their vegetables. Perhaps the meat industry should invest more in playing nicely with these plants, instead of trying to fight back against plant-based. □

---

### Are Plant-Based Proteins too Focused on Mimicking Meat?

April 25, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](https://wattag.net) by Elizabeth Doughman

The meat alternative sector is letting down consumers by exclusively targeting ways to replicate the taste, texture and mouthfeel of consumers and other proteins. Plants and meat both plays vital roles in the diets of humans, but the modern plant-based segment of the market seems to have forgotten that.

"Plant-based should be about plants and not necessarily about meat," JP Frossard, VP, consumer foods analyst, Rabobank, said. "Unfortunately, the plant-based products we have nowadays are not looking to fill the gaps of plants in our diets, they are trying to replace meat." [Click here for full article](#) □

---

### Plant-based egg company cuts labor to grow profitability

March 15, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](https://wattag.net) by Meredith Johnson

Plant-based company Eat Just Inc. is cutting approximately 18% of its workforce in its JUST Egg division. [Click here for full article](#) □

---

### FDA warns molecular farming startups to be mindful of allergen risks

April 14, 2023 at [Alt-Meat.net](https://alt-meat.net) by Melissa Sue Sorrells

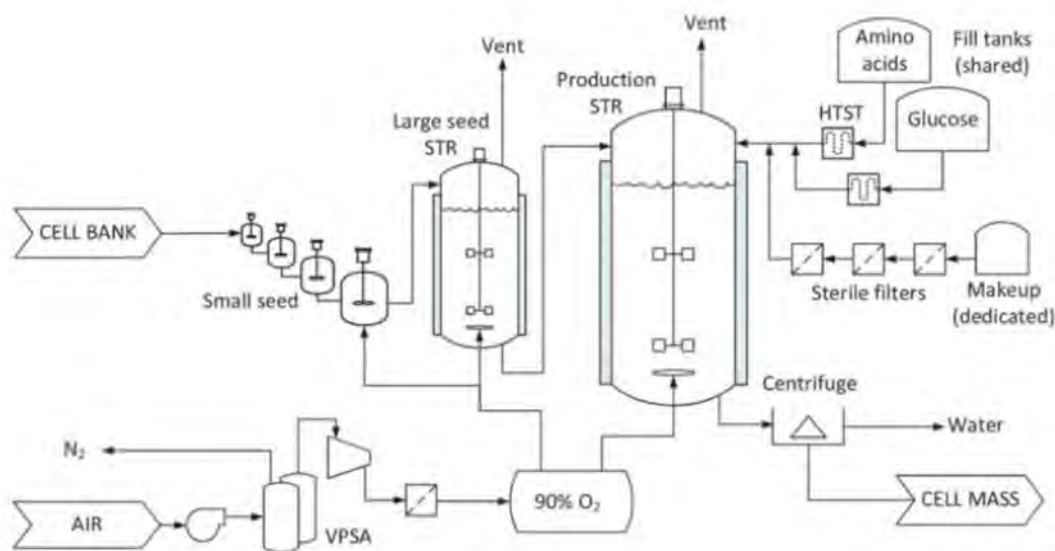
Regulators ask food-tech startups to "consider the food safety risks."

The FDA on Thursday issued an open letter to molecular farming food-tech startups — which use plants as bioreactors to create animal proteins — expressing the importance of allergen management. [Click here for full article](#) □



## Carbon footprint of lab-grown meat potentially worse than beef

May 24, 2023 at [BeefMagazine.com](https://beefmagazine.com)



### Study finds scaling up production using existing processes highly energy-intensive.

Lab-grown meat, which is cultured from animal cells, is often thought to be more environmentally friendly than beef because it's predicted to need less land, water and greenhouse gases than raising cattle. But in a preprint, not yet peer-reviewed, researchers at the University of California, Davis, have found that lab-grown or "cultivated" meat's environmental impact is likely to be "orders of magnitude" higher than retail beef based on current and near-term production methods. [Click here for full article](#) □

## EVERY EGG MATTERS

Our breeder egg conveyor provides a **gentle, safe and secure ride from the egg transfer to the packer**, because when it comes to breeder eggs, we know that every one matters.

To **increase your number of hatchable eggs** contact a LUBING representative today.



Able to accommodate elevation changes and curves



Floor standing or hanging from the ceiling

# LUBING

RELENTLESS QUALITY. EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE.

[WWW.LUBINGUSA.COM](http://WWW.LUBINGUSA.COM) | [INFO@LUBINGUSA.COM](mailto:INFO@LUBINGUSA.COM) | 423-709-1000

## When will the idyllic view of natural egg production end?

March 30, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](http://WattAgNet.com) by Benjamin Ruiz

Wake up! Real life is different than movies and novels. Urbanites have the idea that producing organic food, GMO-free, pesticides-free, preservatives-free, cage-free and a long whatever-free list is the best. But nothing is farther from reality than this.

An article just published in the Spanish newspaper El País entitled “Four brands of eggs that stand out in flavor” came to my attention. First, in the subhead the author states that the secret is “to treat and feed well the hens that lay the eggs” (sic). The “other” hens must be real heroes and have superpowers to be able to produce “under mistreatment and malnourishment.”

Then, the article goes on explaining the special characteristics of each Spanish brand that provides the best flavor attribute. I must emphasize that all their clients are exclusive, deluxe and spent lots of money on food. Nothing is farther from reality. I will go on and mention a few examples, without specifying the brand:

1. Support from renowned chefs – this only helps to increase prices, not a good idea nowadays. How do they know that X or Y eggs taste better? Do they carry sensory panels?
2. Eggs from older hens taste better – I have no idea how old these hens are, but I don’t even want to think how inefficient they are in terms of feed conversion. This goes totally against sustainability.
3. Hens are fed with “special and natural feeds,” formulated with corn, soybeans or barley – oh my! It’s good to know that corn, soybeans, and barley are special, natural feed ingredients. I wonder what ingredients the “other” hens are fed with.
4. Putting quality before profitability – yes, of course, but will they be putting in money from their own pocket?
5. The intention is to produce a good product like the one made by our ancestors – who said that things were better before? This is the habit of clinging to the past.
6. The secret ingredient is paprika or marigold flowers (imported from Mexico) – secret ingredients? Do they know paprika and marigold flowers are no secret for pigmenting egg yolks everywhere in the world?
7. Good quality eggs are those that are clean, with no cracks, with thick albumen and centered yolk – these are not quality attributes of eggs produced in cage-free, free-range environments. This is important under any production system.

But the cherry on top was that one of the egg brands was famous because the Spanish emeritus king eats them – really?

Here's the importance of teaching journalists who write for the general public what our industry is like. What do you think? ▢

**Hubbard**  
YOUR CHOICE, OUR COMMITMENT



HUBBARD CONVENTIONAL  
*the efficient choice!*

### EFFICIENCY PLUS



HIGH NUMBER OF GOOD QUALITY  
HATCHING EGGS AND CHICKS  
AT LOW COST

[www.hubbardbreeders.com](http://www.hubbardbreeders.com)



## Activist Watch Weekly – by Will Coggin

### **April 1, 2023 - Italy Moves to Ban Lab-Grown Meat**

On Tuesday, the Italian government approved a bill banning lab-grown food and animal feed in an effort to protect the country's food heritage. "Laboratory products in our opinion do not guarantee quality, well-being, and the protection of our culture, our tradition," said Agriculture Minister Francesco Lollobrigida.

### **Cell-Cultivated Meat Company Shuts Down**

Cultivated meat startup New Age announced it will be shutting down operations after failing to secure funding for a new project. The company had raised \$32 million from investors.

### **Lab-Grown Meatballs Made from a 5,000-Year-Old Mammoth**

Australian cultivated food startup Vow used the DNA of an extinct mammoth to make meatballs. Scientists synthesized the cultured meat by harnessing the protein myoglobin found in mammoth tissue and building a muscle cell using data from an elephant genome. It will be featured in a collection at a science museum in the Netherlands.

[A quote from the linked article states: "Normally, we would taste our products and play around with them. But we were hesitant to immediately try and taste because we're talking about a protein that hasn't existed for 5,000 years. I've got no idea what the potential allergenicity might be of this particular protein,"...]

I can't pass up the opportunity to say: "no balls to try the meatballs"!!!! I'd try it since they brought it this far. Probably too costly to replicate (or concern it might not be able to be duplicated) and they wanted this one for the museum.

### **April 8, 2023 - Lab-Grown Meat Companies Trying to Convince Consumers to Eat Hybrid Meat**

The cultivated meat industry is gradually [pivoting](#) to hybrid meat containing both a cell-based component and plant-based ingredients. As one industry leader observes, "It always shocked me that people were still trying to sell the dream of 100 percent cultivated," he says. "I do think people have done themselves and the industry a bit of a disservice on that."

### **April 10, 2023 - Animal Groups Endorse the Farm System Reform Act**

Three hundred organizations, including animal rights groups, [signed a letter](#) urging lawmakers to support the Farm System Reform Act, which adds radical language to the 2023 Farm Bill. Among its many far-reaching demands, the bill would place a moratorium on all new and expanding large farms and restore mandatory "country of origin" labeling for meat.

### **Animal Rights Groups Call on the World Bank to Stop Farm Loans**

Friends of the Earth and animal activists are urging the World Bank Group to stop "investing in the expansion of factory farming."

### **April 22, 2023 - Survey: Young Vegans Struggle with Meat Cravings**

A new poll [surveyed](#) Americans born between 1997 and 2012—or "Gen Z"—to explore why people go vegan. Fifty percent of vegans pursue the diet because of perceived "health benefits" while only three percent of those surveyed say they were inspired by social media influencers. Moreover, roughly 37 percent of Gen Z vegans struggle with craving animal products—including meat—while 34 percent say they miss out on "good meals."

### **May 6, 2023 - Activists Find Companies Not Meeting Poultry Pledges**

In its first annual "ChickenTrack" [report](#), Compassion in World Farming alleges that more than half of corporate commitments on chicken welfare have not been fulfilled. This mimics what we have seen with pork and egg pledges, with many companies quietly removing or rolling back pledges – likely after realizing they've been sold a bill of goods. Animal activists are now "following up" on pledges; in March, Compassion in World Farming was [given \\$550,000](#) to focus on the "implementation" of egg and poultry pledges.

### **May 13, 2023—Lab-Grown Meat May Be 25 Times Worse for Environment**

A [new study](#) reveals that producing lab-grown meat can emit up to 25 times more emissions than it takes to produce beef. The reason behind this discrepancy? The current production methods of cultivated meat are highly energy-intensive, depending on large laboratories requiring loads of electricity. If scaled, the carbon footprint for cell-based meat is only expected to rise. These numbers put into question the cultured meat industry's claim that it offers a greener alternative to livestock production.

### **May 20, 2023 - Beyond Meat Faces Class Action Lawsuit from Investors**

A group of Beyond Meat investors [launched](#) a class action lawsuit last week, alleging the plant-based meat company issued misleading statements about its growth outlook and manufacturing capacity. Beyond Meat has faced a [challenging year](#)—laying off around 20 percent of its workforce, experiencing a stock slump, and struggling with declining sales. On top of that, the company already faces another class action [lawsuit](#) brought by a group of consumers arguing its products falsely claim to be nutritionally equivalent to standard meat.

### **Penn State to Make 35% of its Entrees Vegan Following HSUS Partnership**

"We look forward to working with the Humane Society of the United States toward increasing the plant-based entree offerings at Penn State," [said](#) a university spokeswoman. Meanwhile, "The University of Michigan announced late last year that it plans for more than half of its entrees to be plant-based by 2025, while the University of Wisconsin aims for 30% plant-based entrees by that same year." HSUS regularly pressures food service companies like Aramark and Sodexo to serve less animal protein. □

## SCOTUS Reaffirms Limits of the Clean Water Act

May 25, 2023 - American Farm Bureau Federation announcement

In a long-awaited, highly anticipated announcement, the U.S. Supreme Court handed down its ruling in *Sackett vs. EPA*, voting unanimously in favor of two Idaho landowners who argued the wetlands on their property did not qualify to be under the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act. This ruling addresses 3 key components of the Clean Water Act and the authority of the federal government:

- 1. Use of the significant-nexus test.** The judges voted unanimously to eliminate the significant-nexus test, which sought to determine whether bodies of water significantly affect navigable waters and can therefore be regulated by the federal government as waters of the U.S., calling this method "implausible."
- 2. Definition of "waters of the United States".** The ruling clarifies the Clean Water Act's definition of "waters" to encompass "only those relatively permanent, standing, or continuously flowing bodies of water forming geographical features that are described in ordinary parlance as streams, oceans, rivers, and lakes." This provides a much clearer determination of which waters are subject to jurisdiction by the federal government.
- 3. Jurisdiction of wetlands.** SCOTUS reaffirms the Clean Water Act only applies to wetlands if they are "indistinguishable from waters of the United States." They also go on to require EPA to establish two criteria before asserting jurisdiction over these wetlands:
  - ◆ First, the adjacent body of water must constitute waters of the United States as previously defined (i.e., a relatively permanent body of water connected to traditional interstate navigable waters).
  - ◆ Second, the wetland must have a "continuous surface connection" to that water.

**What does this mean for the 2023 WOTUS Rule?** Although this ruling doesn't specifically address the 2023 WOTUS Rule, because it clarifies the jurisdiction of the federal government under the Clean Water Act, the EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers cannot functionally enforce it. To read the full opinion, [click here](#). □

---

## US to toughen water pollution rules for meat plants

March 1, 2023 at [Reuters.com](#) by Leah Douglas

WASHINGTON, March 1 (Reuters) - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency intends to update its water pollution rules for slaughterhouses for the first time in nearly 20 years, the agency announced on Wednesday, following a lawsuit from environmental groups arguing current standards are too weak.

Under the U.S. Clean Water Act, the EPA regulates wastewater discharge from meat and poultry plants into nearby lakes and streams. Neighboring communities have increasingly complained that the discharges have dirtied their environment and drinking water.

Slaughterhouses are the top emitting industry of phosphorus, a mineral that can asphyxiate fish by triggering explosive growth of algae and aquatic plants in water. They are also huge emitters of nitrogen, which can have a similar impact.

According to EPA documents, 74% of meat plants that discharge wastewater to surface waters are within one mile of low-income communities or communities of color.

The EPA's move to update meat and poultry industry standards is part of a proposed consent decree that would settle litigation with community and environmental groups who sued the agency late last year over the issue.

"EPA's plan to strengthen these rules is a win for downstream communities," said Sarah Kula, an attorney with the Environmental Integrity Project, one of the groups that sued. EPA last updated the regulations in 2004.

Just 300 of the nation's 7,000 meat and poultry slaughter and rendering plants are covered by existing water discharge standards, which apply to plants over a certain size that discharge directly into streams, lakes or oceans, according to EPA documents.

The EPA did not immediately respond to a request for comment. The U.S. Poultry and Egg Association and North American Meat Institute also did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

The proposed standards will be published by the end of 2023 and finalized by 2025. □

---

## The ever-changing poultry industry *(continued from page 4)*

These pre-treatment standards are likely to include limits on nitrogen, phosphorus, and chlorides. They also may include limits on BOD, TSS and O&G. The engineering costs, equipment costs and construction costs to meet the new pretreatment standards can be very costly.

Additionally, on March 29, 2023, EPA proposed regulations that include six Per- and Polyfluorinated Substances (**PFAS**). EPA's proposal would establish Maximum Contaminate Level Goals (MCLGs) and a National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) for the six PFAS in public drinking water supplies. Specifically, the proposal would establish MCLGs of zero (0) for PFOA and PFOS and an enforceable Maximum Contaminate Level (MCL) for PFOA and PFOS in drinking water at 4.0 ppt. □



### EPA's new drinking water regulation is set on overdrive

May 1, 2023 at [WattAgNet.com](https://WattAgNet.com) by Paul Bredwell

**A new, potentially onerous environmental regulation could impact the poultry and egg industries.**

#### The proposal

On March 29, 2023, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a proposed national drinking water regulation for six substances known for their resiliency against breakdown. These so-called forever chemicals recently gained much attention for their potential human health risk.

The six substances covered in the proposed regulations are a class of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, also known as PFAS chemicals. These chemicals, present since the 1940s, are used to make water resistant fabrics, nonstick cookware and foam to fight fires.

The production of many of these materials ended due to the environmental and health concerns associated with them. Nevertheless, their chemical stability keeps them from degrading and can build up in the environment including in groundwater and surface water.

#### Issues

Although the EPA indicated its proposing the regulation to protect the drinking water of U.S. citizens and reduce exposure to PFAS substances – which certainly falls within the agency's responsibility – the proposal demonstrates the EPA's impulsive and flawed regulatory posture.

To begin, EPA is giving a mere 60 days to develop and submit comments in response to this highly technical proposal.

There are more than 1,400 supporting and related material documents the regulated public should be given time to review as they develop comments in response to the proposed regulation. While 60 days is the status quo for virtually every regulation developed by the current administration, the timetable is woefully insufficient for this proposal.

The rule's proposal to establish a Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) of 4 parts per trillion (ppt) is a serious concern. To give that quantity some perspective, 4 ppt would represent 4 grains of sand in an Olympic-size swimming pool. This level is, in fact, the detection level of the current analytical laboratory tests for quantifying the concentration of these materials in water.

For all practical purposes, this means the allowable concentration of these six substances is zero.

The proposed regulation could most impact the meat, poultry and egg industries by its effect on facilities using groundwater to harvest and process animals.

By providing water to 25 or more people for at least 60 days per year, these facilities operate what is classified as a "non-transient, non-community water system." These types of systems will be required to adhere to the regulation. This will include sampling and testing, as well as the installation of costly treatment equipment, if the water supply exceeds the MCLG.

#### Conclusion

A review of the comment docket identifies numerous clauses outlining critical aspects requiring extensive and time-consuming analysis. We can only hope the EPA seeks a fair, scientifically robust process to finalize a regulation with far-reaching consequences and, at the very least, extends the public comment period. The original deadline for submitting comments was set at May 30, 2023. □

---

### EPA Reviews CAFOs

April 14, 2023 at [The Feed](https://TheFeed.com) on Behalf of the National Agricultural Law Center

EPA has announced that it will respond to a petition submitted by various environmental groups in 2017 asking the Agency to draft stronger rules for the regulation of concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) under the Clean Water Act. The announcement is part of a settlement agreement reached between EPA and the environmental groups who filed suit against EPA last October after the Agency failed to respond to the petition. In their petition, the environmental groups have claimed that EPA has underregulated CAFOs by failing to require certain monitoring, ignoring various "pollutants of concern," and by allowing a broad reading of the agricultural stormwater exemption. For more background on this issue, read NALC article [Enviro Groups Ask EPA to Revisit CWA CAFO Rules](#). □

---

### Bill proposes moratorium on CAFOs

May 3, 2023 at [ManureManager.com](https://ManureManager.com) by Bree Rody

A bill tabled in February, while not likely to be enacted, would propose sweeping changes for the farming industry and community. [Click here for full article](#) □

**EMAIL TRACY@TNPOULTRY.ORG TO ADVERTISE IN THE TPA NEWSLETTER**

## Letter From The Editor: Next! (RE: Ag-gag laws)

April 3, 2023 at [FoodSafetyNews.com](https://www.foodsafetynews.com) by Dan Flynn

Animal Agriculture's security requirements have only grown in recent years. Yet the legal strategy for security has largely come up short because the law put First Amendment rights over the security needs of farms and ranches.

This reality has been a drawn-out affair. Back in the day, animal activist organizations all seemed to be hiring operatives who were skilled at getting themselves hired by animal agriculture. Once on the inside, the operatives would record any real or perceived animal cruelty.

If state or local authorities took it seriously, animal cruelty charges could put serious hurt to a herd or brand, and usually, the operative's work also made animal agriculture look pretty stupid.

Around 2010, animal agriculture began to strike back by obtaining what became known as "ag-gag" laws. In the beginning, these were clumsy additions to state criminal laws. The only one that ever involved an arrest, which was hastily dropped, involved a city taking an animal activist into custody for taking pictures from entirely public property.

That arrest was based on a law that was among the first struck down for constitutional concerns and caused animal agriculture to shift its security concerns to civil law strategies. The civil law approach was prominent in North Carolina's "ag-gag" law. However, as it related to newsgathering activity, it was also found largely unconstitutional.

This litigation has now gone on for more than a decade in both district and circuit courts. No Supreme Court review has occurred. The one powerful force that has carried the day is the legal expertise that animal activists are able to deploy. One state assistant attorney general after another has been out-lawyered.

I started out with the simple thought that it's time for animal agriculture to end the "ag-gag" legislation era. Technology costs for security have dropped dramatically in recent years, and some Artificial Intelligence devices hold real promise for keeping unsecured people out. And the current outbreaks of avian flu are security lessons in progress.

In Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, North Carolina, Utah and Wyoming the ag-gag laws are Swiss cheese with enough of their parts shot full of holes by the courts to be ineffective. It means the ag-gag wars are over, animal agriculture has lost and it is time to accept that fact and move on to non-law options that will work.

It is true that some of these "ag-gag" cases were real head-scratchers. The idea that multiple federal judges are okay with someone lying on a job application to get a job on a farm or ranch is not something I ever thought might be covered by the First Amendment.

If someone were to lie on a job application for some federal job, I somehow doubt the First Amendment would provide enough cover to keep that applicant out of federal prison.

My belief that the "ag-gag" era is over is not shared by all. Alabama, Missouri, Montana, and North Dakota are among the states with "ag-gag" provisions that remain active and are not currently being challenged. That's according to a new report by Husch Blackwell, a law firm with offices in 20 cities that represents the animal production industry.

That report says that when access to property is gained through deception or fraud, "criminal penalties should apply no matter the purported good intentions of the trespasser." That's sort of where we came in. The protection animal agriculture sought for more than a decade impedes news gathering activity protected by the First Amendment.

The "ag-gag" legislation adopted by 10 agricultural states has largely fallen to constitutional challenges from animal activists' more skilled legal works. It's over. Animal agriculture lost and it needs to move on. □

---

## Activist groups fight revival of Iowa's 'ag gag' law

April 17, 2023 at [MeatingPlace.com](https://www.meatingplace.com) by Chris Moore

Animal rights groups are fighting back against the revival of Iowa's "ag gag" law, which intended to criminalize the use of video and audio recordings "on trespassed property" in agricultural facilities.

The law also prohibited making a false statement or representation to gain access to the facilities to make the recordings.

In September, a federal judge sided with five animal activist groups suing Iowa, stating that Iowa's law violates free speech protections provided by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

In February, Iowa Pork Producers Association appealed the ruling in the 8th Circuit Court.

This week, Animal Legal Defense Fund, Bailing Out Benji, Food & Water Watch, Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement and People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals Inc. said the state has not justified any of the law's applications to speech. The activists have long argued that there is no exception to the First Amendment in connection with trespassing.

The law originally went into effect in 2012 and was struck down in 2019. A judge shot down a second law in March 2022. Courts in other states have taken similar stances. □



## FSIS grants modified waivers to poultry establishments

April 3, 2023 in [MeatingPlace.com](#) by Chris Moore

FSIS conducted granted modified line speed waivers to eligible establishments that provided worker safety information after the agency conducted a study on worker safety in select poultry facilities.

A team of third-party worker-safety experts measured the impact of increased line speeds on worker safety as part of the study, according to a release from the agency.

FSIS completed its evaluation of the submissions and issued letters granting the modified line speed waivers. The worker safety experts will complete data analysis and send their draft report to FSIS during the period of the modified line speed waivers, which will last until March 31, 2024. The list of establishments receiving modified line speed waivers is available on FSIS' website.

In addition, FSIS is ending the existing young chicken line speed waiver program at the start of the modified waiver program.

The U.S. District Court of the District of Columbia granted USDA's motion for voluntary remand in January 2022, allowing them to reconsider the poultry line speed waiver program in light of time-limited trials implemented for certain swine establishments participating in the New Swine Slaughter Inspection System. □

---

## Federal Bill Shields Farmers from Climate Rule

March 14, 2023 at [HydeSmith.senate.gov](#)

U.S. Senators Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS) and John Boozman (R-AK) reintroduced the Protect Farmers from the SEC Act (S.391), which exempts farmers and ranchers from a new climate mandate. The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) recently proposed requiring public companies to disclose their greenhouse gas emissions—including “indirect emissions” that implicate the agricultural supply chain.

[Click here for full article](#) □

---

## USDA mandates new disclosures for poultry growers

October 2022 at [Watt Poultry USA](#) by Austin Alonzo

U.S. integrated poultry companies may soon be required to disclose far more information to contract growers than ever before in a regulatory effort to boost grower knowledge and leveraging power. [Click here for full article](#) □

---

## Farm Loans & NEPA Review

April 14, 2023 at [The Feed](#) on Behalf of the National Agricultural Law Center

A federal judge has issued an order overturning a Farm Service Agency (FSA) 2016 regulation that categorically exempted loans granted to medium-sized concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review. According to the judge, FSA failed to provide adequate public notice before adopting the regulation. The judge did not address whether the exemption of farm loans to medium-sized CAFOs was invalid under NEPA, and instead ruled purely on FSA's failure to go through the notice-and-comment rulemaking process. Click [here](#) to read the court's decision. □

---

## USDA Agency Predicts Farms Will Be Regulated by Animal Welfare Act

April 29, 2023 at [Activist Watch Weekly](#) by Will Coggin

The USDA Animal and Plant Inspection Health Service (APHIS) [warned](#) that farms and ranches might be subject to regulations from the Animal Welfare Act. “As the list of animals considered pets expands, farms may be subject to AWA regulations,” the agency said. “APHIS will take a more holistic approach to address the public's growing concern for the welfare of conventional and unconventional pets.” (Emphasis added.) □

---

## APHIS Predicts Farm Animals Could Ultimately Be Subject to AWA Regulation

April 25, 2023 at [Blogs.DuaneMorris.com](#) by John M. Simpson

The Animal and Plant Inspection Health Service (APHIS) is the U.S. Department of Agriculture sub-agency charged with administering and enforcing the federal Animal Welfare Act (AWA) , 7 U.S.C. § 2131, et seq. In connection with its “Strategic Plan” for 2023-27, APHIS issued a Strategic Foresight Report that “examines 10 societal, environmental, and technological trends that the Agency must be prepared to navigate.” One such trend is “[e]volving perceptions around animal welfare and wildlife in human society.” [Click here for full article](#) □

## 117 Groups Tell Congress: Fund Rural Clean Energy

April 24, 2023 at [ELPC.org](https://elpc.org)

### Agriculture, business, environmental organizations call for fully funding popular Rural Energy for America Program

A coalition of 117 agriculture, trade, environmental and business groups have signed a letter calling on Congress to fully fund the popular Rural Energy for America Program (REAP), which brings energy efficiency and renewable energy opportunities to farms, ranches and rural small businesses across the country.

“REAP has broad support across American society, as this letter shows, because it serves so many and provides so many benefits for improved farm income, environmental protection and rural economic development,” said Andy Olsen, Senior Policy Advocate of the Environmental Law and Policy Center.

The 117 organizations that signed on to support REAP include national and state-level agricultural and producer groups, alongside environmental advocates and key business leaders. This diverse coalition highlights how support for the program transcends issue and sector.

“REAP supports both our nation’s farms and the environment, a winning combination,” said Adam Warthesen, Director of Government & Industry Affairs for Wisconsin-based food cooperative Organic Valley. “As a cooperative that markets our farmer’s milk, agriculture products with sustainable origins are increasingly important to our customers. REAP leverages investments that make farms more efficient and desirable partners within the food/farm supply chain.”

Since its inception, REAP has helped over 22,000 farmers, ranchers and rural small businesses to implement renewable energy and energy efficiency improvements. REAP is popular and widely supported, with applications greatly exceeding available funds.

“Tennessee poultry growers support REAP because it helps our members cut costs, increase incomes and reduce their carbon footprint, which is increasingly important in today’s marketplace,” said Dale Barnett, Executive Director of the Tennessee Poultry Association.

Through energy audits and renewable energy development assistance, REAP opens new opportunities for more farmers and rural small businesses in every state and across agricultural sectors. REAP supports a wide range of clean energy choices that help cut farm input costs and increase income; REAP supports wind and solar power, energy efficiency and more.

The letter, sent Monday, calls on Congressional Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittees leaders to support the Rural Energy for America Program with full mandatory and discretionary funding as they consider agriculture appropriations legislation for fiscal year 2024. □

---

## SCOTUS Rules that California Proposition #12 is Constitutional

May 15, 2023 at [Egg-News.com](https://egg-news.com) by Simon M. Shane

The Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) rendered an opinion on the constitutionality of California Proposition #12 on May 11th following oral arguments heard on October 11th, 2022. In a 5 to 4 decision, SCOTUS denied the petition submitted by the National Pork Producers Council, et al. and affirmed the opinion of the 9th Circuit Court that Proposition #12 was constitutional.

The petitioners claimed that Proposition #12 contravened the dormant Commerce Clause. They based their arguments on the contention that states are enjoined from issuing and enforcing regulations that have economic outcomes independently of legislation enacted by Congress. The majority opinion stated “The Commerce Clause prohibits enforcement of state laws that are driven by economic protectionism—that is, regulatory measures designed to benefit in-state economic interest by burdening out-of-state competitors.” This is an established principle in case law. The Petitioners largely based their case on the precedent established by *Pike v Bruce Church, Inc.* This case involved a law passed by the state of Arizona requiring that cantaloupes should be processed and packed in the state before shipment beyond the borders of Arizona.

In the majority opinion written by Justice Gorsuch, the argument based on *Pike* “Falters out of the gate.” In the opinion of the Court, the petitioners overstated the extent to which *Pike* and its derivatives departed from the antidiscrimination rule that lies at the core of Commerce Clause jurisprudence. The petitioners claimed that Proposition #12 would require a “massive disruption of the pork industry”. Gorsuch noted, “If pig husbandry really does imperatively demand a single uniform nationwide rule, they are free to petition Congress to intervene.” This, in fact, may represent the next approach by the National Pork Board.

The opinion noted, “This Court has inferred an additional judiciary enforceable rule against certain especially discriminatory state laws adopted even against the backdrop of Congressional silence. But ‘extreme caution’ is warranted before a court deploys this implied authority. Petitioners would have us cast aside caution for boldness. They have failed repeatedly to persuade Congress to use its express Commerce Clause authority to adopt a uniform rule for pork production. The opinion continued “In-state petitioners invite us to endorse two new theories of implied judicial power. They would have us recognize an almost per se rule against the enforcement of state laws that have extra territorial effects even though this Court has recognized that virtually all state laws create ripple effects beyond their borders. Alternatively, they would have us prevent a state from regulating the sale of an ordinary consumer good within its own borders on nondiscriminatory terms, even though the *Pike* line of cases they invoke has never before yielded such a result”. *(continued on next page)*



## SCOTUS Rules that California Proposition #12 is Constitutional *(continued from previous page)*

It must be remembered that the National Pork Board effectively scuttled the establishment of a federal standard for housing of laying hens that would have been included in the 2018 Farm Bill as the so-called 'Egg Bill'. This would have established either barn housing or enriched colony modules as alternatives to conventional cages. The principles to have been incorporated in the proposed 'Egg Bill' arose from negotiations between United Egg Producers and the Humane Society of the United States. With the demise of the 'Egg Bill', the requirements of Proposition #12 and the 2016 Question #3 adopted Massachusetts, along with similar previously enacted welfare bills in other state-imposed restrictions on livestock housing.

Proposition #12 does not enforce any specific requirements on a livestock producer outside California. The Proposition, however, does require that producers desiring to ship eggs and pork products to California must comply with the requirements that apply to producers in the State.

The issue of housing sows in gestation crates is more a question of acceptance by consumers and customers than the legal issue that has now been settled. There is considerable consumer and customer opposition to gestation crates that are regarded as "cruel" as defined in Proposition #12.

Faced with the reality of conversion from gestation crates incorporated in the text of California Proposition #2 adopted in 2008, many producers commenced a slow transition to group housing. This required capital investment and changes in the husbandry of sows and acceptance of deterioration in reproductive performance. It is estimated that forty percent of sows are currently held under conditions which approximate the requirements of California regulations. Major packers including Tyson Foods, Smithfield Foods and others have committed to a program of conversion to satisfy both state and customer requirements.

The egg industry, in contrast, embarked on a program of conversion that probably has incurred in excess of \$5 billion for alternatives to conventional cages including retrofitted to existing suitable housing in addition to erection of new purpose-deigned buildings and complexes. At the present time, 38 percent of a nominal U.S. flock of 325 million hens is housed in other than conventional cages reflecting state legislation and customer demand. Despite coerced commitments made in 2018 by the restaurant segment, retail chains and other users of eggs to source from other than conventional cages by 2025, the pace of change has slackened. Many customers have extended their compliance dates and others have reneged on commitments. It appears the food service segment has complied but companies in this category have the ability to pass on higher cost of sourcing cage-free eggs to their end users including hospitals, universities, corporate dining and others. Some retailers have totally embraced Proposition #12. This is a function of corporate ownership and policies, multinational operation, consumer demographics and their buying power. Generally, it is accepted that by 2025 and for years thereafter, one third of all hens will be housed in either conventional cages or in enriched colony modules, since retailers require a range of appropriately priced eggs to satisfy consumer demand.

The progressive approach by the egg industry contrasts with a proportion of pork producers who are apparently unwilling or financially unable to convert from gestation crates to group housing of sows. The National Pork Producers Council were obviously disappointed in the ruling with Michael Formica, Chief Legal Strategist, stating, "This is more than just pork, this is about the freedom of farmers to make choices about how they operate." This and similar sentiments are more for internal industry consumption than an expression of reality. The train left the station many years ago and conversion to group housing to satisfy domestic demand is now a reality.

Some observers have noted that the SCOTUS decision will embolden animal rights activists to become more aggressive. This contention may have some substance but essentially HSUS and kindred organizations have always and will continue with their efforts to dismantle the intensive livestock industry. They decline to present any alternative method to supply available protein in quantities and at a cost equivalent to current production.

In evaluating the SCOTUS ruling, it is evident that it will have little bearing on the egg industry that has invested in alternatives to conventional cages with future developments based on customer and consumer demand and advances in technology.

The egg industry should avoid indulging in schadenfreude, a unique Teutonic sentiment of enjoying pleasure at the expense of another. This admonition is advanced in the recollection that lobbying by the pork industry against a uniform federal standard to house hens, effectively cancelled a workable and welfare compliant alternative. Their opposition to the 'Egg Bill' in 2018 was detrimental to our industry. We have been forced to adopt capital intensive aviary installations and endure higher production costs to achieve levels of efficiency achievable with enriched colony modules and barn housing. ▢

---

### Proposition 12 update

May 25, 2023 in [The Feed](#) from the National Ag Law Center

Lawmakers in Congress are considering whether to introduce a provision in the farm bill that would potentially block California from enforcing its newly SCOTUS-approved Prop 12 regulations on animal housing. The provision focuses on interstate commerce and transportation rights. It would apply to Prop 12 and other similar state laws that regulate the production of animals for food. Similar provisions have been considered in previous farm bills. To learn more about Prop 12 and the recent SCOTUS decision upholding it, [click here](#) to read NALC article What's Cooking with Prop12?: SCOTUS Decision. ▢

# Commodity Report

June 8, 2023 at [Egg-News.com](https://egg-news.com) by Dr. Simon M. Shane

## OVERVIEW

At close of trading on June 8th CME corn was up 3.4 percent compared to the previous week to 609 cents per bushel for July delivery. The increase was marked by large inter-day fluctuation influenced by the wheat market, short covering and concern over predictions of hot and dry weather in the corn belt. Price was influenced by the rapid pace of planting and emergence with predictions of a large crop with high ending stocks for the 2023 season as documented in the May WASDE. Cancellation of orders by China has depressed prices with a contrary effect from higher ethanol production and demand.

Soybeans were up 2.8 percent from last week to 1,362 cents per bushel for July delivery. Soybean meal was up 1.2 percent to \$404 per ton for July delivery. Price will fluctuate to reflect soybeans and the demand for soy oil. The market has now accepted projections of crop size and higher stocks from the old crop as documented in the April WASDE Report and the forecast included in the May WASDE Report for the 2023 crop.

WTI was 0.7 percent higher from last week at \$72.31 per barrel at close of trading on June 7th. This is despite the May announcement of an intended production cut by OPEC and an intended voluntary cut by Saudi Arabia of one million barrels per day announced on June 4th.

Factors influencing commodity prices in either direction over the past four weeks included:

- ◆ Macroeconomic factors:
  - ⇒ A mild U.S. recession in 2023 appears less likely following apparent stability in the bank sectors in both the U.S. and Europe.
  - ⇒ The Federal Reserve increased the benchmark interest rate at the 10th successive monthly FOMC meeting on May 3rd by 25 basis points despite data indicating a gradual decline in inflation. This action was taken against evidence that progressively higher rates are stressing banks, depressing the housing market and impacting retail sales. It is expected that the Fed. will pause at the mid-June FOMC Meeting.
  - ⇒ On March 30th the Bureau of Economic Analysis issued a revised Real GDP of 2.6 percent for the fourth quarter of 2022. This value is based on increased consumer spending offset by lower investment in housing and a 0.6 percent increase in personal income. Initial projections for Q1 2023 GDP are for an increase of 1.3 percent as an annualized rate.
  - ⇒ The April 2023 CPI (up 4.9 percent) and the revised March WPI (down to 2.7 percent) were lower than forecast. Non-farm payrolls increased to 339,000 during May as documented by the Bureau of Labor Statistics on June 2nd with an unemployment rate rising to 3.7 percent from 3.4 percent in April. Jobless claims for the week ending May 29th attained 229,000.
  - ⇒ The April Producer Price Index was up 2.3 percent year-over-year and 0.2 percent down from March. These values were lower than expected suggesting a cooling in the U.S. economy. This is confirmed by the anemic first quarter GNP increase of 1.1 percent, lower than the 2.0 percent expected. (Transitory downward pressure on markets)
- ◆ An 11th-hour compromise resulted in passage of the Fiscal Responsibility Act that raised the debt ceiling and was signed on June 4th. (Indirectly upward pressure by removing a threat to the U.S economy).
- ◆ It is evident that both polarization in the closely divided chambers of Congress and intra-party conflict among both sides of the House will delay adoption of appropriations bills. Passage the 2023 Farm Bill will be contentious over SNAP eligibility and other entitlements that represent 75 percent of the total.
- ◆ Dry weather is expected in the Midwest over the proximal two weeks. In contrast the remainder of the Nation will receive higher than average precipitation. Rains have relieved drought on the Southern plains. Wheat yield and acreage harvested will be sharply reduced in Kansas with an indirect effect on corn. (Variable pressure on prices with firmer indications in the June WASDE)
- ◆ Geopolitical tensions that impact wheat, corn, oilseeds and vegetable oil exports from Ukraine persist. Extension of the Black Sea Grain Initiative (BSGI) for an additional 60 days was reluctantly accepted by the Russian Federation on May 18th against undisclosed concessions on sanctions. Implementation of the BSGI is intermittently obstructed by actions by the Russian Federation with threats of non-extension, roiling markets. (Upward pressure on corn and wheat and an indirect effect on soybeans if Black Sea shipping is constrained)
- ◆ The May 12th WASDE documented near record soybean and grain production for the 2023 season with increased world availability despite drought in the Argentine. The U.S. will export 12 percent of old crop corn resulting in an unchanged ending stock. Soybean exports will comprise 44 percent of the old crop with no change in ending stock. (Lower domestic prices)
- ◆ There is an expectation that Brazil will attain a record soybean harvest of 153 million metric tons with export of 93 million metric tons. Corn harvests from Brazil for the 2022-2023 season will be higher than the previous season including the safrinha crop although recent dry weather reduced yields. Corn exports will attain 50 million metric tons (Lower prices in the future subject to favorable reports on crop progress and actual harvests)
- ◆ The Dollar Index (DXY) has ranged from 99 to 116 over 52 weeks but has recently shown an upward trend. The DXY was 104.0 on June 7th, just below a five-week high. The dollar index often influences the timing and volume of export orders. (Fluctuation in corn and soybean prices, high value depresses U.S. sales) *(continued on next page)*



### EXPORTS

The FAS Export Report released on June 8th for the week ending June 1st reflecting market year 2022-2023, confirmed that outstanding export orders for corn amounted to 6.56 million metric tons (257.9 million bushels) with 31.8 million metric tons (1,251 million bushels) actually shipped. Net orders for the past week covering the 2022-2023 market year attained 0.17 million metric tons (6.8 million bushels). Shipment of 1.2 million metric tons (49.0 million bushels) was recorded during the past working week. For the current market year cumulative shipments of corn to date are 33.3 percent lower than for the corresponding week a year ago. For market year 2023-2024 outstanding sales this week amounted to 3.0 million metric tons (116.4 million bushels), with cancellations this week for the 2023-2024-market year amounting to a net 0.11 million metric tons (4.2 million bushels). (Conversion 39.36 bushels per metric ton. Quantities in metric tons rounded to 0.1 million)

The FAS Export Report for the week ending June 1st reflecting market year 2022-2023, recorded outstanding export orders for soybeans amounting to 2.8 million metric tons (102.6 million bushels) with 48.4 million metric tons (1,777 million bushels) actually shipped. Net weekly soybean orders attained 0.21 million metric tons (7.6 million bushels) with 0.25 million metric tons (9.1 million bushels) shipped for the past week. For the current market year to date cumulative shipments of soybeans are 2.8 percent lower than for the corresponding week a year ago. Outstanding sales recorded for market year 2023-2024 amounted to 3.1 million metric tons (116.5 million bushels) with 0.3 million metric tons (9.0 million bushels) sold this past week. (Conversion 36.74 bushels per metric ton)

For the week ending June 1st, 2023, net orders of soybean meal and cake amounted to 177,600 metric tons for the market year 2022-2023. During the past week 196,100 metric tons of meal and cake combined was shipped, representing 2.3 percent of the total 8,406,800 metric tons exported during the current marketing year. This quantity to date is 2.1 percent higher than the volume for the corresponding period of the previous market year. For the next market year outstanding sales have attained 606,900 metric tons with 90,000 metric tons ordered this past week.

The annual 2023 USDA Prospective Plantings Report, and the May 12th, 2023, WASDE confirmed:

- ◆ Corn area planted for all purposes in 2023 will attain 92.0 million acres, up 4 percent or 3.42 million acres from last year. Compared with last year, planted acreage is expected to be up or unchanged in 40 of the 48 estimating States. Yield was raised to 181.5 bushels per acre with a resulting 2,100 million bushel ending stock reducing USDA projective average season price to 480 cents per bushel.
- ◆ Soybean area planted for 2023 is estimated at 87.5 million acres, up slightly from last year. Compared with last year, planted acreage is up or unchanged in 15 of the 29 estimating states. Yield was raised to 52.0 bushels per acre with a resulting 335 million bushel ending stock reducing the USDA projected average season price to 1,210 cents per bushel.
- ◆ Crushers are expected to produce 54,475 million tons of soybean meal. Ending stocks will be up 35.0 percent to 400,000 tons depressing the USDA projected price from the previous season by 27 percent to \$365 per ton.

The preference for corn is based on a favorable corn to soy benefit ratio.

Actual 2022 corn and soybean harvests and projected ending stocks were documented in the April 11th WASDE #635, posted under the STATISTICS Tab. Corn yield attained 173.3 bushels per acre with a crop of 13,730 million bushels. Ending stock will attain 1,342 million bushels. Soybean yield was 49.5 bushels per acre with a crop of 4,276 million bushels. Ending stocks were projected to be 210 million bushels. The April WASDE report was based on actual harvest data and values incorporated amended domestic use and export categories. This WASDE report presumably considered the predicted impact on world prices following disruption of the 2022 Ukraine crop following the invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation. Values will be updated when WASDE #637 is released on June 9th incorporating crop progress, harvests in South America and world trade.

### COMMODITY PRICES

The following quotations for the months of delivery as indicated were posted by the CME at close of trading on June 8th 2023, compared with values at close of trading on June 1st 2023 (in parentheses):

#### COMMODITY

Corn (cents per bushel)	July 609 (589).	Sept. 528 (522)
Soybeans (cents per bushel)	July 1,362 (1,325).	Sept. 1,201 (1,173)
Soybean meal (\$ per ton)	July 404 (399).	Sept. 380 (381)

Changes in the price of corn, soybeans and soybean meal over four trading days this past week were:

Corn:	July quotation up 20 cents per bushel.	(+3.4 percent)
Soybeans:	July quotation up 37 cents per bushel	(+2.8 percent)
Soybean Meal:	July quotation up \$5 per ton	(+1.2 percent)

The NASDAQ spot prices for feedstuffs per short ton at close of trading on June 7th 2023 with prices for the previous week were:

Corn (ZC):	\$216 per ton was \$212 (up 1.9 percent from the previous week). 52-week range \$198 to \$289
Soybean Meal (ZM):	\$405 per ton was \$393 (up 3.1 percent from the previous week). 52-week range \$403 to \$484

*(continued on next page)*

## Commodity Report *(continued from previous page)*

Values for other common ingredients per short ton:

- ◆ Meat and Bone Meal, (According to the USDA National Animal By-product Feedstuffs Report on June 2nd): \$500 to \$520 (Av.\$510) per ton for porcine (ex MN); \$420 to \$455 (Av. \$440) per ton for ruminant (ex central states). Price varies according to plant and location
- ◆ DDGS, (IA. and other states) according to the University of Missouri Extension Service By-Product Feed Price Listing) \$240 to \$270 per ton. Price varies according to plant and location and is expected to fluctuate with the price of corn
- ◆ Wheat Middlings: According to the USDA National Mill-Feeds and Miscellaneous Feedstuffs Report on June 7th for MO. and other states: \$130 to \$170 (Av. \$155) per ton (Current value reflect wheat price following the disruption of production and shipping from Ukraine and from U.S and world weather extremes)
- ◆ Bakery Meal, (MO & TX): \$210 to \$220 per ton
- ◆ Rice Bran, (AR & TX): \$180 to \$240 per ton. (unchanged from last week)

For each \$1 per ton (2.8 cents/bushel) change in corn the cost of egg production would change by 0.11 cent per dozen.

For each \$10 per ton change in the price of soybean meal the cost of egg production would change by 0.35 cent per dozen.

The respective changes in the spot prices of corn and soybean meal on June 7th compared with May 31st would increase nest-run production cost for eggs by 0.8 cent per dozen \*(Rounded to 0.1cent)

### COMMENTARY ON AVAILABILITY AND PRICES OF FEED COMMODITIES

The latest U.S. Energy Information Administration (U.S. EIA) report estimated that fuel ethanol blending would average 990,000 barrels per day in 2023, up 1.2 percent from 2022. This past week 91.6 percent (88.8 percent last week) of the U.S. ethanol fermentation volume was operational, based on the January 2022 U.S. EIA capacity data. The outlook for increased production will depend on higher domestic demand, from summer driving in addition to increasing the quantity that is exported.

During March 2023 (the last month for which data is available) ethanol exports were up 27.4 percent from February to 133 million gallons (3.16 million barrels). Importing nations and regions and their proportions of total volume for the month included: 42.7 percent to Canada; 17.1 percent to India; 15.6 percent to U.K. and the E.U.; 7.8 percent to Central and South America; 4.4 percent to Mexico; 3.9 percent to South Korea; 3.3 percent to the Middle East.

According to the U.S. EIA, for the week ending June 2nd, 2023, the industry produced on average 1,036,000 barrels of ethanol per day. This was 3.1 percent up from the week ending May 26th, 2023, and continued weekly production at above the one million gallon per day benchmark. On June 2nd ethanol stock was up 2.8 percent from the previous week to 23.0 million barrels, an approximately 19-day reserve. This past week demonstrated higher demand for ethanol, given relative changes in the weekly production level and stock. The U.S. Energy Information Administration forecast ethanol production at 970,000 barrels per day during the first quarter of 2023 although this projected volume was exceeded. The short-term prospects for increased domestic consumption are unfavorable despite a 2023 summer waiver and bipartisan bills in Congress to permit year-round E-15 blend. Many older vehicles cannot use higher than an E-10 blend and there are obvious restraints on fuel stations to store and dispense high-ethanol blends without extensive capital investment in tanks and multi-blend pumps.

Current Energy Prices:

- ◆ Ethanol quoted on the CBOT (EH) on June 7th was priced at \$2.14 per gallon, 2 cents (0.9 percent) lower than last week. The 52-week range is \$2.14 to \$2.19 per gallon.
- ◆ On June 7th RBOB gasoline traded on NASDAQ (RB) at \$2.64 per gallon, up 20 cents (8.2 percent) from the previous week. The 52-week range for RBOB gasoline is \$2.08 to \$4.28.
- ◆ The CME WTI crude price is ignoring concern over a possible World recession and predicted lower supply due to a previously announced OPEC production cut to commence in July and a voluntary one million barrel per day reduction by Saudi Arabia revealed on June 4th. Price was up \$0.50 (0.7 percent) to \$2.31 per barrel on June 7th compared to the previous week. Hydrocarbon sources of energy are now contributing less to inflation than during the first quarter of 2023.
- ◆ The AAA national average regular grade gasoline price was \$3.55 per gallon on June 7th, down three cents (0.8 percent) compared to last week. Gasoline is now \$1.41 per gallon more expensive than ethanol but with a 63 percent higher BTU rating.
- ◆ The AAA national average diesel price was \$3.92 per gallon on June 7th, down three cents per gallon (0.8 percent) from the previous week but with prospects of a future rise in price due to a low national stock, although modulated by the WTI price.
- ◆ CME Henry Hub natural gas was priced at \$2.33 per MM BTU on June 7th up seven cents per MM BTU (1.0 percent) from the previous week

### INGREDIENTS

DDGS is freely available with most plants among the 192 operational on January 1st 2022 (the last available estimate) with a combined capacity of 1,134 million barrels per day functioning at 91.6 percent. The University of Missouri Extension Service By-Product Feed Price Listing priced DDGS at \$240 to \$270 per ton on June 7th. Wide variation in price exists depending on supplier, quantity and location. It is axiomatic that the cost of DDGS will reflect changes in the price of corn with an appropriate lag period. Generally DDGS is currently incorporated at moderate inclusion levels in egg-production formulas based on price relative to the nutrient contribution of corn and other ingredients. This will change as corn and hence DDGS fluctuate in price. *(continued on next page)*



## Commodity Report *(continued from previous page)*

The CME soybean price for July 2023 delivery at close of trading on June 8th was up 2.8 percent to 1,362 cents per bushel compared to the previous week at 1,325 cents per bushel for July delivery. The current price of soybeans is a reflection of availability for domestic crushing, consumption and export orders. Soybean meal was up 1.2 percent to \$404 per ton for July 2023 delivery. Prices are obviously influenced by projections of harvest in the three major producing nations in South America coupled with domestic and international demand for soy oil and meal.

According to a release on May 15th by the National Oilseed Processors Association, whose members process 95 percent of the U.S. crop, 169.8 million bushels of soybeans were crushed in April 2023, the second highest crush for this month recorded but lower than the consensus of estimates averaging 171.8 million bushels. Crush volume was down 6.6 percent from the previous month of March 2023, at 181.8 million bushels.

On June 7th the CME spot price for soybean oil was up 4.2 cents per lb. (9.0 percent) from the previous week to 50.7 cents per lb. Prices for vegetable oils have fluctuated over past weeks but with supplies in excess of demand especially for Asian crude palm oil at a 2-year low. Nevertheless, there is a growing market acceptance that total oilseed supply will eventually be limited by a sharply diminished supply of sunflower oil from Ukraine, the World's largest exporter of this commodity. Ukraine is subject to restraints on cultivation and limits on crushing and exports due to hostilities following the invasion by Russia. It is anticipated that 41 percent of U.S. soy oil was diverted from fuel to biodiesel during 2022.

On June 7th the soybean meal spot price quoted on NASDAQ was \$405 per ton, \$12 per ton lower than the spot price last week and compared to a 52-week range of \$378 to \$496 per ton.

On June 7th Meat and Bone meal was priced over a range of \$440 to \$525 per ton according to the USDA National Animal By-product Feedstuffs Report, Prices quoted were for central U.S. plants but with a wide range based on composition, source and location. Price fluctuation reflects changes in soybean meal and other oilseed meals.

On June 7th the conversion of the CNY to the BRL was BRL 0.69 down CNY 0.02 from last week. The conversion of the CNY to the US\$ was CNY 7.10, unchanged from the previous week.

For consecutive calendar years 2017 through 2019 the U.S. supplied 34.4 percent of soybean requirements for China amounting to 95.5 million metric tons. This was followed by a decline to 16.9 percent of 88.5 million metric tons in 2018 and 16.6 percent of 88.0 million metric tons in 2019. The USDA anticipated that soybean imports by China would attain 95.0 million metric tons during the 2020-2021 market year but in reality only 60.3 million tons was shipped through August 2021.

For the 2021-2022 market year net export sales of corn were down 0.13 million tons (5.1 million bushels) compared to the previous market year with cumulative exports of 59.764 million tons (2,352 million bushels)

For the 2021-2022 market year net export sales of soybeans were down 0.11 million tons (4.2 million bushels) compared to the previous market year with cumulative exports of 57.118 million tons (2,099 million bushels)

### COMMENT

Subscribers are referred to the March 12th, 2023, WASDE #636, the USDA quarterly Grain Stocks Report and the USDA Grains and Oilseeds Outlook posted under the STATISTICS Tab. A summary of the June WASDE #637 will be posted in the June 16th edition

Following extension of the Black Sea Grain Initiative (BSGI) there is only restricted operation of the Black Sea Grain Initiative (BSGI) allowing Ukraine to ship commodities from functioning ports. The three major grains (corn, wheat and barley) harvested during the 2022/2023 season will amount to 49.0 million metric tons, 42 percent lower than for 2021/2022. Exports were projected to attain 38.1 million metric tons, 26.5 percent lower than the previous market year. The Economist estimates that 10 million metric tons of agricultural commodities from the 2022/2023 harvest of 53 million metric tons are still in storage. Deliberate obstruction of the BSGI will reduce grain and oilseed exports by 25 million metric tons for the 2024/2025 harvest unless naval intervention by NATO creates free passage or a negotiated peace treaty is concluded.

It is unknown whether the United Nations negotiators relaxed sanctions on exports of Russian agricultural commodities including fertilizer to achieve an extension of the BSGI. Confusion is demonstrated by the Russian Federation both negotiating for a relaxation of sanctions for a longer-term agreement but with the Foreign Affairs Ministry simultaneously calling for an abrupt termination of the BSGI. □

---

## Keeping poultry safe with biosecurity principles and site-specific plans

May 2023 by Tom Tabler, University of Tennessee; Shawn Hawkins, University of Tennessee; Dale Barnett, Tennessee Poultry Association; Yi Liang, University of Arkansas; Victoria Ayres, Tennessee Tech University, Jessica Wells, Mississippi State University; Jonathan Moon, Mississippi State University Pramir Maharjan, Tennessee State University



With the loss of approximately 58 million head of poultry to avian influenza and disease-related control efforts in 2022, avian influenza continues to be a serious threat to backyard and commercial poultry flocks across the U.S. As a best management practice and to aid in qualifying for USDA avian influenza indemnity payments for commercial premises, it is critical to create, maintain and follow a site-specific, operational biosecurity plan. *(continued on next page)*

## Keeping poultry safe with biosecurity principles and site-specific plans *(continued from previous page)*

This is true no matter what the size of your poultry operation. This biosecurity plan should be based upon and organized around the **14 National Poultry Improvement Plan biosecurity principles**:

- |                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. Biosecurity Responsibility   | 8. Mortality Disposal                          |
| 2. Training                     | 9. Manure and Litter Management                |
| 3. Line of Separation           | 10. Replacement Poultry                        |
| 4. Perimeter Buffer Area        | 11. Water Supply                               |
| 5. Personnel                    | 12. Feed and Replacement Litter                |
| 6. Wild Birds, Rodents, Insects | 13. Reporting Elevated Morbidity and Mortality |
| 7. Equipment and Vehicles       | 14. Auditing                                   |

A well-designed biosecurity plan will: 1) describe the biosecurity culture (action items considered important to protecting flock health and how they are implemented) on your farm and 2) document the steps you take to protect the health of your flock. Your biosecurity plan describes the standard operating procedures (SOPs) you use to keep your flock safe. Commercial poultry operations formally participating in NPIP must have their biosecurity plan audited every other year to be eligible for indemnity, so it is important to make firm, realistic commitments when developing your day-to-day biosecurity practices because someone will check your work.

### 1. Biosecurity responsibility

Every operation (large or small) should have an employee that is formally designated as responsible for premise biosecurity. In most cases, this person serves as the biosecurity coordinator. The **biosecurity coordinator is responsible for the development, implementation, maintenance and ongoing effectiveness of the biosecurity program**. Depending on the type and size of the poultry operation, the biosecurity coordinator's responsibility could be at the farm, production site, production complex or company level. The biosecurity coordinator should be knowledgeable of all biosecurity principles in use. The biosecurity coordinator, along with personnel and caretakers on the farms and production sites, are collectively responsible for implementing the biosecurity program. The biosecurity coordinator should review the biosecurity program at least once per calendar year and make revisions as necessary, asking the following questions:

**Does the facility have a formally designated biosecurity coordinator?** That person should be listed by name in the biosecurity plan.

**Does a site-specific biosecurity plan exist?** Site-specific biosecurity plans can be either farm-specific or serve as complex-wide plans. Complex-wide plans can address general biosecurity principles. However, farm-specific plans and practices better address mass mortality disposal, including specifically burial or composting plans that account for farm specific variations in soil type and depth to water table. In Tennessee, the state veterinarian is asking **for all commercial and large backyard premises (any location involved in the commerce or movement of poultry) to have individual site-specific plans in place**.

**Is the biosecurity coordinator knowledgeable of biosecurity principles?** The biosecurity coordinator must be able to describe and interpret their company's biosecurity program and how it meets NPIP requirements.

**Does the biosecurity coordinator review the biosecurity plan at least once during each calendar year and make revisions as necessary?** The biosecurity coordinator must be able to provide recorded dates in which annual reviews were made and evidence that necessary revisions were completed.

**Does the biosecurity plan indicate there will be an additional review by the biosecurity coordinator in periods of heightened risk of disease transmission?** Documentation of NPIP compliance must include evidence that planning for increased biosecurity rigor occurred during periods of heightened risk (e.g., emails, memos, letters, text messages, phone logs, etc.). It is the responsibility of the biosecurity coordinator to clearly define and communicate the period of heightened risk in the biosecurity plan.

### 2. Training

The biosecurity program should describe required training that covers farm site-specific procedures as well as premises-wide and/or company-wide biosecurity procedures. All poultry owners and caretakers that regularly enter the perimeter buffer area (PBA; explained in detail below) must complete this documented training **at least once per calendar year**. New poultry caretakers should be trained at hire. Training records should be retained and kept for a minimum of three years. Review of SOPs for biosecurity should be included in initial and annual employee trainings. These SOPs must include company and site-specific requirements for personal protective equipment (PPE), pest control, cleaning and disinfecting procedures, equipment sharing, etc. Training should include a review of all SOPs and the biosecurity plan.

### 3. Line of separation

The line of separation (LOS) is a **functional line separating the poultry house(s) from exposure to potential disease sources**. It is generally defined by the walls of the poultry building with practical deviations to account for entry points and outside access areas. The site-specific biosecurity plan should describe or illustrate the boundaries of the LOS and clearly outline the procedures to be followed when caretakers, visitors or suppliers/repair personnel cross it. [Click here for full article](#) □



## Allied Members



### Ag Lighting Innovations

Stanton Lee  
(615) 378-0108

### Alltech

Sam Bates  
(229) 225-1212

### Andy's Seasoning

Dewain Meeks  
(314) 296-0276

### Animal Health International

Jeff Sims  
(256) 504-2588

### Arm & Hammer Animal Nutrition

Barry Fuller  
(256) 565-6642

### BankPlus

Kenny Williamson  
(601) 850-7306

### Best Veterinary Solutions, Inc.

Van Harper  
(812) 259-9146

### Big Dutchman

Jeff Ratledge  
(616) 283-4527

### BioSafe Systems

Chynette Todd  
(931) 704-2336

### Blueline Pressure Washing

Clay Doggett  
(931) 638-9114

### Boehringer Ingelheim

Mike Johnson (678) 644-8463  
Dr. Kristen Roza-Sutherland (703) 453-8606

### Buffalo Warren

Lee Hester  
(704) 366-5763

### Cantrell Gainco

Scott Seabrook  
(404) 414-2149

### Cargill Animal Nutrition

Kevin Riley  
(404) 434-1199

### Ceva Biomune

Todd Grisham  
(256) 503-5726

### CGB AgriFinancial

Barry Rager  
(270) 604-1611

### ChemStation Mid-South

Roy Brown  
(901) 345-5333

### Chore-Time Poultry

Stephen Batson (501) 499-0247  
Logan Waldrop (706) 716-0733

### Clear View Enterprises

Johnny Smith  
(770) 712-0015

### Cole Agency

Rusty Russell  
(478) 472-2010

### Cor Solar and Electric

Peter Richardson  
417-771-5616

### CT Consulting

Chynette Todd  
(931) 704-2336

### Cumberland Poultry

Brian Johnson (217) 820-3530  
Randy Stidham (217) 561-6527

### D & F Equipment Sales

Heath Morrow  
(256) 302-0120

### Danisco Animal Nutrition

Bob Moore  
(908) 433-7989

### Darling Ingredients

Tim O'Connor  
270-893-0252

### Diamond V

Jason McCamy  
(256) 506-7194

### Diversified Ag

Brad Bowen (479) 879-2832  
Chris Nelson (270) 499-0315

### Elanco Animal Health

Kevin Holt  
(706) 889-5754

### Fairmount Poultry

Mark Owens  
(706) 337-5941

### Farm Credit Mid-America

Devin Gilliam  
(615) 708-8590

### Farmers Poultry Supply

Andy Ratliff  
(256) 734-5485

### FarMor

Jake Clements  
(270) 864-8828

### First Financial Bank

Greg Graham  
(256) 845-4270

### Georgia Poultry Equipment

Mike Sears  
(479) 435-4255

### Global Animal Products

Randy Maclin  
706-338-8778

### GrassWorx

Larry Dean (314) 997-8659  
Serge Traylor (314) 276-0917

### Harris-Crane

John Clark  
(704) 66-0010



## Allied Members



**Huvepharma**  
Evan Bartley (417) 813-7212  
Joe Williams (205) 412-0192

**Innovative Poultry Products**  
Chad Brubaker  
(803) 571-3345

**International Paper**  
Russ Bratton  
(731) 501-9164

**JBT Corporation**  
Jody Howell  
(770) 530-1895

**Johnson Energy Solutions**  
Randy Johnson  
(423) 580-2790

**Johnson Farm & Agribusiness Insurance**  
Wes Johnson  
(336) 655-9710

**Jones-Hamilton Co.**  
Rory DeWeese  
(423) 902-5161

**K Supply Co., Inc.**  
David Walker  
(256) 894-0034

**Kemin Animal Nutrition and Health**  
Wes Sullivan  
(870) 403-6991

**Lhoist NA**  
Barry Collins  
(931) 368-9057

**Live Oak Bank**  
Michael Imming  
(910) 499-4687

**Lubing**  
Chris Hawk  
(423) 595-4160

**Marel, Inc.**  
Brad Powell  
(256) 738-5384

**Maximus Solutions**  
Tyler Lesch  
770-701-4108

**Merck Animal Health**  
Paul Burke  
(615) 804-3564

**Meyn, LLC**  
Jack Gillespie  
(470) 281-1892

**MP Equipment**  
Andrew Todd  
(256) 698-1310

**New Holland**  
Austin Sanders  
(865) 440-1397

**Nutra Blend**  
Randy Holliman  
(615) 218-1420

**Once Animal Lighting**  
Jason King  
(615) 580-9137

**Ova Innovations**  
David Rettig  
(608) 535-9470

**PeroxyChem**  
Brandon Cryar  
(334) 434-4748

**Phoenix Sentry**  
Bob Reeves  
(936) 598-2761 or (936) 591-1900

**Portacool**  
Brian Mulkey  
(706) 263-0308

**Poultry Guard**  
Clint Lauderdale  
(256) 636-3303

**Poultry South**  
Robert King  
(256) 252-9239

**Precision Lighting Systems**  
Danny Cross  
501-624-5566

**Proxy-Clean Products**  
Mary K. Foy  
(479) 387-6972

**QC Supply**  
Jerry King  
(270) 733-4900

**Quality Incentive Company**  
Peter Krstovic  
(404) 431-0792

**Rabo AgriFinance**  
Kurt Baggett  
(731) 225-9216

**Reliable Poultry**  
Kendall Proctor (479) 601-2676  
Mike Bursleson (270) 590-2546

**Renew Solar of Tennessee**  
Chip Mincey  
865-207-7122

**Rural Energy Development**  
Lee Shepard  
(770) 701-4108

**River Valley AgCredit**  
Todd Miles (423) 260-7606  
Hunter Ballew (423) 453-6433

**River Valley Ingredients**  
Richard Stewart  
(770) 886-2250

**Scenic City Solar**  
Ray Kazlaskia  
(423) 619-1029

**Smith Creek, Inc.**  
Jeff Roll  
(812) 431-1579





## Allied Members



### Southland Organics

Allen Reynolds  
(800) 608-3755 ext 701

### Southwestern Sales Co.

David Cook  
(479) 427-8405

### Space-Ray

Jeff Wilson  
(254) 252-0434

### Sunbelt Rentals, Inc.

Bart Smith  
(205) 602-2485

### Superior Plus Propane

James Watson  
(404) 307-3491

### Swallows Insurance Agency

Gabe Colwell or Greg McDonald  
(931) 526-4025

### TN Corn Promotion Council

Carol Reed  
(731) 819-7111

### TN Department of Agriculture

Andy Holt  
(731) 514-6071

### Tennessee Farmers Co-op

Jimmy Ogilvie  
(615) 714-3212

### Thompson Gas

Dave Bobich  
(423) 331-6717

### TriGreen Equipment

<https://www.trigreenequipment.com/marketing@trigreenequipment.com>

### Tufco Carolinas

Nikki Case  
(336) 993-9802

### UT - Extension

Tom Tabler  
(931) 486-2129

### Val-Co

Brian Phillips  
(601) 850-3844

### Vaxxinova

Greg Hanson  
(334) 494-6373

### Viand Group

Maggie Smith  
(931) 607-4176

### Vincit Group

Eric Killen  
(423) 504-1974

### Weeden Environments

Kevin Weeden  
(716) 534-0409

### Zoetis

Daniel Pugh  
(731) 886-4804



**TN Poultry Association**  
P.O. Box 1525  
Shelbyville, TN 37162  
[www.tnpoultry.org](http://www.tnpoultry.org)

**Executive Director**  
**Dale Barnett**  
(931) 225-1123  
(931) 434-8045 mobile  
[dbarnett@tnpoultry.org](mailto:dbarnett@tnpoultry.org)

**Member Services**  
**Tracy Rafferty**  
(270) 363-2078  
[tracy@tnpoultry.org](mailto:tracy@tnpoultry.org)

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter

***Not currently a member of TPA?***

Contact Tracy at (270) 363-2078 or [tracy@tnpoultry.org](mailto:tracy@tnpoultry.org) for more information about member benefits.



## Youth Art Contest Entry Rules

TPA welcomes participation in our 7th annual art contest for youth. All entries will be displayed and judged during the TPA Annual Meeting & Summer Getaway on August 18-19, 2023, at the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center in Nashville.

### Subject

All art must be poultry-related, i.e., of a chicken or chickens and/or of a poultry live operation.

### Who is eligible

Family members (children, grandchildren, nieces/nephews, stepchildren, etc.) of TPA grower members, TPA poultry complex employees, or affiliated TPA allied company members are eligible to submit entries. There will be three age categories: 9 and under, 10-14, 15-18 (age as of August 1, 2023).

Our *Eggceptional Friends of Poultry* category is reserved for children up to age 18 who have a diagnosed exceptionality. Those qualified to enter in this category may submit a drawing, painting or other project that fits their individual gifting. Some suggestions could include, but are not limited to, poultry related photography, posters with pictures or cutouts, Lego or Popsicle stick buildings, etc.

### Awards

Each group will have 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners that will be awarded ribbons and will be eligible to receive cash prizes of \$50, \$25 and \$10 respectively for each age division. There will also be an overall *Best of Show* entry awarded which will be auctioned off during the TPA live auction fundraiser on August 19 in lieu of the cash prize. All proceeds from the sale of the winning art piece will be awarded to the artist as a scholarship.

### Media

- Art **MUST** be submitted on 8 ½ x 11 rigid canvas, sketch, or cardstock paper. **No exceptions.**
- Framed entries **will not** be accepted, but all entries must be suitable for framing.
- Drawings and paintings are the only types of media that can be entered unless entering in the *Eggceptional Friends of Poultry* category.
  - Drawings using pencil, charcoal, colored pencil, ink, markers, etc. are acceptable.
  - Paintings using acrylic, oils, tempera, watercolors, etc. are acceptable.

### Entry

All entries must be received at the TPA Annual Meeting at the Gaylord Nashville no later than 3 p.m. central on Friday, August 18, 2023. Mail-in entries are discouraged, so if you are not attending the meeting, please send your artwork with someone who is.

### Include

Please complete and submit the attached TPA Art Contest Entry Form. Artwork will not be returned unless the attached form and requested information is submitted. ***Please include your name and age on the back of your art piece.***

### Judging

All entries will be judged by a panel of industry representatives during the TPA Annual Meeting on Friday, August 18.

### More Information

- The art will stay on display through the evening TPA banquet on August 19.
- Photo rights to all artwork become property of TPA for use on social media and for promotional efforts.
- TPA is not responsible for lost or damaged entries.
- TPA will auction off the *Best of Show* art piece. It will not be returned to the artist. Please allow two weeks for remaining entries, ribbons, and prize money to be mailed.
- TPA is not responsible for the receiving or condition of mailed in entries.
- Contact [tracy@tnpoultry.org](mailto:tracy@tnpoultry.org) or 270-363-2078 for more information.





Entry # \_\_\_\_\_  
[9&U] | [10-14] | [15-18]  
(for office use only)

## TPA Art Contest Entry Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
(As of August 1, 2023)

Family member's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ Hometown & State: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Or grows for: \_\_\_\_\_

TPA will contact and award the 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> place in all categories and the *Best of Show* winner. The *Best of Show* winner will receive a scholarship check for the sale of their art piece.

Contestants who would like to have their artwork returned and have ribbons and checks sent to them after the entries are judged should provide a complete physical mailing address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

***TPA is not responsible for the condition of artwork or for any losses or damages.***

**Please include this entry form along with your entry to be received by TPA *no later than* August 18, 2023, at 3 p.m. central at the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Conference Center, Nashville.**

For more information, contact [tracy@tnpoultry.org](mailto:tracy@tnpoultry.org) or 270-363-2078.