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PDRC Turns 50

More than 200 current and former faculty, staff and students gathered recently to celebrate the milestone 50th anniversary of the Poultry Diagnostic and Research Center.

The PDRC Today

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The Old PDRC

**PDRC Directors
(from top):**

- Sam Schmittle,**
- Dave Anderson,**
- Stan Kleven,**
- Oscar Fletcher, and**
- John Glisson.**



Distinguished guests at the May 16 event included the directors of PDRC throughout its half-century history, including Dave Anderson (1969-72), Stan Kleven (1972-82 and 1990-2003), Oscar Fletcher (1982-89), and current director John Glisson (2003-present). Sam Schmittle (1958-68), was unfortunately unable to attend the celebration but his charisma was brought to life with a prerecorded video presentation.



Dave Anderson and John Donahoe, along with the pre-recorded video and slide-show from Dr. Sam Schmittle, each served the attendees a slice of PDRC history. Dr. Anderson, who also served as CVM dean from 1975-96, provided insight and early history of the PDRC with photos from its beginnings in 1957 until 1963. Dr. Donahoe, who trained under Dr. Kleven for his doctoral degree and now works in Japan as a virologist, gave a rousing presentation about the “teen years” of the center from the mid-60s to 70s. Dr. John Glisson focused on the PDRC’s progress up to the present day.



“This truly was an historic occasion,” says Glisson. “To have so many present and former PDRC faculty and staff gathered together to celebrate the 50th anniversary was such a tribute to the dedication of those who work at this institution.”



The Poultry Diagnostic and Research Center began in 1948 as the poultry diagnostic service, started by Dr. Clifford Barber in the Department of Pathology and Parasitology. In 1955 it was transferred to the Department of Veterinary Hygiene as the avian medicine section, and two years later the name of the Department of Veterinary Hygiene was changed to the Department of Microbiology and Preventative Medicine. Then in 1958, Poultry Disease Research Center was formally organized as a laboratory, constructed on College Station Road approximately two miles from campus. The center was built in response to the needs of the rapidly growing poultry industry in Georgia and was headed by Sam Schmittle. It was administratively placed under the auspices of the Agricultural Experiment Station of UGA's College of Agriculture. In 1968 PDRC was transferred to the College of Veterinary Medicine where it now resides.

Today the Poultry Diagnostic and Research Center is part of the Department of

Population Health, one of seven departments in the College of Veterinary Medicine. In addition to graduate programs, the PDRC offers course work for DVM-degree seeking students, courses for undergraduate students in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, and diagnostic assistance and consultation to the world's poultry producers. The PDRC houses well-equipped laboratories for virology, bacteriology, mycoplasmaology, biotechnology, immunogenetics, histopathology, and molecular sequencing, as well as diagnostic laboratories with separate ancillary laboratories for bacteriology, serology, and PCR, and state-of-the-art animal care facilities.

For photos and video from the 50th anniversary celebration, please visit www.avian.uga.edu.

Presentation of original acrylic painting by artist

Carly Glisson in honor of the PDRC's 50th Anniversary.

From left, John Glisson, Mike Giles (senior vice pres., Georgia Poultry Federation), Carly Glisson, Abit Massey (pres., Georgia Poultry Federation).



Excerpts from the latest USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) “Broiler Hatchery,” “Chicken and Eggs” and “Turkey Hatchery” Report and Economic Research Service (ERS) “Livestock, Dairy and Poultry Situation Outlook”

Chickens and Eggs

Released July 22, 2008, by NASS, Agricultural Statistics Board, USDA

June Egg Production Down Slightly

U.S. egg production totaled 7.37 billion during June 2008, down slightly from last year. Production included 6.27 billion table eggs, and 1.10 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.03 billion were broiler-type and 64 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during June 2008 averaged 339 million, down slightly from last year. June egg production per 100 layers was 2,176 eggs, up slightly from June 2007. All layers in the U.S. on July 1, 2008 totaled 337 million, down 1 percent from last year. The 337 million layers consisted of 278 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 56.1 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.69 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on July 1, 2008, averaged 73.3 eggs per 100 layers, up 2 percent from July 1, 2007

Egg-Type Chicks Hatched Up 5 %

Egg-type chicks hatched during June 2008 totaled 42.5 million, up 5 percent from June 2007. Eggs in incubators totaled 35.9 million on July 1, 2008, up 9 percent from a year ago. Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 231 thousand during June 2008, down 23 percent from June 2007.

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched Down Slightly

Broiler-type chicks hatched during June 2008 totaled 806 million, down slightly from June 2007. Eggs in incubators totaled 658 million on July 1, 2008, down 1 percent from a year earlier. Leading breeders placed 7.77 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during June 2008, down slightly from June 2007.

Broiler Hatchery

Released July 30, 2008, by NASS, Agricultural Statistics Board, USDA.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set In 19 Selected States Down 3 %

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-State weekly program set 210 million eggs in incubators during the week ending July 26, 2008. This was down 3 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year ear-

lier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 84 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Broiler Chicks Placed Down 3 %

Broiler growers in the 19-State weekly program placed 171 million chicks for meat production during the week ending July 26, 2008. Placements were down 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 30, 2007 through July 26, 2008 were 5.33 billion, up 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Turkey Hatchery

Released July 14, 2008, NASS, Agricultural Statistics Board, USDA

Eggs in Incubators on July 1 Down 1 % from Last Year

Turkey eggs in incubators on July 1, 2008, in the United States totaled 32.8 million, down 1 percent from July 1, 2007. Eggs in incubators were up 3 percent from the June 1, 2008 total of 31.9 million eggs. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central down 2 percent, West North Central down 2 percent, North and South Atlantic down 1 percent, and South Central and West up 1 percent.

Poults Hatched In June Down 2 % from Last Year

Turkey poults hatched during June 2008, in the United States totaled 26.2 million, down 2 percent from June 2007. Poults hatched were down 4 percent from May 2008 total of 27.3 million poults. Regional changes from the previous year were: East North Central down 11 percent, West North Central down 2 percent, North and South Atlantic up 7 percent, and South Central and West down 10 percent.

Net Poults Placed In June Down 2 % from Last Year

The 25.7 million net poults placed during June 2008 in the United States were down 2 percent from the number placed during the same month a year earlier. Net placements were down 5 percent from the May 2008 total of 27.1 million

Current Month Charts

Broiler Performance Data Live Production Cost	Region					Average Company
	SW	Midwest	Southeast	Mid-Atlantic	S-Central	
Feed Cost/ton w/o color (\$)	292.42	282.86	277.66	282.81	291.51	284.17
Feed cost /lb meat (c)	28.73	25.99	25.69	28.86	28.85	27.03
Days to 4.6 lbs	41	41	41	39	41	41
Chick cost / lb (c)	4.17	4.56	4.76	3.52	3.78	4.41
Vac-Med cost/lb (c)	0.19	0.06	0.14	0.08	0.05	0.12
WB & ½ parts condemn. Cost/lb	0.24	0.33	0.23	0.3	0.17	0.24
% mortality	4.67	4.23	3.79	4.19	3.10	4.02
Sq.Ft. @ placement	0.82	0.82	0.86	1.13	0.87	0.92
Lbs/sq. ft.	8.34	7.19	6.91	7.27	8.58	7.17
Downtime (days)	9	13	16	16	9	13

Broiler Whole Bird Condemnation	Region					Average Company
	SW	Midwest	Southeast	Mid-Atlantic	S-Central	
% Septox	0.126	0.345	0.077	0.200	0.142	0.140
% Airsac	0.043	0.048	0.208	0.084	0.032	0.060
% I.P.	0.018	0.038	0.006	0.016	0.015	0.019
% Leukosis	0.001	0.002	0.000	0.006	0.001	0.002
% Bruises	0.007	0.001	0.009	0.001	0.002	0.003
% Other	0.009	0.001	0.003	0.002	0.006	0.003
% Total	0.205	0.434	0.303	0.308	0.198	0.227
% ½ parts condemns	0.383	0.496	0.283	0.464	0.202	0.413

Data for week ending 7th July 08

Previous Month Charts

Broiler Performance Data Live Production Cost	Region					Average Company
	SW	Midwest	Southeast	Mid-	S-Central	
Feed Cost/ton w/o color (\$)	289.93	272.65	281.04	279.97	286.47	283.7
Feed cost /lb meat (c)	26.79	24.70	25.69	26.93	27.02	26.22
Days to 4.6 lbs	42	41	41	40	40	41
Chick cost / lb (c)	4.61	4.67	5.22	3.98	4.39	4.71
Vac-Med cost/lb (c)	0.10	0.03	0.08	0.09	0.06	0.08
WB & ½ parts condemn. Cost/lb	0.21	0.27	0.27	0.25	0.21	0.24
% mortality	4.61	5.19	4.34	4.81	4.33	4.52
Sq.Ft. @ placement	0.79	0.79	0.80	0.93	.82	0.82
Lbs/sq. ft.	7.51	7.13	7.04	7.56	7.70	7.29
Downtime (days)	15	11	15	16	12	14

Broiler Whole Bird Condemnation	Region					Average Company
	SW	Midwest	Southeast	Mid-Atlantic	S-Central	
% Septox	0.150	0.246	0.082	0.156	0.084	0.145
% Airsac	0.042	0.113	0.265	0.112	0.049	0.110
% I.P.	0.010	0.045	0.005	0.046	0.021	0.022
% Leukosis	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.001
% Bruises	0.010	0.001	0.006	0.002	0.002	0.004
% Other	0.011	0.002	0.004	0.009	0.008	0.007
% Total	0.224	0.408	0.362	0.326	0.164	0.289
% ½ parts condemns	0.291	0.371	0.307	0.339	0.416	0.339

Data for week ending 17th May, 2008

Meetings, Seminars and Conventions

2008

September

September 16-18: Combined North-eastern Conference on Avian Diseases (NECAD) / Pennsylvania Poultry Sales and Service Conference (PSSC) at the Penn State Conference Center Hotel, State College, Pa. Contact Bill Pierson tel 540-231-7823

2008

October

October 6, 2008 - October 8, 2008 -- National Meeting on Poultry Health& Processing 43rd National Meeting on Poultry Health and Processing October 6 - 8, 2008 Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel Ocean City, Maryland

2009

January

January 28-30: International Poultry Expo 2009, Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta, Georgia. Contact: US Poultry & Egg Association, 1530 Cooledge Road, Tucker, Georgia 30084-7804. Phone: +1-770-493-9401; Fax: +1-770-493-9257; Email: expogener-alinfo@poultryegg.org. Website: www.poultryegg.org

2009

April

April 5-8: The 7th International Symposium on Avian Influenza, The University of Georgia Center for Continuing Education, Athens, Georgia, USA.: Online registration begins on August 1, 2008at: <http://www.georgiacenter.uga.edu/conferences/2009/Apr/05/avian.phtml> For additional information www.georgiacenter.uga.edu/conferences/ ai.symposium@ars.usda.gov USDA-ARS, Southeast Poultry Research Laboratory, 934 College Station Road, Athens, Georgia 30605 USA. Phone: 706-546-3434; FAX 706-546-3161

2010

April

April 20-23: VIV Europe 2010, Utrecht, The Netherlands. Contact: XNU Exhibitions Europe B.V, P.O. Box 8800, 3503 RV Utrecht, The Netherlands, Fax: +31 302-952-809; Website: www.viv.net



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Reminder

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