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A Litany of Thanks

The 2018 IPPE represented the 11th show that has occurred since I had the honor of being named president of U.S. Poultry & Egg Association. Each and every year, we try to host the perfect show, and each and every year, we fall short of that mark. But, we came closer in 2018 than at any other point in the last 11 years!

First, I must give kudos to our staff for the achievement. We accomplished this with Nath Morris’ leadership on the Expo side, Barbara Jenkins on the hotel side and Gwen Venable on the communications side. But, the fact is that every single staff member (as well as a few retirees we call in off the bench) has a significant role to play in executing the IPPE. Great job, staff!

And, of course, we continue to build on the synergy driven by our partnership with AFIA and NAMI in the IPPE. Although USPOULTRY has show management responsibility, our partners are an integral part of strategic show planning and engage in tireless promotion of the IPPE, development of critical education programs, encouragement and enlistment of exhibitors and urging attendance. So, our success is mutual!

The center of attention is the trade show floor. People may well attend educational events at IPPE, but the core reason for attending is the chance to “kick the tires” on equipment or see “eye to eye” with a service provider. And, from a financial point of view, booth sales are responsible for more than 80 percent of show revenues, which in turn allows USPOULTRY to operate the other 51 weeks of the year. I thought the displays, as a whole, were better than ever this year, so thank you to exhibitors for your investment in the IPPE, and, at the same time, your investment in the future of the industry you serve.

But, the most important group in the success of the IPPE is the attendees. All the hard work of our staff, of our partners, and of the exhibitors is moot without strong attendance by member companies attending and buying at IPPE. So, the loudest accolades for the successful 2018 IPPE goes to you, the attendee, who collectively showed up in record numbers, filling the show halls and providing a return to the exhibitors on the show floor. Thank you for making the 2018 IPPE such a success.

Please remember that the 2019 IPPE will be two weeks later – Feb. 12-14, 2019 – due to Atlanta hosting the Super Bowl. So as far as putting on a perfect show – we have two extra weeks to make that happen in 2019!

John Starkey, PE
President
jstarkey@uspoultry.org
Tom Hensley, president, Fieldale Farms, Baldwin, Ga., was elected chairman of the board of directors of U.S. Poultry & Egg Association (USPOULTRY). The board meeting was held during the International Poultry Expo, part of the 2018 International Production & Processing Expo. He previously served as vice chairman. Hensley was presented with the time-honored “working man’s gavel” by Jerry Moye, 2017 chairman.

A native of West Virginia, Hensley graduated with a degree in business from Marshall University. Before joining Fieldale Farms, Hensley was a tax manager at Price Waterhouse & Co. He is currently president of Fieldale Farms where he has worked for 40 years, as well as a member of Fieldale Farms Corporation board of directors. In addition, he is past chairman of the National Chicken Council and a life member of the Georgia Poultry Federation. He actively serves on various charitable organization boards, where he has been both active and recognized for his service.

Vice Chairman
John Prestage, Prestage Farms, Clinton, N.C., was named vice chairman. A native of North Carolina, Prestage graduated with a BS in Animal Science from North Carolina State University. He has served the poultry industry in various capacities on boards and committees, including the North Carolina Poultry Federation and the National Turkey Federation. Active in his community, he serves on local school and college foundation boards. He is currently senior vice president of Prestage Farms and has been with the company since its inception in 1983.

Treasurer
Greg Hinton, Rose Acre Farms, Seymour, Ind., was named treasurer. A native of Indiana, Hinton attended Indiana University and Purdue University. He has served the poultry industry in various capacities on boards and committees, including the Indiana State Egg Board, USA Poultry & Egg Export Council, International Egg Commission, United Egg Producers, Indiana Farm Bureau and the American Farm Bureau. He is currently vice president of sales for Rose Acre Farms and serves on the Executive Committee and Long Range Planning Committee. He has been with the company for 38 years.

Secretary
Mike Levengood, Perdue Foods, Salisbury, Md., was named secretary. Levengood is a graduate of Penn State University where he obtained a BBA in agriculture business management. He has served the poultry industry in various capacities, including past chairman of the National Chicken Council Growout Committee. He joined Perdue in 1984, where he has held a variety of senior level positions. He is currently vice president, chief animal care officer and farmer relationship advocate for Perdue Foods.

Immediate Past Chairman
Jerry Moye, Hendrix Genetics, Ontario, Canada, is immediate past chairman. Moye graduated with a degree in economics from Washington College in Maryland. He spent 16 years in integrated chicken production for two large U.S. integrators, Showell Farms of Maryland and Zacky Farms of California, before joining Cobb-Vantress in 1991 where he held a variety of positions. He is the retired president of Cobb-Vantress and currently serves on the international advisory board of Hendrix Genetics. In addition, he is a former chair of The Poultry Federation (Ark., Mo., Okla. and Kan).
Bernard Leonard, former group vice president of food service poultry and prepared food for Tyson Foods, past USPOULTRY chairman and current USPOULTRY Foundation board member, was named USPOULTRY’s Workhorse of the Year. The Association’s most prestigious annual honor is awarded in recognition of dedicated service and valuable leadership given to the Association and poultry industry.

Leonard was “collared” with the long-established horse collar by 2017 Workhorse of the Year recipient, Dr. John Smith, senior health services advisor for Fieldale Farms. He was also presented a commemorative plaque by Jerry Moye, Hendrix Genetics, Ontario, Canada, and outgoing USPOULTRY chairman.

“We are honored to recognize Bernard with this special award and acknowledge his many contributions to the poultry industry and the Association. We are deeply appreciative of his enthusiastic and tireless efforts on behalf of the Association, the USPOULTRY Foundation and the industry,” remarked Moye.

Leonard holds a BBA degree from the University of Georgia. He has had many years of experience in the poultry industry, including serving 13 years with Tyson Foods. Previously, he held executive-level management positions with Hudson Foods, Southland Foods and ConAgra. Leonard represented USPOULTRY on the U.S. Farmers & Rancher’s Alliance board from 2012 to 2014, where he served on the executive committee as secretary during his last year. He currently serves as a USPOULTRY Foundation board member.

Dr. Daral Jackwood Receives 2018 Charles Beard Research Excellence Award

USPOULTRY and the USPOULTRY Foundation recognized Dr. Daral Jackwood as the 2018 recipient of the annual Charles Beard Research Excellence Award. Dr. Jackwood is a professor in the Department of Veterinary Preventive Medicine at The Ohio State University (Ohio State) and is stationed at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center in Wooster, Ohio. The award is named in honor of Dr. Charles Beard, former director of the USDA Southeast Poultry Research Laboratory and former vice president of research at USPOULTRY.

The USPOULTRY Foundation Research Advisory Committee selected Dr. Jackwood for this award based on his exceptional research on infectious bursal disease. Dr. Jackwood is recognized for his contributions to the understanding of the genetic diversity of infectious bursal disease virus, the genetic basis for antigenic drift in the virus, development of detection methods for very virulent infectious disease virus, and development of a genetic classification system for infectious bursal disease virus variants. Dr. Jackwood served as the primary investigator on five grants from USPOULTRY and the USPOULTRY Foundation to support much of this work. In his role at Ohio State, Dr. Jackwood has very actively communicated his findings through publications and presentations, and his work has formed much of the basis for current programs used to control infectious bursal disease virus infections in the poultry industry.

“The U.S. Poultry & Egg Association has been very supportive of our research program over the years, and I am very grateful for this support. The support of the Association has helped us to make meaningful advances in the control and diagnosis of infectious bursal disease,” commented Dr. Jackwood.

“Dr. Jackwood’s research program is a great example of how USPOULTRY research funds can be directed toward important applied research to find solutions to current problems faced by the poultry industry. The quality of Dr. Jackwood’s research is outstanding, and the results have been used by the poultry industry to make improvements in the control of infectious bursal disease,” remarked Dr. John Glisson, vice president of research programs for USPOULTRY.

Dr. Jackwood received a B.S. in Animal Science from the University of Delaware in 1978, M.S. in infectious diseases from Ohio State in 1980 and a Ph.D. in molecular virology from Ohio State in 1982. He joined the faculty at Ohio State in 1986.
USPOULTRY presented the organization’s annual Lamplighter Award to four individuals at the International Poultry Expo (IPE), part of the 2018 IPPE. The award pays tribute to individuals for “sustained and exemplary service” to the poultry and egg industry. This year’s honorees are:

**Fred Cespedes, retired, American Proteins**

Cespedes worked with Florida Processing and Amarillo By-Products before he joined American Proteins. He retired as group vice president and division manager of the Hanceville operation after 33 years with the company. Cespedes served as USPOULTRY’s Poultry Protein & Fat Council chairman from 1996 to 1998 and again from 2004 through 2006. In 2012, he was honored as Poultry Protein & Fat Council chairman emeritus. He also served on the USPOULTRY board of directors in 2008 and 2009.

**Mike Donohue, Agri Stats**

Donohue has been with Agri Stats since 1997 and is currently vice president, working with U.S., Canadian and international broiler companies to use confidential, comparative benchmarking data to improve operational efficiencies and reduce costs. Before joining Agri Stats, he was employed with Arbor Acre Farms for 17 years, the last three of which he served as vice president of marketing.

**Dr. Don McIntyre, Diamond V**

McIntyre is the director of global research and technical services for Diamond V. His experience has included research and development positions at Hybrid Turkeys and Oscar Meyer. He also worked as a live production manager for Louis Rich and Pilgrim’s Pride, was president of British United Turkeys of America and Colorado Quality Research, and traveled in technical service for Hendrix Genetics and for Adisseo North America before joining Diamond V in 2012. He is certified by the Professional Animal Auditor Certification Organization as an animal welfare auditor and trainer, specializing in poultry. McIntyre is a past president of the Southern Poultry Science Society. He has served three terms on the Foundation Research Advisory Committee of USPOULTRY. He has also served on the board of directors for USPOULTRY, the Poultry Science Association, North Carolina Poultry Association, South Carolina Poultry Association and the National Turkey Federation.

**Dr. Brian Kiepper, University of Georgia**

Kiepper is an associate professor and extension specialist in the University of Georgia’s Department of Poultry Science. Prior to his faculty appointment in 2008, he spent 10 years as a research engineer in UGA’s Engineering Outreach Service. He also worked as an industrial pretreatment program manager and assistant director of water resources with the City of Conyers, Ga. Kiepper has served on the USPOULTRY Environmental Management Seminar planning committee for many years, as well as presented at various USPOULTRY seminars. He also serves on the selection committees for USPOULTRY’s Family Farm Environmental Excellence Award and Clean Water Award, and helps teach USPOULTRY’s Poultry Wastewater Operators Training class across the country.

“We value the commitment and support of this year’s Lamplighter Award recipients,” said Jerry Moye, Hendrix Genetics, Ontario, Canada, and outgoing USPOULTRY chairman. “They have enthusiastically dedicated themselves to contributing to the poultry industry, and we sincerely appreciate their service to the industry.”
2018 IPPE: More Than 30,000 Attendees and 521,000 Square Feet of Exhibit Space

The 2018 IPPE had more than 30,000 poultry, meat and feed industry attendees from all over the world, approximately the same as last year. In addition, the show had more than 521,000 square feet of exhibit space and 1,218 exhibitors. Sponsored by the U.S. Poultry & Egg Association, American Feed Industry Association and North American Meat Institute, IPPE is the world's largest annual feed, meat and poultry industry event of its kind.

“This year’s exhibit floor and attendee and exhibitor numbers are a compliment to IPPE’s extensive education sessions, invaluable networking opportunities and diverse exhibits showcasing innovative technology, equipment and services. The excitement and energy displayed by this year’s attendees and exhibitors will continue to ensure the success and growth of future IPPEs,” remarked IPPE show organizers.

The central attraction is the large exhibit floor. Exhibitors displayed the most current technology in equipment, supplies and services used by industry companies in the production and processing of meat, poultry, eggs and feed products. Numerous companies highlighted their new products at the trade show, with all phases of the feed, meat and poultry industry represented, from live production and processing to further processing and packaging.

The wide variety of educational programs complemented the exhibits by keeping industry management informed about the latest issues and events. This year’s educational line-up featured more than 140 hours of education sessions, ranging from packaging trends and technologies, to feed production education, to researchers presenting findings on poultry disease, quality and behavior.

Other featured events included the International Poultry Scientific Forum, Beef 101 and Pork 101 Workshops, Pet Food Conference, TECHTalks program, Event Zone activities and publisher-sponsored programs, all of which have made the 2018 IPPE the foremost annual protein and feed event in the world.

Also, remember to save the date for the 2019 IPPE. With the Super Bowl coming to Atlanta, the IPPE show dates have been moved to Feb. 12 – 14, 2019. Mark your calendar to note this change in the IPPE trade show schedule for 2019 only!
Eight IPE Exhibitors Recognized for Long-Term Exhibiting Tenure

USPOULTRY recognized eight companies that have been exhibiting for 50 or more years at IPE, part of the 2018 IPPE. Tom Hensley, USPOULTRY chairman, presented plaques to each company in acknowledgement of their long-term exhibiting tenure.

Aviagen and WATT Global Media were recognized for 65 years of exhibiting at IPE. Lyon Technologies and Sealed Air Food Care – Cryovac and Diversey were recognized for 60 years of exhibiting. Elanco Animal Health and Mettler-Toledo were recognized for 55 years of exhibiting. Hollymatic Corporation and Munters Corp. / Aerotech Fans were recognized for 50 years of exhibiting.

“Your support of the International Poultry Expo has allowed the poultry industry to grow and advance as we continue to invest show revenues back into the industry. We sincerely appreciate and thank you for your continued support,” commented Hensley.
ALA to Collaborate on Latin American Poultry Summit to Debut at 2019 IPPE

IPE, part of IPPE, and WATT Global Media recently announced their collaboration to develop the Latin American Poultry Summit. Both groups are pleased to announce that the Latin American Poultry Association (ALA) will also be participating in the program development for the Latin American Poultry Summit, which will debut at the 2019 IPPE.

ALA has had a presence at IPPE for many years, and IPPE has participated in their biennial Latin American Poultry Congress reciprocally. ALA is currently developing new services to benefit their members and the entire Latin American poultry community.

“This collaboration is timely, as it falls in line with the new initiatives we are developing,” remarked Dr. Juana Galvan, executive director of ALA.

The initial program committee will consist of the following individuals: Dr. Jose Bruzual, Aviagen; Dr. Luis Gomez, Boehringer Ingelheim; Humberto Hernandez, Gainco; Dr. Daniel Valbuena, Hy-Line International; Dr. Juana Galvan, Latin American Poultry Association; Dr. Iván Alvarado, Merck; Dr. Pedro Villegas, University of Georgia; Dr. Maritza Tamayo, Vetanco; Juanfra DeVillena, Wayne Farms; and others pending confirmation.

The Latin American Poultry Summit will address leading technical topics covering live production and processing issues of greatest priority to Latin American poultry and egg producers and processors. The program will have simultaneous translation in Spanish, English and Portuguese for attendees.

Along with speakers discussing relevant topics affecting the Latin American poultry sector, lunch and a reception and dinner will be offered. Special recognition will also be provided for the Latin American Hall of Fame during the summit, founded and presented by WATT Global Media and Industria Avícola magazine, to recognize people who have dedicated their lives to the advancement of the poultry industry in Latin America. Additionally, students and advisors participating in the USPOULTRY Foundation International Student Program will be recognized during the event. This program, created four years ago, brings approximately two dozen Latin American students, with their advisors, to the IPPE annually.
Supreme Court Delivers Decision on Proper Court to Hear Challenges to “Waters of the US” Determination

The Supreme Court issued a ruling recently that sided with a 14 member coalition, that included USPOULTRY, on which court has jurisdiction over hearing challenges to “Waters of the US” determinations by the Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Shortly after finalizing the “Waters of the US” Rule in May of 2015, industry groups and a number of states filed multiple lawsuits against EPA challenging the regulation. These lawsuits were filed in numerous federal district courts across the United States.

EPA took a different position, arguing that legal challenges should be heard at the higher federal appeals court level. The Supreme Court disagreed and ruled unanimously against EPA’s claim that federal appeals courts should hold original jurisdiction over challenges to the 2015 Rule.

This ruling will clear the way for states, organizations and property owners to proceed with their lawsuits that claim the process to finalize the “Waters of the US” rule was flawed and failed to give the regulated public the opportunity to have a voice in the rulemaking process. While the Supreme Court’s ruling will reverse the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals assertion of jurisdiction and end the current stay that is keeping the rule from going into effect, the current administration has initiated the process to rescind the 2015 “Waters of the US” Rule.

“We are pleased the Supreme Court recognized the federal district courts are the appropriate venue for stakeholders in the poultry and egg industry to challenge the “Waters of the US” rule. Settling this jurisdictional issue is an important first step that clears up confusion on where to resolve disputes and provides certainty for all property owners if they are compelled to challenge a “Waters of the US” determination on their farm,” commented John Starkey, USPOULTRY president.

USPOULTRY Develops Video Tutorial to Assist Poultry & Egg Producers through CERCLA Reporting Requirements

USPOULTRY has developed a tutorial video to assist growers with submitting continuous release reports associated with the release of low levels of ammonia into the air generated from the natural breakdown of manure. These reports will be required, because the D.C. Court of Appeals, in April of 2017, ruled against EPA’s 2008 rational determination that these low-level emissions do not warrant the submission of release reports that are meant to trigger an immediate response by emergency personnel.

USPOULTRY’s video tutorial provides background into a 2005 petition by the poultry and egg industry requesting an exemption from emergency release reporting under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) and the Emergency Planning Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA). More importantly, the video provides poultry and egg farmers with an overview of the CERCLA continuous release reporting requirements and step-by-step instructions for notifying the National Response Commission (NRC) and filling out and submitting the initial written report and 12-month follow-up report to the appropriate EPA Regional office. Guidance issued by EPA in October of 2017 indicated EPCRA emergency release reporting for farms is not required because “farms that use substances in routine agricultural operations” are exempt from reporting under EPCRA section 304.

John Starkey, president of USPOULTRY, explained, “The need for the video became apparent following a brief early period of reporting from a small number of farms that raise livestock and poultry. As we feared, a few hundred calls crippled the system, and it hampered the NRC’s ability to focus on calls that may have really required an emergency response. This led EPA and the NRC to modify the published reporting process, which made the procedure even more confusing to our members.”

The tutorial video, which can be accessed at http://www.uspoultry.org/environment/regulatory.cfm, references a reporting form and a detailed CERCLA reporting guidance document, also developed by USPOULTRY. These additional documents can be accessed on USPOULTRY’s website at http://www.uspoultry.org/environment/regulatory.cfm and clicking on “USPOULTRY CERCLA Reporting Guidance.”
USPOULTRY recognized six poultry farm winners and three finalists who received the annual Family Farm Environmental Excellence Award at the IPE, part of the 2018 IPPE. The award is given in acknowledgment of exemplary environmental stewardship by family farmers engaged in poultry and egg production.

“It is a privilege to recognize these nine family farms for the excellent job they do in being good stewards of their land. Our industry could not continue to operate and flourish without taking proper care of our natural resources. These six winners and three finalists are to be commended for their efforts,” said Tom Hensley, president, Fieldale Farms, Baldwin, Ga., and newly elected USPOULTRY chairman.

Applicants were rated in several categories, including dry litter management, nutrient management planning, community involvement, wildlife enhancement techniques, innovative nutrient management techniques and participation in education or outreach programs. In selecting the national winners and finalists, applications were reviewed and farm visits conducted by a team of environmental professionals from universities, regulatory agencies and state poultry associations.

The winners were chosen from six geographical regions from throughout the United States. They are as follows.

Northeast Region winner – Baker’s Acres, Millsboro, Del.
Terry Baker Jr., nominated by Mountaire Farms

North Central Region winner – Herbruck’s Poultry Ranch, Saranac, Mich.
Greg Herbruck, nominated by Egglan’s Best, LLC

South Central Region winner – 4-T Turkey Farm, California, Mo.
Bill and Lana Dicus, nominated by Cargill

Southeast Region winner – Morrison Poultry, Wingo, Ky.
Tim and Deena Morrison, nominated by the Kentucky Poultry Federation and Tyson Foods

Southwest Region winner – Woape Farm, West, Texas
Ken and Dana Smotherman, nominated by the Texas Poultry Federation and Cargill

West Region winner – Pickin’ N Pluckin’, Ridgefield, Wash.
Rod and Glenda Hergert, nominated by Foster Farms

There were also three finalists recognized at the award presentation. They are as follows.

West Region finalist – Hiday Poultry Farms LLC, Brownsville, Ore.
Randy Hiday, nominated by Foster Farms

Northeast Region finalist – Foltz Farm K, Mathias, W.Va.
Kevin and Lora Foltz and sons, nominated by Cargill

South Central finalist – Featherhill Farm, Elkins, Ark.
Bud and Darla O’Neal, nominated by Cargill
John Starkey, president of USPOULTRY, was recently recognized by the National FFA Foundation’s Sponsors’ Board with an eagle award for his service.

Since its inception in 1947, the National FFA Foundation Sponsors’ Board has supported the foundation in securing millions in support of FFA and agricultural education. The group, comprised of top corporate executives who support the vision and mission of FFA are interested in promoting careers in agribusiness, agriculture and food production, and entrepreneurship.

The 2018 National FFA Foundation Sponsors’ Board members include: Susanne Wasson, 2018 chair, Dow AgroSciences; John Niemann, 2019 chair-elect, Cargill Turkey & Cooked Meats; Mark Schweitzer, immediate past chair, Archer Daniels Midland Company; Michael Boden, Syngenta; Scott Bormann, Merck Animal Health; Joe Broyles, Wrangler; Tom Dean, Case IH; Van Dewey, Rabo Agrifinance; Todd Eckert, Ford Motor Company; Jerry Flint, DuPont Pioneer; Tim Gallagher, Bunge North America; Kelly Gast, Monsanto; David Gilmore, John Deere; Warren Graeff, PNC Bank; Doug Griffin, The Context Network; John Grunewald, Farm Credit of Western Oklahoma; Johnny Hughes, Tyson Foods; Marissa Hunter, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles North America; Christine Jenkins; Amanda Kephart, Elanco; Christi Korzekwa, Tractor Supply Company; Kelly Manning, Growth Energy; Alistair McLelland, AGCO; John Miller, BNSF Railway; Susan Moriarty, Mahindra North America; Scott Mortimer, Meredith; Matt Plitt, Valent U.S.A. LLC; Melissa Proffitt, Ice Miller LLP; Bobbi Jo Raffetto, Kerry Taste & Nutrition; Paul Rea, BASF; Jason Scales, Lincoln Electric; Greg Schneider, Culver’s; John Smith, Bayer; John Starkey, U.S. Poultry & Egg Association; Todd Stucke, Kubota Tractor Corporation; Steve Sutherland, Firestone Farm Tires; Charles L. Theiss, Newly Weds Foods; Karl Weiss, Caterpillar, Inc.; Jay Wilson, Sealed Air Corporation; and Chun Woytera, New Holland.

The U.S. Poultry & Egg Harold E. Ford Foundation (USPOULTRY Foundation) has named Barbara Jenkins its executive director. In addition to maintaining her role as vice president of education and student programs for USPOULTRY, Jenkins is assuming responsibility of the Foundation’s day-to-day operations. These responsibilities include managing the annual collegiate recruiting grants program, interacting with FFA to bring National Officer Candidates and the top ten (each) Poultry Evaluation and Food Science and Technology Career Development Event teams to IPPE for a special program, and bringing students from more than a dozen Latin American universities to IPPE in addition to a host of other programs. All of these programs are designed to reach a broad and diverse group of students and introduce them to the wide variety of career paths in the poultry and egg industry, from accounting and animal health, to business majors and communications, to marketing and sales.

Jenkins began her career with USPOULTRY in 2000, working in various positions in the Education Program. She was promoted to vice president of education programs in 2011, and student programs was added to her list of job responsibilities in 2014. Jenkins was recognized in 2016 with an Honorary American Degree by the National FFA Organization, the highest honorary degree presented by the organization.

“Barbara started with us almost 18 years ago as an administrative assistant. Through her own hard work and continuing her education, she has continuously grown throughout her career. Frankly, some of this promotion finally recognizes things she is already doing and some is based on our desire to further direct her efforts toward student recruitment,” said John Starkey, president of USPOULTRY and the USPOULTRY Foundation. “Ask any group of poultry and egg industry executives, and I’m sure they will tell you that finding young talent is near the top of their list of priorities. This move will allow us to utilize Barbara’s proven skills to extend our reach in student recruitment.”

Jenkins will continue to report to Starkey in both roles. Her initial efforts will focus on developing additional relationships with universities to supply the diverse student base desired by the industry.
Eduardo Vicuña, technical services manager for Biomin, discussed how to minimize the impact of mycotoxins. He remarked that the harm of mycotoxins to animals depends on the mycotoxins concentration and the length of time. Low doses of mycotoxins during a long time make the animal more prone to diseases. Vicuña also shared information about his company’s recomposition of worldwide mycotoxins from 2005 to 2015, which studied the samples and tendencies that challenge poultry.

“We need to consider nutrition under a different context, and we have to be sure not to take the risk of doing something we will not be able to undo,” said Mario Penz, global strategic accounts director for Cargill Animal Nutrition, during his discussion on “The Future of Feeding Poultry: Its Costs and Benefits” at the Seminario Avícola en Español (Poultry Program in Spanish) program held during the 2018 IPPE. The program was presented entirely in Spanish.

Penz remarked that the past is useful as reference, but there are new opportunities, activities and differences when it comes to the future of feeding poultry. He observed that the future of poultry feeding is digital information, especially if there are variables in production. “We ought to think in variability and not in averages. There is a large influence of variables on the average weight, and one of them is nutrition,” remarked Penz.

In his presentation on “Chicken Breast Myopathy Management: Its Nutritional and Environmental Factors” (Manejo de Miopatías: Sus Factores de Manejo y Ambientales), Alex Corzo, Ph.D., global head of nutrition for Aviagen, reviewed the leading myopathies found in chicken breasts, including white striping, stingy spongy and wooden breast. Corzo reflected that the intensity of the myopathy is related to the chicken’s age, in that the older the bird, the more prone to these characteristics.

Seminario Avícola en Español

Bird Health and Welfare the Focus of Spanish Poultry Education Program at 2018 IPPE
Animal Agriculture Sustainability Summit
Producing More Protein in a Sustainable Manner

“The global sustainability challenge for animal protein production is significant,” said Perry Goldschein, applied sustainability manager, North America, BASF Nutrition & Health, at the Animal Agriculture Sustainability Summit, held at the 2018 IPPE. During his presentation on “Responding to Livestock Sustainability Trends in North America,” Goldschein reviewed a sustainability trend structure that addressed stakeholder demand versus urgency of issues. He observed that stakeholder pressure focused on topics such as animal welfare, feed contamination, emissions, water, land use and more. He also provided insights into key trends addressing consumer trust, leadership opportunities and environmental impacts of cost beyond compliance.

Sara Crawford, assistant vice president of social responsibility for the National Pork Board, provided a look into the current pork industry. She remarked that the pork industry is booming and can keep up with increased consumer demand for red meat, especially pork. The industry sees this demand growing internationally. She discussed the National Pork Board’s five-year strategic plan that includes three distinct goals: build consumer trust, drive sustainable production and grow consumer demand. “Consumers do not demand perfection, but they do expect honest intent with action,” said Crawford.

Dr. Marty Matlock, executive director, University of Arkansas Office for Sustainability, and Greg Thoma, Bates Teaching Professor of Chemical Engineering for the University of Arkansas, highlighted the expanded results of a retrospective analysis of U.S. poultry production, with a lifecycle assessment methodology used to document changes in environmental key performance indicators in the industry from 1965 to 2010. They also provided information on a broiler production model for estimating environmental footprint on farms.

Ashley McDonald, senior director of sustainability for the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association, provided information on the U.S. Roundtable for Sustainable Beef including the Roundtable’s mission, which is to advance, support and communicate continuous improvement in the sustainability of U.S. beef production, by educating and engaging the beef value-chain through a collaborative multi-stakeholder effort. One of the Roundtable’s main goals is to bring everyone together to share information and insights. The group's high priority indicators for measurement include animal health and wellbeing, efficiency and yield, water and land resources, air and GHG emissions, and employee safety and wellbeing.

During his presentation on “Advancing Dairy’s Sustainability Framework in a Changing Landscape,” Joe McMahan, sustainability director with the Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy, remarked that stewardship and sustainability is foundational to U.S. Dairy. McMahan disclosed the dairy industry’s commitment to reduce greenhouse emissions of a gallon of milk by 25 percent by the year 2020. He also discussed U.S. Dairy’s guiding principles that communicate the dairy industry’s values and definition of sustainability to its stakeholders, which are the pillars of the dairy industry’s framework and are designed to inform their sustainability programs, measurement and reporting efforts.
Poultry Market Intelligence Forum

Secretary Perdue: Work Must Be Based on Sound Science, Not on Political Decisions

Secretary Perdue concluded by mentioning that “the goal of USDA is to be the Amazon of the federal service,” and USDA wishes to partner with the industry to address burdensome regulations.

“In 2018, the poultry industry is still going to be very strong and vibrant,” forecasted Mike Donohue, vice president at Agri Stats, during his presentation on the “Eight Trends That Drove the Chicken Industry in 2017.” Donohue reviewed the trends, which include the following areas: growth of no antibiotics ever (NAE) / antibiotic-free (ABF) / vegetable fed diets; stability in feed ingredient costs; chick cost and housing expenses; ‘slow growing chickens’ and GAP; bird size and yields; labor costs and availability; NPIS; and wing demand and value. He also remarked that the further processing industry has continued to grow, as more consumers are spending their food dollars outside of the home due to convenience.

Donohue expressed that there is a phenomenal change in this business.

Dr. Paul Aho, economist, Poultry Perspectives, gave an overview of “Domestic and Global Drivers for 2018.” Aho began his overview by pronouncing that “the state of the chicken is good, and the economy is good; so there is not very much to complain about regarding the state of the industry. The whole world is growing simultaneously.” He continued by commenting that “oil countries are poultry importing countries and have plenty of money to buy chicken; and the price per barrel of oil is going up. In two years oil has gone up 100 percent. Copper and the Dow Jones are also up by 50 percent. Can grain be far behind?”

Aho stated that China recently declared they will be putting 10 percent of ethanol in their gasoline by 2020, so this will increase grain demand worldwide. China now has a great percentage of the world corn stock. If the stock goes up, the prices will go down; and if stock goes down, the price will go up. Grain prices can also increase due to demand from the rising world economy as well as a result of drought, which is very difficult to forecast. By 2020, China is expected to consume a big part of the world grain stock, and the average farm price for corn is forecast to continue increasing.

Aho observed that chicken consumption is recovering from the recession. It declined due to lower median income and higher prices of corn; therefore, there was a decline in foodservice. The actual situation in the U.S., for the moment, reflects grain prices that are low and a rise in total meat production, which is consistent with economic growth. “The U.S. is not becoming vegetarian. As soon as people have money in their pocket, they start buying more meat. We can see where we are in the economic cycle by watching meat and poultry consumption,” expressed Aho. A four percent increase is forecasted for pork meat, and a five percent for beef for 2018.

Aho summarized by affirming that corn and soybeans are at the bottom of the cycle, commodities of all kinds are climbing, and grain prices are likely to rise as will feed prices. The economic growth in the U.S. supports chicken expansion. Turkey profitability should improve during the year, and egg industry profits will be higher.
Wastewater Treatment Challenges in the Poultry and Egg Industry

While speaking at the Wastewater Treatment Challenges program at the 2018 IPPE, Dr. Clifford Lange, associate professor of civil engineering at Auburn University, began his presentation on the “Effects of Quaternary Ammonia on Wastewater Operations” by describing the properties of quaternary ammonium compounds (QACs) and their major uses, including biocides, fabric softeners, hair conditioners, antistatic agents, corrosion inhibitors, leather softening, pigment dispersants, sewage flocculants and preservatives to increase the shelf life of many products. Lange observed that QACs are almost ubiquitous in poultry protein and fat wastewater and solids streams. However, not all QACs are equally inhibitory. Those used for sanitation are generally the more inhibitory species, thus there is little room for choosing less inhibitory QACs.

Lange remarked that QAC blockers may protect wastewater treatment processes at the poultry plant but will increase the QAC loading of the solids sent to rendering; and processing the solids can re-solubilize the QACs, making them more inhibitory. The age of the microorganisms in the wastewater treatment plant will also affect how QACs accumulate in the biomass. Thus, higher microbial ages can increase biomass load and inhibition. Further, wastewater biomass is generally more effected by sudden increases in QACs, and gradual addition of high QAC waste streams can reduce inhibition. Optimizing pH, alkalinity, trace nutrients and redox state can also reduce the severity of QAC inhibition.

Dr. Spyros Pavlostathis, professor of environmental engineering at the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology, reviewed a research project being funded by USPOULTRY’s research program on the fate and effect of peracetic acid (PAA)solutions in poultry processing treatment systems. Pavlostathis noted that PAA decay is significantly affected by pH, salts and transition metals; and PAA transformation is irreversible. PAA carryover to the biological treatment process is also possible. However, the effect of PAA on biological treatment processes and its actual cause are still largely unknown.

During his food safety chemical update, Juanfra DeVillena, director of quality assurance and food safety for Wayne Farms LLC, commented that peracetic acid is a highly effective antimicrobial primarily used in the food industry and healthcare systems. He provided a history on interventions and USDA micro requirements as well as discussed poultry processing plant antimicrobial interventions in detail.

Steven Woodruff, president of Woodruff & Howe Environmental Engineering, Inc., provided information on case studies and lessons learned related to food safety chemicals and wastewater treatment systems.

Woodruff observed that food safety and sanitation chemicals are critically important to the food industry, and pollution control systems need to be designed, operated and maintained in a manner which prevents potential loss of these important tools.
Rendering: A Sustainable, Essential Link in the Food and Feed Chain

“Rendering is sustainable and an essential link in the food and feed chain,” said Nancy Foster, president of the National Renderers Association (NRA) and Fats and Proteins Research Foundation, during her presentation at the International Rendering Symposium, held in conjunction with the 2018 International Production & Processing Expo in Atlanta, Ga. The NRA and USPOULTRY sponsored the program.

Foster reported that the NRA represents more than 95 percent of rendering in the U.S. and Canada, including packer and independent renderers. The NRA supports the rendering industry through programs on biosecurity and stewardship, regulatory and lobbying government affairs, and international marketing promotion. The rendering industry exceeds $10 billion in annual revenue.

“My dog is not my pet. My dog is family,” said Tim Law, corporate quality manager for Darling Ingredients, as he was describing how most pet owners feel about their pets. Roughly 85 million families own a pet in the U.S., and the pet industry is a $69.4 billion per year business. Law remarked that pet parents expect good prices, quality and appearance, as well as palatability, performance and packaging appeal for their pet’s food. He said that there is a humanizing trend toward pets and described the top four human food trends that the pet food industry is currently experiencing. He ended by stating, “It’s not just the pet anymore; it is the pet parent.”

B.J. Bench, Ph.D., director of FSQA, Specialty Products for Tyson Foods, presented on “Oxidation and Its Challenges.” Bench observed that many variables contribute to oxidation, rancidification or degradation of products with many sequels, such as the passive view of fatty acids degradation or termination that leads to secondary volatile and non-volatile compounds. He remarked that “trying to understand product degradation is a challenge all on its own. Antioxidants offer a product that provides some stability but are not a perfect solution.” Bench concluded by stating that detailed research studies are needed on rendered products to truly understand the culprits that are leading to potential issues along with palatability studies that support a real concern.

Leah Wilkinson, vice president of legislative, regulatory and state affairs for the American Feed Industry Association, also gave an “AAFCO Update and Status of Ingredient Definitions” presentation.
Excitement in Abundance at National 4-H Poultry & Egg Conference

4-H’ers from around the country were excited to participate in the National 4-H Poultry & Egg Conference at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center in Louisville. The Conference affords these spirited young minds with a plethora of opportunities to learn about and engage with leaders in the poultry and egg industry.

Opportunities included five separate competitive events: poultry judging, chicken barbecuing, turkey barbecuing, an egg preparation demonstration and an avian bowl (a game of poultry and egg jeopardy). Poultry and egg industry leaders also participated in a Poultry Careers workshop, exposing the 4-H’ers to valuable information about career and educational opportunities in the poultry and egg industry.

The Conference hosted 147 senior 4-H’ers from 26 states, allowing them to compete in events that help them learn to formulate and defend decisions, speak publicly and expand their poultry-related skills. The team from Indiana (Jarret Bailey, Logan Lemaster, Kaitlyn Melcher and Corey Miller) was named the top team overall. Pennsylvania’s Madison Shaw was named the top overall individual.

Barbara Jenkins, vice president of education and student programs for USPOULTRY and executive director of the USPOULTRY Foundation, attended the conference and presented the awards. “The USPOULTRY Foundation continues its long-standing commitment of supporting student outreach programs to draw bright young people into poultry careers. The USPOULTRY Foundation has been a proud sponsor of 4-H and the National 4-H Poultry & Egg Conference for many years. We recognize that these youth are our industry’s future, and our goal is to encourage them to pursue a career in the poultry and egg industry. The Foundation also sponsors other youth outreach programs, including the annual College Student Career Program, the International Student Program, the new Ph.D. Student Career Fair (co-sponsored by the Poultry Science Association Foundation), collegiate poultry judging competitions, recruiting grants at colleges and universities throughout the nation, and FFA,” remarked Jenkins.

Support for the National 4-H Poultry & Egg Conference is made possible in part by a Foundation gift from Amick Farms.

The National 4-H top team overall winners from Indiana with Barbara Jenkins (right), vice president of education and student programs for USPOULTRY and executive director of the USPOULTRY Foundation
More than 650 students interested in a career in the poultry industry were recently in Atlanta as part of USPOULTRY Foundation’s College Student Career Program, held in conjunction with the 2018 IPPE. The program attracted students from 41 universities throughout the United States. The students interviewed for jobs and internships with 175 human resources representatives from approximately 30 industry and allied firms. They were also able to visit the exhibit floor to see the latest technology used in today’s industry. 

“We are pleased the College Student Career Program continues to expand each year. This year’s program connected the brightest students with several industry companies that made on-site job offers and internships. This is a terrific avenue for companies to fill their talent pipeline to help safeguard the future of our industry,” remarked Jerry Moe, Hendrix Genetics, and USPOULTRY Foundation chairman.

College Student Career Program keynote speaker, Bob “Pic” Billingsley, director of development and engineering for Sanderson Farms, encouraged and challenged the students to work industriously toward obtaining their career aspirations as they transition from academics to the work environment. “You are in the driver’s seat. We need good people. There are many opportunities, and you just have to go after them,” said Billingsley.

The USPOULTRY Foundation College Student Career Program gives companies an opportunity to interview top students for industry-related jobs and internships in one location, during a three-day period. Barbara Jenkins, executive director of the USPOULTRY Foundation, noted that while the program is reaching many colleges and universities around the nation, there is still work to do in reaching more universities and more diverse majors. “The industry has challenged the USPOULTRY Foundation to continue to diversify the program, and we are forging ahead in trying to meet that challenge,” said Jenkins.

The International Student Program brought in 14 students from seven universities in Latin America for a specialized program that enabled the students to discuss job opportunities with companies that have Latin American operations.

Susan Jones, North Carolina State University, was named the Frank Perdue Scholarship Student of the Year at the College Student Career Program. The scholarship is named in the late Frank Perdue’s honor, for his dedication to aspiring young people studying for careers in the poultry industry, and who, for many years as a long-time supporter of the program, attended and interviewed students. Brock Daniels, University of Arkansas, was awarded second place, and Benjamin Alig, North Carolina State University, received third place honors.

Jenkins stated, “Twelve students submitted applications for Student of the Year. We are excited to see the growth in the number of good, quality applications as well as the steady growth overall of the College Student Career Program.”

Students also participated in Club of the Year and Scrapbook of the Year competitions. North Carolina State was named Club of the Year, which is based on yearlong activities and community engagement by the club. Texas A&M took home second place, and Penn State placed third. The club Scrapbook of the Year award went to Penn State.
Producing Quality Feed Products Theme of USPOULTRY’s 2018 Feed Mill Management Seminar

Quality feed is an important aspect of producing a high quality protein product. USPOULTRY’s 2018 Feed Mill Management Seminar will provide attendees with practical ways to improve efficiency at the feed mill, showcase new technology used in feed production, and much more. The seminar will also experience a new location in downtown Nashville at the Sheraton Grand Nashville Downtown, Mar. 20-21.

“The program planning committee, comprised of feed and poultry nutrition professionals from industry and academia, has a good understanding of industry needs, expectations and trends that may shape our future. This knowledge and experience has led to the development of a program that will be beneficial to anyone involved in nutrition or feed manufacturing,” explained John Brabham, committee chairman, Wayne Farms LLC.

Program topics include How to Properly Measure Pellet Quality and Particle Size; Preparing for the Unexpected: Security in Today’s World; How to Handle an OSHA Inspection; Importance of Ingredient Quality; Energy Management for the Feed Industry; Using Dust Monitors for NFPA Compliance; New Safety Features on Feed Trailers; and more.

To register for the Feed Mill Management Seminar, visit www.uspoultry.org.

USPOULTRY Human Resources Seminar to Address Key Areas Affecting the Workplace

Human resources professionals have a lot on their plates, as laws and regulations change quickly and often vary from state to state. Recruitment and retention, ensuring proper training, and handling day-to-day employment issues are only a part of their responsibilities. Each year, USPOULTRY’s Human Resources Seminar offers insight to help HR managers better understand current policies and presents information and techniques to stay ahead of trends that poultry industry human resources professionals face. This year’s seminar will be held April 23-25, at the Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa in Destin, Fla.

“The seminar planning committee has worked hard to put together a strong program for 2018. The topics are relevant and insightful for industry professionals in all aspects of human resources,” said Bart Crater, committee chairman, Peco Foods Inc.

The seminar agenda, developed by an industry committee of knowledgeable and experienced human resources professionals, will include the following topics: A Washington Update; Harassment in the Workplace – An Interactive Case Study; Auditing the Human Resources Process; Workplace Safety in Today’s World; Legal Issues/Guidelines for Using Alternative Communications Methods; and more. A series of roundtable breakout sessions are also part of the agenda, addressing topics such as Combating Document Fraud; Human Resources as a Strategic Partner; Creative Ways of Recruiting and Retaining Technical Employees; and Practical Considerations of Outsourcing.

More than 150 attendees are expected to attend. To register for the Human Resources Seminar, visit www.uspoultry.org.