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News & Views is produced quarterly by the U.S. Poultry & Egg Association, the world’s largest and most active poultry organization. USPOULTRY represents the entire industry as an “All Feather” Association. USPOULTRY is a nonprofit organization which represents its poultry and egg members through research, education, communication and technical assistance. Membership includes producers and processors of broilers, turkeys, ducks, eggs and breeding stock, as well as allied companies. Formed in 1947, the Association has member companies nationwide and affiliations in 28 states. USPOULTRY also sponsors the International Poultry Expo.

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To All of You That Continue to Feed Millions of People Around the World

For the last few weeks, as Gwen Venable has been “gently” reminding me, I needed to prepare a column for News & Views. I have been, admittedly, procrastinating. Why? Well, the dominating topic is, by far, COVID-19. And, I didn't want to write about COVID-19, because everyone else is writing about COVID-19. Besides the fact that I have no special insight into COVID-19, I think many of us are “burnt out” on reading about the disease.

But, alas, Gwen has given me my final ultimatum, and the same thing is front and center in our collective minds, COVID-19. Certainly, there is concern and compassion for those who have caught this potentially deadly disease. Many more people have suffered a loss of income for an undetermined amount of time.

Every day, poultry and egg companies produce a quality, affordable and delicious product—against a multitude of challenges and potential obstacles that most people don’t know even exist. Now, with COVID-19, you’ve had to adapt, on the fly, to a host of other challenges from supply chain disruptions to maintaining staff, implementing additional safety and health protocols, to a whole host of other major disruptions to your processing and production lines.

So, my COVID comment to all of you as you continue to feed me and my family and millions of others around the world through this trying time—THANK YOU!

John Starkey, PE
President
jstarkey@uspoultry.org
The 2020 International Production & Processing Expo (IPPE) had 31,504 animal food, meat and poultry industry leaders from all over the world in attendance, with an 8% increase in the number of buyers from last year. A total of 1,377 exhibitors showcased their latest technology and solutions, with more than 573,000 square feet of exhibit space. IPPE is the world’s largest annual feed, meat and poultry industry event of its kind and is one of the 30 largest trade shows in the United States. IPPE is sponsored by the U.S. Poultry & Egg Association, American Feed Industry Association and North American Meat Institute.

There were 8,063 international visitors from 129 countries at IPPE. The largest group from a single country outside the U.S. was Canada with 1,176 visitors. The largest region represented included the Caribbean, Latin America, Mexico and South America with 3,334 visitors.

“There was a great turnout for the 2020 IPPE. With four halls and extended networking opportunities, we expect the 2021 IPPE to provide even more economic value for attendees and exhibitors,” remarked the three organizations.

In addition to complementing the exhibit floor, a week-long schedule of education programs helped drive attendance and provided information to industry professionals on the latest issues. This year’s educational line-up featured 200-plus hours of sessions, ranging from meat and poultry quality, biosecurity as it pertains to foreign animal disease, processing for antibiotic-free production, and a multilingual program focused on broiler and layer production and processing issues affecting Latin America.

Next year’s IPPE will be held Jan. 26 – 28, 2021, at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta. Show updates and attendee and exhibitor information are available at www.ippexpo.org.

The 2021 IPPE Exhibitor Advisory Committee meeting was held March 25 via virtual webinar. The meeting was facilitated by Dr. Tom Frost, director of nutritional solutions for DSM Nutritional Products and USPOULTRY board member. The group reviewed results from the 2020 IPPE and discussed planning for the 2021 trade show.

The committee consisted of the following exhibiting companies: ADM; AG Lighting Innovations; AGCO Corporation; AGRI-Associates; Air Products; Alithya; Alloy Hardfacing and Engineering; Alltech; Alternative Design; Amcor; American Meat Science Association; American Structures; AmTrade Systems; Anderson International; Armstrong International; Aviagen; Barnes Paper Company; Bettecher Industries; BinMaster; Bioionix; Biomin; Biorigin; Boehringer Ingelheim; Buhler; Cantrell / Gainco; Cargill; Centurion Poultry; Ceva; Chem-Aqua; Chore-Time; CHR Hansen; Cobb Vantress; Colorado State University; Delong’s Gizzard Equipment; Dennis Group; Dosatron; DP Techlink; DS Smith; EncapSulite International; Ensign Solutions; Environmental Dynamics International; Enzabac Advanced Products; Eurofins US; Evonik; Evonik Corporation; EW Nutrition; Food Export Association; Foodmate USA; FPEC Corp; Frontmatec; GCLipids; Georgia Tech Research Institute; Global Poultry Source; GRACO Inc.; Hatchery Planning Company; Hendrix Genetics; Howe Corporation; HR Green; Hurst Boiler; Hyde Industrial Blade Solutions; Hy-Line International; Iberson; Innovative Poultry Solutions; International Paper; Interstates; INTL FCStone; Intralox; Jamesway; JAX; JBT Corporation; KBM Industrial Services; Keith Walking Floor; Kemin; LB White; Marel; Matrix Industrial Control Systems; MATRIX PACKAGING MACHINERY; Merieux NutriSciences; METTLER TOLEDO Product Inspection; Meyn; Morris & Associates; Morten, Vardeman & Carlson; MTU; Multi-Skill Training Services; Multivac; Neogen; NORD Gear Corporation; North American Renderers Association; Nothum Food Processing Systems; Olmix; Ossid; Pactiv; PeroxyChem; Phibro Animal Health; Phytobiotics North America; PMN Group; Polygon; Praxair; Precision Lighting Systems; Premier Tech; Protekta; Proven North America; QTI Inc.; Sanovo Group; Sealed Air; Silvercote; Simmons Engineering; SmithBucklin/United Soybean Board; Southwestern Sales Company; Soybean Meal Information Center; Special Nutrients; Specim; Stellar; Sterling Refrigeration; Summit Livestock Facilities; Sunbelt Rentals; Texas A&M University; The Austin Company; The Timken Company; Tippman Engineering; TomCO2; Trantham Services Inc.; Triangle Package Machinery; Triton Innovation LLC; Trouw Nutrition; US Soybean Export Council; Vaxxinova/Epitopix; Vortex Global; WATT Global Media; and WEM Automation.
Poultry Groups Take Advantage of Free Bus Service

Multiple poultry companies took advantage of free bus service to transport their employees and growers to the 2020 IPPE. More than 200 employees and contract producers from eight poultry complexes attended the IPPE through the bus service. They included Claxton Poultry, Fieldale Farms, Peco Foods, Perdue Farms and Pilgrim’s.

The attendees were pre-registered through the Members to Atlanta (M2A) program. In addition, the attendees were provided lunch coupons, compliments of IPPE.

“The IPPE bus attendees always express their appreciation for this program. It is an excellent opportunity for them to view new equipment and products they need on their farms and facilities,” commented Larry Brown, coordinator for the IPPE bus program.

IPPE will offer the bus service again in 2021 for poultry, feed and meat member companies of the U.S. Poultry & Egg Association, American Feed Industry Association and North American Meat Institute. For more information, please contact Larry Brown at l.brown@uspoultry.org.

Jamesway and USPOULTRY Present Checks to Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta

Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta recently received donations from Jamesway Incubator Company and the U.S. Poultry & Egg Association (USPOULTRY) during the International Poultry Expo, part of the 2020 IPPE in Atlanta.

Denis Kan, president of Jamesway Incubator Company, presented a check in the amount of $2,000 to Melisa Morrow, development officer for Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta Foundation. USPOULTRY matched Jamesway’s contribution with John Prestage, Prestage Farms and outgoing USPOULTRY chairman, presenting the check. Christopher Jordan, vice president of sales and marketing for Jamesway Incubator Company, and John Starkey, president of USPOULTRY, joined in the presentation. This was Jamesway’s 11th year of donating to Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, and USPOULTRY has contributed for the past 10 years.

“This is our 11th year of contributing to this worthy cause, and we are pleased to provide this donation to Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta,” said Kan.

“Jamesway’s continued leadership in contributing to Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta is appreciated by our Association. We are pleased to again match this donation, as IPE has called Atlanta home for 72 years,” said Prestage.

“Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta is reliant on donors like Jamesway and USPOULTRY to accomplish its mission of making kids better today and healthier tomorrow through philanthropic contributions. Children’s provides medically-needed healthcare to the children of Georgia, including families that could not otherwise afford to pay,” said Morrow.
Applications Being Accepted for Poultry Industry Safety Recognition Awards

The Joint Poultry Industry Safety Award Program is currently accepting applications from poultry industry facilities with outstanding safety programs. The program is open to National Chicken Council, National Turkey Federation and USPOULTRY members with poultry processing plants, further processing facilities, egg processing plants, hatcheries, feed mills and rendering facilities that, through the implementation of innovative and effective programs, have injury and illness rates below the industry average for three consecutive years.

Based on the latest data available from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the slaughter and poultry processing OSHA total recordable illness and injury rate for 2018 was 3.5 cases per 100 full-time workers. The 2018 rate of 3.5 represents an outstanding 84 percent decrease from 1994.

“The poultry industry depends on a workforce of committed employees to provide a nutritious and affordable food source, and we are extensively invested in processes and procedures to reduce workplace hazards. The considerable and continuous improvement in illness and injury rates among our workforce over the past two decades is a result of the poultry industry’s unceasing commitment to worker safety,” said Frank Cruice, senior director, Corporate Safety & Security, Perdue Farms, and chair of the Joint Industry Safety and Health Council.

Award program rules, regulations and application forms can be obtained on the USPOULTRY website at www.uspoultry.org. The application deadline is May 8. The annual awards will be presented during the National Safety Conference for the Poultry Industry, Aug. 10-12, at the Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa in Destin, Florida.

The Joint Industry Safety and Health Council is made up of members from USPOULTRY, the National Chicken Council and National Turkey Federation. Collectively, the three organizations represent 95 percent of the nation’s poultry products, and their members generate more than 1.8 million total U.S. jobs.
USPOULTRY Accepting Applications for 2020 Clean Water Awards

USPOULTRY is accepting applications for the 2020 Clean Water Awards. The awards recognize outstanding performance of wastewater treatment plants that operate at poultry or egg processing facilities. Winners will be announced at USPOULTRY’s 2020 Environmental Management Seminar to be held Sept. 17 – 18, at the Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa in Destin, Florida.

“A poultry company is steadfast in their responsibility to environmental stewardship and perform an outstanding job operating their wastewater treatment facilities. Practically all the water used in poultry and egg processing is returned to the environment in first-rate condition, continually exceeding the standards set in discharge permits. USPOULTRY is pleased to sponsor this annual award program that highlights these excellent facilities,” said Greg Hinton, Rose Acre Farms, and USPOULTRY chairman.

Awards are presented in two categories – full treatment and pretreatment. Full treatment facilities are those facilities that fully treat their wastewater prior to discharge into a receiving stream or a land application system. Pretreatment facilities are those facilities that discharge pretreated effluent to publicly owned wastewater treatment facilities for further treatment. Any USPOULTRY member company is eligible to submit three nominees in each category. Facilities that have previously won the award may not be re-nominated for five years. The deadline for submitting applications is June 26.

An evaluation committee will review the applications and select semi-finalist facilities in each category. Award recipients will be selected after the evaluation committee completes a site visit were the semifinalists will have an opportunity to showcase their facility. Award recipients will receive a trophy, be profiled on the USPOULTRY website and receive assistance from USPOULTRY in publicizing the award on a local, regional and national level.

The winners of the 2019 Clean Water Awards were Pilgrim’s in Sandford, N.C., for full treatment, and Tyson Foods in Seguin, Texas, for pretreatment. Sanderson Farms in Waco, Texas, and Tyson Foods in Nashville, Arkansas, received honorable mention in the full treatment category. Tyson Foods in Robards, Kentucky, received honorable mention in the pre-treatment category.

Nominations for the Dr. Charles Beard Research Excellence Award Being Accepted

USPOULTRY and the USPOULTRY Harold E. Ford Foundation (USPOULTRY Foundation) are accepting nominations for the Dr. Charles Beard Research Excellence Award through July 1. The goal of this award is to recognize outstanding completed research projects, funded by USPOULTRY or the USPOULTRY Foundation, which have made a significant positive impact on the poultry industry. The nominee may be recognized for multiple completed USPOULTRY research projects, all focused on the same subject area.

Nominations can be accepted from the universities and research institutions that conduct poultry research, as well as from anyone in the research community or any USPOULTRY member, staff and sponsored committee. Self-nominations are also allowed. Nominations should focus on research projects completed within the past five years, but may include projects completed at an earlier time if a project’s impact has only recently become recognized.

To submit a nomination via email, please send a letter to Dr. Denise Heard, director of research, at dheard@uspoultry.org. The letter should include the nominee’s name, a brief description of the nominee’s research accomplishments and the impact of the research.

The recipient of the Dr. Charles Beard Research Excellence Award will be the primary researcher who conducted the recognized research project(s) and will receive round-trip transportation to, and two nights lodging at, the IPPE in Atlanta, Georgia. A cash prize of $1,500 will also be awarded. The award will be presented at IPPE during the International Poultry Scientific Forum by Dr. Heard and the chairman of the Foundation Research Advisory Committee. The 2020 Dr. Charles Beard Research Excellence Award went to Dr. Maricarmen Garcia, professor in the Department of Population Health at the University of Georgia Poultry Diagnostic and Research Center in Athens, Georgia.

USPOULTRY and its Foundation operate a comprehensive research program incorporating all phases of poultry and egg production and processing. Since the inception of the research program, USPOULTRY has reinvested more than $32 million dollars into the industry in the form of research grants, with the International Poultry Expo, part of IPPE, and Foundation donors as the primary sources for the funding. More than 50 universities and federal and state facilities have received grants over the years.
Blake Farms of North Carolina Recognized for Environmental Excellence

Blake Farms of North Carolina, LLC, located in North Wilkesboro, was one of six farms across the United States to receive USPOULTRY’s Family Farm Environmental Excellence Award during the 2020 IPPE in Atlanta. USPOULTRY sponsors the annual awards in recognition of exemplary environmental stewardship by family farmers engaged in poultry and egg production.

Applicants were rated in several categories, including manure management, nutrient management planning, community involvement, wildlife enhancement techniques, innovative nutrient management techniques, and participation in education and outreach programs. Applications were reviewed and farm visits conducted by a team of environmental professionals from universities, regulatory agencies and state poultry associations.

Blake Farms raises broilers for Tyson Foods. The farm has been family owned and operated for three generations, and the family’s emphasis on sustainable farming runs deep. Chad Blake, one of owners of Blake Farms, often reminisces on the words of his grandfather; “Take care of the land and it will take care of you.” This sentiment drives the Blake family’s dedication to environmental stewardship and responsible agriculture and will continue to do so for generations to come.

Part of Chad’s environmental commitment is the implementation of strict litter and nutrient management throughout the operation. Both the farm’s soil and the manure from the poultry houses are tested on an annual basis to ensure that the nutrients in the organic fertilizer are applied in a manner that is of the greatest benefit to both the soil and the crop that will be planted. Blake has implemented field borders, grass waterways, strip cropping, tree planting and a strict no-till policy throughout the farm that allows maximization of crop production while drastically reducing nutrient loss, water runoff and soil erosion.

Blake Farms is three generations into a tradition of thoughtful and deliberate environmental stewardship and is dedicated to ensuring that those traditions are passed on to the next generation. As farmers, they recognize that their lives and livelihood depend on a healthy environment, and they are uniquely positioned to care for the land and conserve the resources that are vital to their communities. The Blake family has dedicated themselves to their role as environmental stewards, setting an example to others for maintaining a safe and prosperous environment for agriculture.

Michael and Heather Lewis Farm Recognized for Environmental Excellence

Michael and Heather Lewis Farm of Mount Joy, Pennsylvania, also received USPOULTRY’s Family Farm Environmental Excellence Award during the 2020 IPPE in Atlanta.

Michael and Heather Lewis, along with their three young children, own and operate their crop and poultry farm in Lancaster County, located in south central Pennsylvania. The Lewis family raises broiler chickens for Tyson Foods. Though the Lancaster area has a rich and lengthy agricultural history, the Lewis family is a new addition to this history, having purchased their farm in 2010. As Mike was born into the farming industry, they were anxious to start their own farm and are determined to leave a lasting legacy by expanding it and creating a sustainable operation that can last for generations.

As they build their farm, the Lewis family has ensured that every step they take is done carefully and responsibly. They have worked with engineers to create a farm specific nutrient management plan, which they follow closely, sending soil sample reports to Lancaster County on a regular basis to ensure they are up to standard. Their use of a crop rotation system, which includes no-till farming and the use of cover crops, prevents nutrient loss and soil erosion. The litter from their poultry houses is windrowed and recycled between each flock, and the remaining manure is used to fertilize cover crops or sold to local farmers.
The 2019 NADPRP funding focused on training and exercises related to animal disease responses. In January 2020, APHIS awarded $5.2 million to support projects for all major livestock industries and all regions of the United States, with a third of the projects impacting national or regional levels. These include:

- advancing training for all foreign animal disease diagnosticians (FADDs) across the United States through the development of an online training program and updated resources;
- preparing for an upcoming Foreign Animal Disease Southern Agriculture Functional Exercise that will focus on foot-and-mouth disease preparedness across all susceptible species; and
- building capability to implement a Secure Food Supply (SFS) plan and enhance business continuity during disease outbreaks through training and exercises for dairy, poultry and beef producers.

The consultation board will recommend annual funding priorities, provide input to improve program policies and processes, nominate experts to review and rank funding proposals, and make recommendations for the program’s annual spending plan. Once the board agrees on 2020 funding priorities, APHIS will announce details about how eligible entities can apply for funding.

The board will meet virtually in March to set the 2020 NADPRP funding priorities. The board will also determine the process for rotating members and recruiting new members to assure fair representation of all entities eligible to participate in the NADPRP.

The following individuals will serve on the consultation board representing NADPRP eligible entities:

**State Animal Health Officials**
- Dr. Robert Cobb, Georgia
- Dr. Beth Thompson, Minnesota
- Dr. Sara McReynolds, Kansas

**Industry Representatives**
- Bovine – Dr. Kathy Simmons, National Cattlemen’s Beef Association
- Porcine – Dr. Lisa Becton, National Pork Board
- Poultry – Dr. Denise Heard, U.S. Poultry & Egg Association
- Small Ruminant – Amy Hendrickson, Wyoming Wool Growers, on behalf of the American Sheep Industry Association

**Academic Representatives**
- Dr. Mo Salman, Colorado State University
- Dr. Bruce Akey, Texas A&M – Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory
- Dr. James Roth, Iowa State University

**USDA Agricultural Research Service**
- Dr. Cyril Gay, National Program Leader

**Tribal Representative**
- Lynda Zambrano, National Tribal Emergency Management Council

The United States Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has established a consultation board to assist the agency with implementation of the National Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Program (NADPRP). This new program was created by the 2018 Farm Bill to fund projects that will help prevent animal pests and diseases from entering the United States and reduce the spread and impact of potential disease incursions.

The board is comprised of 10 members nominated by the United States Animal Health Association representing states, industry and academia, as well as one representative from USDA’s Agricultural Research Service and one Tribal nation representative. APHIS Veterinary Services will coordinate and participate on the board.

Dr. Denise Heard

Information for article provided by USDA APHIS.

About APHIS
The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is a multi-faceted agency with a broad mission area that includes protecting and promoting U.S. agricultural health, regulating genetically engineered organisms, administering the Animal Welfare Act and carrying out wildlife damage management activities. These efforts support the overall mission of USDA, which is to protect and promote food, agriculture, natural resources and related issues.
Animal Agriculture Alliance: Embracing the Sustainability Conversation

How will we feed 10 billion people by 2050? It’s a question that was asked many times throughout the animal science courses of my undergrad. My fellow students had some go to answers: “improve technology” or “improve production practices,” but the most popular answer by far was “find ways to be more sustainable.”

Sustainability has been a hot topic in the news over the past few years, but for farmers, ranchers and the animal agriculture community as a whole, it’s nothing new. The animal agriculture community has continuously worked to do more while using fewer resources. In the past 50 years, remarkable strides have been made in every facet of the industry. For example, in 2017, the beef industry used 19% less feed, 33% less land and 12% less water to produce a pound of beef than in 1977. Similarly, the pork industry uses 75.9% less land, 25.1% less water and has a 7.7% smaller carbon footprint than in 1960.

Despite significant advancements, animal activist groups would have you believe animal agriculture is a major driver of climate change. In the age of social media, they’re experts in getting their message heard, making their relatively small voice one of the loudest. They spread misinformation and use fearmongering to capitalize on the public’s concern about the environment as a way to convince people to take meat, poultry, milk and eggs off of their plates. This negative connotation around the word “sustainability” can leave farmers and ranchers hesitant to embrace the ongoing dialogue, despite having spent decades working towards sustainable practices.

Farmers and ranchers need to embrace this conversation and continue to be transparent about how farms look and operate today and most importantly, why. U.S. farmers and ranchers lead the world in efficient practices that deliver unmatched nutrition while conserving natural resources and decreasing environmental impact. We need to share and explain those practices to consumers, restaurant/retail brand leaders and other influencers. When consumers have questions, the answers should come straight from the source. But if no one shares what they do on the farm, can we blame people for believing the misinformation animal activist groups share?

The sustainability question gives producers an opening to share the improvements being made on the farm. We’re seeing more and more consumers make mindful buying decisions. They’re no longer buying just for taste, but also considering environmental impact and animal welfare. Without joining the sustainability conversation, farmers and ranchers may find animal protein products being left off consumers’ plates due to confusion about their role in a healthy, balanced and sustainable diet.

Once a conversation is started, simple facts can have a powerful impact. Many consumers may not know that a gallon of milk takes 31% water, 21% less land and a 20% smaller carbon footprint than it did in 2008, or that egg producers use 32% less water, 26% less feed and have reduced their carbon footprint by 71% since 1960. Those are substantial numbers and sharing them may be the difference between animal protein products being put in the cart instead of left on the shelf.

This article was written by Chelsea Dinterman, communications Intern with the Animal Agriculture Alliance.

About Animal Agriculture Alliance

The Animal Agriculture Alliance is an industry-united, nonprofit organization that helps bridge the communication gap between farm and fork. They connect key food industry stakeholders to arm them with responses to emerging issues. They engage food chain influencers and promote consumer choice by helping them better understand modern animal agriculture. They protect by exposing those who threaten our nation’s food security with damaging misinformation. USPOULTRY is a long-time sponsor of the Animal Agriculture Alliance.
Does EPA Assume You Manufacture Chemicals?

One important responsibility USPOULTRY is committed to is the tracking and dissemination of existing and new regulatory requirements developed by federal and state agencies that may impact the industry. Very recently we became aware of a proposed rule associated with the Toxic Substances Control Act that may inappropriately affect the poultry and egg industry if, in some cases, we do not respond.

The Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), originally passed in 1976, gave the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) the authority to require reporting, record keeping, restrictions and testing requirements for thousands of chemicals. TSCA also addresses the manufacture, importation, use and disposal of various specific chemicals. As a part of a June 2016 amendment to TSCA, titled “The Frank R. Launtenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act,” EPA obtained authority to establish fees for companies that “manufacture a chemical substance that is the subject of a risk evaluation under TSCA section 6(b).” Finally, on Jan. 27, EPA published a preliminary list of companies that EPA presumes to manufacture or import one or more specific chemical substances that have been designated as a “High-Priority Substance.” The following link will access the list of chemicals identified in the rule. https://www.regulations.gov/docketBrowser?rpp=25&sd=desc&sb=commentDueDate&po=0&dct=SR&D=EPA-HQ-OPPT-2019-0677. After opening the link, you can click on each chemical listed to access a preliminary list of assumed manufacturers. Additionally, the Rule requires companies to self-identify as a manufacturer (or importer) of a “High Priority Substance,” irrespective of whether they are included on the preliminary list.

Although I urge our members to review the entire list of 20 chemical substances designated as a “High-Priority Substance” for this rule, formaldehyde appears to be the one substance that pulled the poultry and egg companies onto the list. While the rule indicates EPA used both the Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) and the Chemical Data Reporting program databases to develop the preliminary list of manufacturers that are subject to fee obligations associated with Section 6 of TSCA, a review of the preliminary list for formaldehyde confirms the TRI program database was the source of each company’s inclusion in the list.

If your company has been included on this list erroneously, you can avoid the fee obligations by making certain certifications consistent with the Fees Rule, which includes a “Certification of no manufacture.” It is important to note, the rule also places fee obligations on “importers” of a “High Priority Substance.” EPA included this provision to obtain fees from companies that manufacture these substances outside the United States. Therefore, it will be necessary for companies that use formaldehyde or any other of the “High-Priority Substances” included in the list, to verify they are not purchased from companies that manufacture them outside the US. If companies do purchase these chemical substances from international manufacturers, the end user is considered an “importer” and becomes responsible for the fee obligations.

Although the original deadline to submit comments, including the certifications discussed above, was March 27, EPA issued a press release on March 9 that extended the deadline on the comment period until May 27, 2020. Failure of a company included on the preliminary list to submit the no manufacture certification may bring on fines up to $40,576 per day.

The following link will provide access to the comment submittal website: https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=EPA-HQ-OPPT-2019-0677-0001. This website also includes previously submitted certifications of no manufacture that can be used as a guide for the submittal of a similar certification for poultry and egg industry companies. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached by telephone at 678-514-1973 or by email at pbredwell@uspoultry.org.

Paul Bredwell, P.E.
Executive Vice President of Regulatory Programs
pbredwell@uspoultry.org
Poultry Researchers Present Findings at 2020 IPPE

During the 2020 IPPE, six researchers presented their findings from recently completed research projects funded by USPOULTRY and the USPOULTRY Foundation as part of the TECHTalk sessions offered during the expo.

Jenny Houlroyd, with the Safety, Health and Environmental Services at Georgia Tech Enterprise Innovation Institute, presented research findings on "A Pilot Study of Exposures to Peracetic Acid-Based Disinfectants Among Poultry Processing Workers." She described the research conducted using three different sensors and discussed the considerable variation and lack of precision between tested methods related to exposure of peracetic acid. Houlroyd stated, "Interpret the results with caution. Keep numbers regarding the time, location and distance from the sources, and listen to the symptoms of employees and inspectors."

Dr. Mark Jackwood, with the Poultry Diagnostic and Research Center, Department of Population Health at the University of Georgia's College of Veterinary Medicine, gave an overview of the virus with its characteristics and challenges. He mentioned that the virus is caused by a coronavirus that is highly contagious and attacks mainly upper respiratory organs and the reproductive systems with losses in production and misshapen or poor-quality eggs. "It takes around one year to attenuate one of these viruses, and five years for a vaccine to come to market," said Jackwood.

Dr. Armita Jackson-Davis, with the Department of Food and Animal Sciences at Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University, provided information on a research study called, "Inactivation of Campylobacter jejuni In Vitro and on Artificially Inoculated Chicken Skin by Organic Acids Alone or Combined with Yucca Extract." She discussed how they looked at ways to reduce contamination of chicken skin during processing. The research found that adding Yucca extract to organic acids significantly reduced the levels of Campylobacter on chicken skin compared to organic acids alone when used as an immersion treatment.

Dr. Robert Beckstead, with the Prestage Department of Poultry Science at North Carolina State University, remarked that Blackhead disease is caused by Histomonas meleagridis and causes 100% mortality in turkeys and 30% in chickens. He mentioned that the signs of Blackhead disease include a hunched posture and sulfur colored droppings. Histomonas also causes ulcerations and inflammation of the ceca and necrosis of the liver. Beckstead remarked, "When turkeys get infected with the disease, they tend to flock together, and the disease is transmitted."

Dr. Elizabeth Bobeck, with the Department of Animal Science at Iowa State University, also discussed "Validating Current Broiler Welfare Auditing Programs and Advancing Enrichment," and Dr. Amit Morey, with the Department of Poultry Science at Auburn University, reviewed his research findings on "Developing and Validating a Bioelectrical Impedance Index for Rapid Detection of Woody Breast Fillets."

All of the researchers' presentations have been made available on USPOULTRY's YouTube channel and can be viewed at www.youtube.com/USPOULTRY.

As part of his research findings on "Improved Methods for the Control of Variant Strains of Infectious Bronchitis Virus (IBV)," Dr. Mark Jackwood, with the Poultry Diagnostic and Research Center, Department of Population Health at the University of Georgia's College of Veterinary Medicine, gave an overview of the virus with its characteristics and challenges. He mentioned that the virus is caused by a coronavirus that is highly contagious and attacks mainly upper respiratory organs and the reproductive systems with losses in production and misshapen or poor-quality eggs. "It takes around one year to attenuate one of these viruses, and five years for a vaccine to come to market," said Jackwood.
Dr. Annel Greene, professor at Clemson University, provided a research overview on animal co-products, remarking that the university has been seeking new non-feed applications for utilizing rendered animal co-products. She discussed projects that have been chosen for funding, including one on the use of free fatty acids and sulfur waste to create several new products, some of which include plastic polymers and tars for asphalt. Another project focuses on products that can be molded, have a self-healing ability and can be thermally recycled to be used as insulating tiles for roofs or floors.

“The rendering industry generates more than $10 billion in annual economic activity and recycles the rest of the animal,” said Nancy Foster, president of the North American Renderers Association and Fats and Proteins Research Foundation, during her presentation at the International Rendering Symposium, held in conjunction with the 2020 IPPE in Atlanta. The North American Renderers Association and USPOULTRY sponsored the program.

In her opening remarks, Foster explained the decision to change the Association’s name from the National Renderers Association to the North American Renderers Association (NARA), as well as addressed NARA’s mission. She stated, “Our mission is to advocate for a sustainable food chain, public health and the environment through the production and marketing of our members’ products and services.” Foster expressed that NARA’s focus is on sustainability and advocacy in both regulatory and legislative areas as well as new markets.

Anna Wilkinson, director of communications for NARA, spoke on the sustainability of rendering starting hundreds of years ago and citing the government’s American Fat Salvage program during WWII. Much of her presentation focused on the rendering industry’s ongoing contribution to sustainability; how rendering aids greatly in the reduction of food waste, returns water to the environment, upcycles animal leftovers into safe ingredients for hundreds of products, and increases the environmental sustainability of animal agriculture. Wilkinson also unveiled new data on the rendering industry’s operations in the U.S. and Canada, as well as rendered ingredients in pet food.

Wilkinson remarked, “The rendering industry is practically the definition of sustainability. Renderers take the meat products we don’t consume (i.e. the “rest of the animal,” or in other words, “the meat we don’t eat”) and transforms them into new products with valuable uses, such as biodiesel and safe, nutritious pet food. I can’t think of a better definition of a sustainable practice; and one that greatly reduces food waste, since all that leftover meat and meat by-products would have been wasted - ending up in landfills and down the drain if it wasn’t for renderers. I am excited to help spread the word about rendering’s sustainability contribution and get people talking about it. Hopefully, we can add rendering to the sustainability conversation alongside topics like recycling. After all, renderers are the “Original Recyclers.”

“Rendering was green before green was cool,” said Tim Law, corporate quality assurance manager with Darling Ingredients, as part of his presentation on “Rendering – The Basics.” He explained the basic rendering process and identification of potential hazards that need to be controlled in the rendering plant. Law also discussed the uses of rendered products, including feed for livestock, pet food and biofuels.
The Importance of Building a Talent Pipeline of Young Leaders

College-aged people and 20-something leaders often get a bit of a bad rap... They don't work hard enough. They want it all, now. They struggle with distinguishing between work and play. They have a sense of entitlement. And what happened to grammar, spelling and etiquette? I could go on and on. But honestly, if you’ve ever sat down and engaged in conversation with millennials about what they want from employers and what motivates them, you will soon realize that while some of this may be true for some young slackers, it’s not the case for a good majority.

Certainly, every organization needs wisdom, maturity and history. But it’s important to build a talent pipeline of young leaders, because they bring enthusiasm and optimism to their work. They understand next generation trends. They challenge assumptions. They learn fast. They are technologically savvy. They’re fun to work with. They love fun. They are your succession plan. By stacking your team with leaders 10, 20 and in some cases 30 years younger than you, you are positioning your organization for future relevance or success. Connect with them. Bring them to the table!

USPOULTRY and the USPOULTRY Foundation take great pride in sponsoring the following programs to assist the industry in building a talent pipeline of the best and brightest to keep our industry going strong in this race of feeding the world. Each of these programs helps prepare students for careers in the poultry and egg industry.

• College Student Career Program -- College students participate in interviews with industry HR managers and recruiters for full-time employment and internship opportunities

• International Student Program -- Latin American students attend IPPE to engage with industry leaders of companies with global operations

• Ph.D. and Vet Student Career Fair -- Provides engagement opportunities to the poultry and allied industry, particularly those with needs in genetics, health, pharmaceutical and nutrition fields, seeking talented employees to provide for their next generation of scientific leadership

• Poultry Science Department Recruiting -- Provides recruiting grants to the six poultry science departments in the U.S.

• Industry Education Recruitment Funding -- Provides recruiting grants to colleges and universities that do not have a poultry science department or degree but must show plausible ways of connecting students to the poultry and egg industry

• Ted Cameron National Poultry Judging Contest -- Collegiate poultry and egg judging

• National FFA Career Development Events and Officer Candidate Program -- High school students and college freshmen judging events

• National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference -- Middle and high school student judging and demonstrations

• Agriculture Future of America (AFA) -- Collegiate program that builds bridges for young leaders to foster engagement and innovation in food and agriculture

• State Education and Outreach Program -- Supports the Affiliated State Poultry Associations in their efforts to develop grade school and technical school outreach programs to familiarize students with the poultry and egg industry and to foster understanding of poultry production and encourage interest in careers in the poultry industry

• National Professional Agricultural Student Organization (PAS) -- A career and technical student-led organization that allows students to build and sharpen their skills so that they are ready for the workplace

In addition, the following learning opportunities for elementary and high school students can be accessed through the following USPOULTRY Foundation webpage, https://www.poultryfoundation.org/directory/prog_student_outreach.cfm.

• Poultry & Egg Curriculum – High school teacher resource of poultry and egg lesson plans, activities and quizzes

• An Egg-Citing Poultry Adventure – An online learning resource for 3rd graders based on math curriculum

For more information about USPOULTRY’s assistance with growing your talent pipeline, contact Barbara Jenkins.

Barbara Jenkins  
Vice President of Education and Student Programs, and Executive Director, USPOULTRY Foundation  
bjenkins@uspoultry.org
$10,000 USPOULTRY Foundation Student Recruiting Grant Awarded to Penn State

The USPOULTRY Foundation awarded a $10,000 student recruiting grant to Penn State University. The grant was made possible in part by an endowing Foundation gift from Perdue Farms and was presented by Barbara Jenkins, executive director of the USPOULTRY Foundation, to Philip J. Clauer, assistant professor of poultry science at Penn State University.

The grant funds will be used to bolster recruiting efforts in the university’s poultry science program, supporting local 4-H Poultry contests and for regional training efforts. Additionally, the university will continue to host its “Youth Poultry 101” program, which has allowed university students to volunteer to help educate local middle and high school students about poultry topics for the past 11 years. Other efforts include an open house hosted by the Animal Sciences Department to local high school juniors and seniors, tours of the Pennsylvania poultry industry and broiler-raising projects on campus.

In September 2019, the USPOULTRY Foundation board approved student recruiting grants totaling $383,577 to 35 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 at the International Poultry Expo, part of the IPPE.

USPOULTRY Foundation Awards $7,000 Student Recruiting Grant to the University of Tennessee

The USPOULTRY Foundation awarded a $7,000 student recruiting grant to the University of Tennessee. The grant was made possible in part by an endowing Foundation gift from Centurion Poultry and was presented by Barbara Jenkins, executive director of the USPOULTRY Foundation, to Dr. Neal Schrick, head of the Animal Science Department at the University of Tennessee.

A portion of the funds will be used to support the university’s existing poultry production courses, as well as provide opportunities for further education to the undergraduate and graduate students in the Animal Science Department. These efforts include continuing recruitment at local 4-H and FFA events, hosting campus events focused on career opportunities in the poultry industry and providing opportunities for students to be involved in poultry evaluation competitions. Additionally, funds will be used to support further poultry industry education among the university’s agriculture students, including participating in USPOULTRY’s College Student Career Program, where the students can interview for full-time careers and internship opportunities.

Barbara Jenkins (sixth from left), with Dr. Neal Schrick (left), head of the Animal Science Department, along with several University of Tennessee animal science students
College students from more than 60 different universities nationwide convened in Atlanta recently for the USPOULTRY Foundation College Student Career Program, held in conjunction with the 2020 IPPE. Nearly 700 students and 161 human resource managers and recruiters from 27 companies participated in the program. The College Student Career Program is the most efficient and effective way for the poultry industry to find managers of the future and has been a vital part of many companies hiring process for nearly 50 years. It is one of the largest career events of its kind for students seeking professions in the industry.

The program’s opening session offered students the opportunity to bring their questions before a diverse panel of speakers with varying levels of experience in the poultry industry. This year’s panel featured Jarod Morrison, chief financial officer for Farbest Foods and USPOULTRY board member; Hector Gonzalez, vice president of human resources poultry for Tyson Foods; and Zach Hurd with Rose Acre Farms and an IPPE “30 Under 30” Young Leader recipient.

Throughout the session, the students’ questions consistently came back to career building, trying to determine which skills and characteristics employers are looking for in the next generation of employees. The answers from the panel were varied, but they all agreed on one thing - soft skills are what makes the difference. Morrison took the discussion in another direction, focusing on the importance of interpersonal skills. “It sounds very simple, but building relationships is key,” he said. “You need to be able to take all those great ideas that you have and skills that you’ve learned and convince someone else to make a change for the better.”

Hurd encouraged students to set themselves apart by simply putting in the effort. “It’s almost uncommon to find now - things will begin to get hard, and managers will see people start to drop off,” Hurd explained. “If you continue to put in the effort, make connections and work well with the people around you, your managers will see that. Effort does not go unnoticed.”

Barbara Jenkins, executive director of the USPOULTRY Foundation, commented on the central role students play in the industry. “The future of the industry depends on their talent and innovation.”

In addition to the interviews and education programs, students had the opportunity to visit the IPPE exhibit floor, which featured a large and diverse collection of industry exhibitors and technology. The International Student Program also brought in 24 students from 12 universities in Latin America for a specialized program that enabled the students to discuss job opportunities with companies that have Latin American operations.

“[The skills you’re learning in the classroom are important, but the skills that come from the experiences you have outside the classroom will help you navigate the complexities of the workplace],” remarked Gonzalez. “We, as employers, are interested in finding leaders that never lose a thirst for learning and growth. All you need is an opportunity to prove that you have that drive. Find an opportunity where you can go to work and demonstrate what it is that drives you.”

From left: Hector Gonzalez, Jarod Morrison and Zach Hurd
College Student Career Program

Frank Perdue Scholarship Student of the Year Awarded to Guillermo Tellez

Guillermo Tellez, a senior at the University of Arkansas, was named the Frank Perdue Scholarship Student of the Year during the USPOULTRY Foundation College Student Career Program, held in conjunction with the 2020 IPPE. The scholarship is named in 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 College Student Career Program, attended the program and interviewed students. Iris Wormington, University of Arkansas, was awarded second place, and Savannah Wells, University of Arkansas, received third place.

Jarod Morrison, chief financial officer for Farbest Foods, USPOULTRY board member and College Student Career Program chairman stated, “We had great applications for Student of the Year, thus making judging tough this year, as it is every 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 University was named Club of the Year, which is based on yearlong activities and community engagement by the club. Texas A&M University took home second place, and Mississippi State University placed third.

Pennsylvania State University won the Scrapbook of the Year contest.

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. The program involves students from national universities and has been an important part of the hiring process for many companies for nearly 50 years.

From left: Jarod Morrison, Guillermo Tellez, Hector Gonzalez and Zach Hurd

North Carolina State University, winner of the USPOULTRY Foundation College Student Career Program Club of the Year
USPOULTRY Foundation Brings FFA Leadership Candidates to the 2020 IPPE

As part of the USPOULTRY Foundation’s continued efforts to support the recruitment and training of the brightest students and to promote careers in the poultry and egg industry, the National FFA Officer Candidates were invited to the 2020 International Poultry Expo, part of IPPE. The opportunity for them to participate was made possible in part by an endowing Foundation gift from Tyson Foods.

“We’re pleased to contribute to this effort. Tyson Foods’ culture includes investing in future leaders,” said Bernie Adcock, chief supply chain officer for Tyson Foods and USPOULTRY board member. “Our industry is continually evolving, and young talent bring fresh perspectives along with diversity of thought. We need to continue encouraging their growth and development, while attracting the best talent to work in this field.”

“USPOULTRY has been a long-time FFA supporter. We are pleased to be able to offer these National Officer Candidates, our potential leaders of tomorrow, with the opportunity to see and experience the world’s largest annual trade show for the poultry, meat and animal food industries,” remarked John Prestage, Prestage Farms, and USPOULTRY Foundation chairman.

As college students, they were afforded the opportunity to participate in the USPOULTRY Foundation College Student Career Program to interview for internship opportunities with poultry and egg industry member companies and exhibitors. The students were also able to explore the vast trade show floor to see the exciting technology used by today’s modern, sustainable poultry industry.

Latin American Students Attend IPPE Through International Student Program

As part of the USPOULTRY Foundation’s continued efforts to support the recruitment and training of the brightest students and to promote careers in the poultry and egg industry, domestically and globally, 24 students from 12 universities in Latin America were invited to the 2020 International Poultry Expo, part of IPPE.

The students participated in the USPOULTRY Foundation International Student Program, enabling them to discuss job opportunities with companies that have global operations. They were also afforded the opportunity to explore the vast IPPE trade show floor to see the exciting technology used in today’s modern, sustainable poultry industry. In addition, the students participated in the Latin American Poultry Summit, sponsored by the IPE, WATT Global Media and the Asociación Latinoamericana de Avicultura (ALA), where they were recognized during the Summit lunch.

“ALA has assisted the USPOULTRY Foundation with the selection of the Latin American universities attending the USPOULTRY Foundation International Student Program for the last two years. We are pleased to be able to contribute to the Foundation’s efforts to bring the best and brightest Latin American students to explore opportunities in the global poultry industry,” said Dr. Juana Galvan, executive director, ALA.

“The importance of this initiative of bringing international students and their professors/advisors to take part at this impressive exposition is huge, and the effects are far-reaching. Our students are always truly delighted in being able to live this experience. Not only experiences of exchange that took place during those days, but also integration and association with other Latin American students, professors and research and common interest groups. Also, the chance of attending the Latin American Poultry Summit and the International Poultry Scientific Forum was highly appreciated. The repercussion of the experiences for my students can be seen in their professional lives . . . of the 16 students I have had the opportunity to take to the IPPE in the last eight years, 10 of them are employed in the poultry industry in Brazil, and six went later to the U.S. and Canada to participate in internships and trainings in poultry. All of these opportunities were obtained from contacts made at IPPE. This altogether has represented an enormous gain for our students, reinforcing their decision to stay with the poultry area and also giving the opportunity for them to learn more about the U.S. poultry industry and the world poultry market while having a taste of the world’s largest poultry expo,” said Vladimir Pinheiro do Nascimento, DVM, PhD, professor, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul.
Ph.D. and Vet Student Career Fair Has Good Turnout

Students from a variety of Ph.D. and vet school programs attended the third annual Ph.D. and Vet Student Career Fair, held during the 2020 IPPE. The Career Fair is sponsored by the USPOULTRY Foundation and the Poultry Science Association (PSA) Foundation.

This unique program is designed to better serve USPOULTRY member companies and allied suppliers, particularly involving, but not limited to, companies such as those involved in genetics, health, pharmaceutical and nutrition. It allows Ph.D. and vet students to become familiar with the poultry and allied industry career opportunities that are available to them. Further, this opportunity is provided in one place at one time in conjunction with the International Poultry Scientific Forum, conveniently benefitting these exceptional students and industry companies seeking talented employees to provide for their next generation of scientific leadership.

“We are pleased with the number of Ph.D. and veterinarian students that participated in the third year of offering this program,” said John Prestage, Prestage Farms, and USPOULTRY Foundation chairman. “This is a terrific service our two organizations, the USPOULTRY Foundation and PSA Foundation, can provide to the poultry and allied industry.”

“We really enjoy watching the companies and students engage in conversations that can help define career path decisions for the future,” said PSA Foundation Chair Chris Knight. “In fact, this year we had a participating company representative, who was a student participant just last year, giving advice to this year’s students. This is just what we are looking for with this event!”
There is a great deal of uncertainty about the ongoing impact of coronavirus (COVID-19) and its impact on the poultry industry and the United States as a whole. USPOULTRY has made available COVID-19 information and resources to connect our members with information on the current situation, emergency planning tools and recommended control measures. The information can be found on the following webpage, https://www.uspoultry.org/COVID-19.

The resources include occupational health and safety references, PPE resources, N-95 respirator resources, instructions on putting on and fitting respirators, OSHA resources, Occupational Health Nurses resources, state and local health department information, and additional links from the CDC, EPA, API, APIC, DOL, FDA, USDA, CISA and the White House. The information will be updated on an ongoing basis.