

**Poultry
Committee Report**

2012 NIAA Annual Conference

Tuesday, March 27, 2012



The Poultry Committee met on Tuesday, March 27, 2012 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm during the 2012 NIAA Annual Conference in Denver, Colorado with about 30 people present. Mr. Ray Hilburn & Dr. Kristy Pabilonia served as Co-Chairs.

The committee session focused on meeting the demand for safe and plentiful food in the face of disease challenge. The following speakers presented relevant information pertaining to the FDA Shell Egg Rule, use of antimicrobials in poultry and global maintenance of H5N1 avian influenza virus:

Gene Gregory, President, United Egg Producers, presented “FDA Egg Safety Rule: Impact Upon Egg Farmers and United Egg Producers (UEP) 5-Star Egg Safety Program.” Mr. Gregory presented on the challenges dealing with the FDA Egg Safety Rule and impact of the Rule on the US egg industry. Mr. Gregory presented information on the low prevalence of Salmonella Enteritidis not only in the environment (less than 2.5% of collected samples by FDA) but particularly in egg samples.

Dr. Christine Hoang, American Veterinary Medical Association, presented “Antimicrobials in Poultry.” Dr. Hoang discussed current federal efforts to modify use of antibiotics in the poultry industry, including changes to use of Cephalosporins by animal agriculture, use of growth promoting antibiotics and a recent federal court case concerning Penicillins and Tetracyclines.

Dr. Kristy Pabilonia, Colorado State University, presented “Global Impacts of Avian Influenza Viruses.” Dr. Pabilonia presented on the global persistence of H5N1 highly pathogenic avian influenza virus. Dr. Pabilonia discussed village and commercial poultry production in developing countries, including discussion of lack of biosecurity, extensive movement practices and human-animal interface.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- One resolution was amended.
 - Resolution number 62, “Need for Funding for Rapid Development of Additional Methods for Depopulation of Poultry” was amended as noted in the 2012 resolutions.

General Discussion: The FDA Egg Safety Rule continues to be an overall concern to the US egg production industry.

Themes / Potential Consensus Points

- 1) World demand: must consider food and production needs on a situation basis — village poultry and integrated systems both play significant roles.
- 2) Poultry health funding — should be science and risk based rather than public perception based — need consensus on criteria and focus for efforts. Educational and outreach efforts should be directed toward mitigating incorrect public perceptions.
- 3) Need a place to develop a cross-commodity “vision” for a strategic approach to anti-animal agriculture activities and to ensure meeting sustainable global demand for animal protein.

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Potentially this vision can be captured via a white paper that reflects broad-based support and points of consensus. There are MANY meetings sponsored by various animal agriculture organizations, but no “vision” seems to be evolving. Questions remain unanswered: What is that “something” we need to do? Who leads it?

Committee Session adjourned 12:05 pm.