News from the Alberta Poultry Research Centre

New Books: Optimizing Chick Production in Broiler Breeders and New Developments in Reproduction and Incubation of Broiler Chickens

Dr. Frank Robinson, Dr. Gaylene Fasenko and Dr. Rob Renema have recently released two new full-color textbooks on poultry production. Both are based on research that was completed at the APRC. Each chapter incorporates the results of a research trial and how those results affect various issues in broiler breeder production. Each article concludes with a “What does it mean?” section that summarizes the main points of that chapter. The easy-to-read text is supported by full color photos, charts and tables. The books are receiving excellent reviews from producers, students and industry professionals.

If you’d like to read a sample chapter, or get more information on ordering a copy of either of the books, visit the publisher’s website at: www.spottedcowpress.ca

Congratulations to Frank, Gaylene and Rob Frank on their tremendous achievement!

Poultry Research Symposium

The Animal Science 471 research symposium will be held Tuesday, March 23, 2004 in the Lilydale Classroom of the Alberta Chicken Producers Poultry Technology Centre beginning at 7pm.

The presentations you’ll see that evening are:

- Assessing chick quality by weight-length ratios - Ashley Gehring, April Kanderka & Josh Lawrence
- Regulation of broiler lysine catabolism by dietary lysine - Suzanne Tan, Erica Tong & Raven Kirschenman
- A microbiological assessment of on-farm food safety cleaning methods in broiler barns - Patrick Ward & Marc Therrien
- The Edmonton table egg marketplace: Egg quality - Michelle Larsen & Janet Montgomery
- The Edmonton table egg marketplace: Consumer Preferences - Andrea Gamroth & Vicky Spenst
- Egg turning duration and hatchability of turkey eggs. - Dena Jesse, Pamela Suddaby & Amanda Evans

Seats are limited, so if you are interested in attending, please contact the course instructor, Gaylene Fasenko at 780-492-5130.

The Alberta Chicken Producers Poultry Technology Center is located on the University of Alberta’s Edmonton Research Station.

Graduate Student News

Melanie Rustad has begun a M.Sc. program with Dr. Frank Robinson. Melanie will be investigating strain specific broiler breeder management.

Nick Wolanski has begun a M.Sc. program with Dr. Frank Robinson. Nick will be investigating male broiler breeder growth profiles and performance.

Adrienne Petruk defended her M.Sc. thesis: “The timing of calcium intake and its affect on the calcium metabolism of broiler breeder and laying hens.” Adrienne is currently working with the Joint Venture Group implementing the On Farm Food Safety Program.
Assurance Program (OFFSAP) with the chicken, hatching egg and turkey producers of Alberta. Mike Leslie defended his M.Sc. thesis: "Development of the Indicator Amino Acid Oxidation Method for the Determination of the Metabolic Availability of Lysine in Feedstuffs in Broilers." Mike has begun a Ph. D. program with Dr. Ed Moran at Auburn University in Alabama. Both Adrienne and Mike completed their masters programs under the supervision of Dr. Doug Korver. Congratulations to Adrienne and Mike on their achievement!

A winning team

Scholarship winners:
NSERC Industrial Postgraduate Scholarship - Melanie Rustad
NSERC PGSA & Walter H. Johns Fellowship - Michelle Jendral

Teaching awards
Faculty Teaching Award – Frank Robinson
Teacher of the Year Award – Frank Robinson and Doug Korver

Presentation awards
Graduate student certificate of excellence for a poster presentation, Southern Poultry Science Society meeting – Janet Montgomery. This is an amazing achievement, since Janet is a 3rd year undergraduate student competing against M.Sc. and Ph.D. students! Her poster was entitled: "Comparing Shell and Air Cell Temperatures of Incubating Eggs from Modern and Old Broiler Genetic Strains." Funding was provided by Jamesway Incubator Company, Inc., Cambridge, ON, and Maple Leaf Hatchery, Wetaskiwin. Congratulations, Janet!

Graduate student certificate of excellence for an oral presentation, 92nd annual Poultry Science Association meeting – Erin O’Dea for "Investigating the effects of probiotics on chick quality and broiler production efficiency." Funding was provided by the Alberta Chicken Producers, the Poultry Industry Council and Lilydale Hatchery. Congratulations, Erin!

We’ve changed our look!
You’ve probably noticed that we’ve made some changes to the Poultry Research Centre newsletter. We’re also changing the way we produce information for Alberta’s poultry producers. We’ll be producing stand-alone factsheets that will be distributed with the Alberta Chicken Producers, Alberta Turkey Producers and the Alberta Hatching Egg Marketing Board newsletters. If you’ve picked up a copy of this newsletter and you’re not on the mailing lists of these organizations please contact Brenda Schneider (her contact information is on the cover of this newsletter) to subscribe. You’ll receive news from the Poultry Research Centre as well as the new poultry production factsheets.

You’ll also be able to find APRC news and factsheets at our new website: www.poultryresearch.ca.