

Fumigation service claims success in Avian fight

**BY DICK ANGLESTEIN
MASTERTONVILLE** — A poultry fumigation service operating in the heart of the Avian flu area in northwestern Lancaster County is claiming success in reversing the disease on farms where it has struck and keeping it out of flocks surrounded by the disease.

The Elmtree Poultry Service, of near Mastertonville, utilizes a unique formaldegen fumigation system, which it says is safer and provides better penetration into all areas of a chicken house to kill off any virus.

"We've used the system in about 15 or 20 poultry houses with Avian or suspected of having it," explains Galen Young, of R3 Elizabethtown.

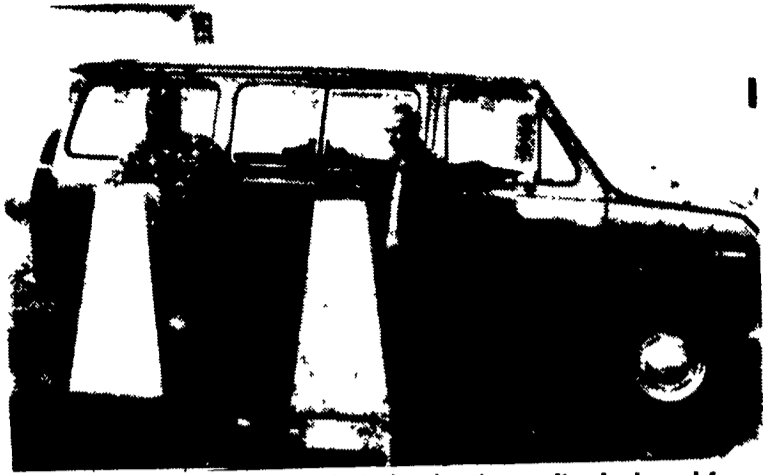
"Not one flock following the fumigation has contacted the disease."

"But we've found that during the present crisis, the fumigation must be done after each flock to keep the disease out."

Elmtree has had success in both layer and broiler houses. On one farm, the fumigation application kept Avian out of houses that were literally surrounded within visual distance of nine other houses with Avian. It has been successfully applied in houses where Avian was previously present in which both the manure was cleaned out and not.

On one farm in the heart of the Avian area and located within a short distance of a duck pond, the broiler flock following treatment had only one percent mortality and half of these were culled cripples.

The Elmtree system, for which patents have been applied, utilizes



Shown with a couple of their fumigation units designed for poultry houses are Bernell Swords, left, and Galen Young, of Elmtree Poultry Service, R3 Elizabethtown.

its own design "burners" which operate off the house panel box. Different sized 220-units are used for various sized houses and there

are smaller sized units, operating off 110, for egg rooms, delivery vehicles, feed bins, etc.

The units use formaldegen

flakes, which when heated and combined with water or the natural humidity in the poultry house, forms a mist that penetrates into all areas of the structure.

"We get total penetration throughout the building and even into the ceiling, into the fans and the cracks in the building," Young said.

The system replaces the electric fry pans or the five-gallon cans with potassium magnate and liquid formaldehyde now mostly in use and is much safer, according to Young.

The system is activated from outside the building and eliminates the mad dash to set off the potassium.

A unit is placed about every 75 feet in a house for total coverage. The formaldegen burn continues for four hours and then the house is ventilated after setting for 24 hours.

During the present Avian outbreak, the disease returned to only one house and that was only after the owner attempted to put two flocks through.

"That is why we're recommending treatment after every flock while the disease is still prevalent in the area," Young said.

**Now is
the Time**

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Also, feed frequently and offer animals small portions at each feeding; this is one of the benefits of electronic feeders. Where practical, it may be beneficial to blend some or all of the ration, such as in total mixed rations. Grind and chop feeds to the proper length. For example, corn kernels should be broken into about 6 pieces for dairy cattle. Take advantage of good feed buys. Don't waste scarce, expensive feeds on non-productive animals; cull low producers, problem cows and excess heifers of questionable genetic merit. Raise fewer heifers, feed them well and breed them to calve at 22-24 months. Depending on the relative cost of grains and supplements as compared to forages, consider feeding more forages and less grain, especially in mid and late lactation. However, be sure to feed dry cows and springing heifers properly. Never fail to give the good cows the feed they need to be productive and profitable.

Bucks Holstein Assn. meets

**BY HAROLD SHELLY
KELLERS CHURCH** — A total of 145 members and guests attended the annual meeting of the Bucks County Holstein Association at St. Paul's Lutheran Church last Saturday.

President David Walton presided. Elected to three-year terms of the board of directors were Bill Gunser, Tim Shull and Tom Haldema.

Premier breeder award for 1983 went to Harry and Aliene Thompson of Fountain Farm, in Newtown. Ryan Worthington was presented with a jacket as high

scoring 4-H member in all three projects; calf and cow. Worthington also had grand champion cow at the 4-H dairy show at the Middletown Grange Fair in August.

Secretary Harold Lownes reported that gross receipts for the calf raffle at the Middletown Grange fair were \$2400.

Walter Wurster, member of the

state executive committee, reported to the membership that despite the controversy surrounding the resignation and re-appointment of William Nicholl as Executive Secretary of the Pennsylvania Holstein Association, things were back to normal.

"It seems that everything is coming together," he said.



ATTENTION

The following sign is posted on our door



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