

Avian flu quarantine lifted west of Susquehanna

BY JACK HUBLEY
WRIGHTSVILLE — In a joint USDA-PDA statement on Thursday, Assistant USDA Secretary of Agriculture Karen Darling and Pa. Agriculture Secretary Hallowell announced an end to the avian flu quarantine zone west of the Susquehanna River.

Affecting a 1,650-square-mile area in Cumberland, York and Adams Counties, the quarantine release went into affect yesterday at 12:01 a.m.

"Hopefully, before Christmas we can announce that we have cleaned the state of Pennsylvania of the avian influenza virus," Hallowell said at a press conference held on the farm of Wrightsville poultryman, Robert Lehman, whose laying hens were the first York County birds to contract the disease.

Hallowell added that lifting of the remaining quarantine zone could come as early as Labor Day, and Darling concurred, predicting an end to the quarantine, "well before winter".

In response to questions concerning the fate of the state's

serologically positive birds, (birds possessing the flu antibodies but no active virus) Darling said that no decision had been made and that a proposal to depopulate these birds was still under consideration. The assistant secretary stated that about \$5.7 million would be required to "put down" these remaining birds.

The disease that began showing up last April and took southeastern Pennsylvania by storm beginning in mid-October, has resulted in the eradication of 13,055,061 birds in Pa. and an additional 1,301,896 birds in Virginia. Depopulation efforts have cost the Federal government over \$41,000,000 and \$9,000,000 in the two states, respectively.

A total of 191 flocks have been repopulated in Pennsylvania, with the state providing \$2,000,000 to assist farmers in the cleanup and disinfecting phase.

Losses not covered by government indemnification programs have been estimated to be well in excess of \$20 million to Pa. farmers.

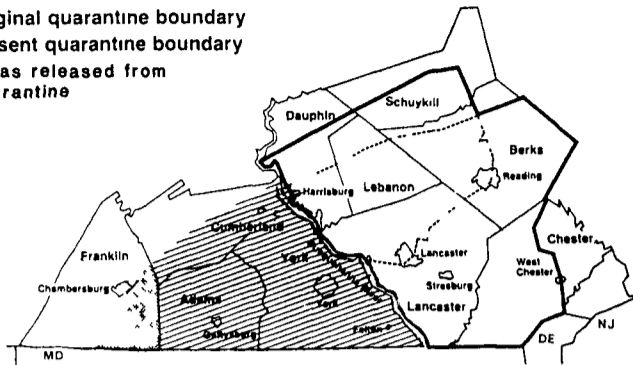
"Lifting of these restrictions

facilitates the movement of eggs and live birds from York, Adams and Cumberland Counties," Hallowell said. "Our joint action with the U.S. Department of Agriculture today should also help boost the many businesses in the area depending on the poultry and egg industry..." the state secretary said.

Avian Influenza

Portions of or Entire Counties Quarantined in Pennsylvania

-- Original quarantine boundary
 — Present quarantine boundary
 ■ Areas released from quarantine



Symbolizing the victory over avian influenza west of the Susquehanna River, State Agriculture Secretary Hallowell and USDA Assistant Agriculture Secretary Karen Darling tear up a quarantine sign during a meeting on Thursday on the farm of Wrightsville poultryman Robert Lehman.

Reaction from the poultry industry, however, was not without criticism.

"We're glad that the quarantine was lifted, but we're very unhappy about the way it was done," said Pennsylvania Poultry Federation spokesman Tim Allwein.

"We backed the state's original proposal that hatching eggs from hens without positive serology, disease-free pullets and day-old chicks, be allowed to move across the river, with birds permitted to move back again for processing. But the USDA refused to lift the quarantine under these conditions," Allwein said.

"The effect is that the supply lines of the poultry industry have been cut in half, and this is going to have a very harsh effect on poultrymen. There's going to be empty houses over there, (west of the Susquehanna) and that's not necessary," Allwein concluded.

In comments at the conclusion of the meeting, Lancaster County Extension Director Jay Irwin said, "We're going to see much tighter bio-security not only on poultry farms, but with all livestock."

Irwin cited the repopulation of over 190 Pa. flocks as one of the real victories in the fight against the disease.

Prundeanu receives national teaching award

DOYLESTOWN — Dr. Julian Prundeanu, chairman of the Agronomy Department at Delaware Valley College, has been selected to receive the prestigious NACTA Eastern Outstanding Teacher Award on June 19 at its annual conference in Pullman, Washington.

This award by NACTA, the National Association of Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture, is awarded to the outstanding teacher of the region as determined by student and alumni surveys, faculty and administrators' recommendations and verification of outstanding teaching and advising success. A teacher must exhibit dedication

beyond the normal call of duty and be student oriented.

Dr. Prundeanu will also receive the NACTA Teaching Fellow Award for his outstanding service as a teacher having taught at Delaware Valley College for the past 28 years.

NACTA is a national organization that has as its main purpose the promotion of the teaching of agriculture. Although the annual conference has usually been held at state land grant universities, an unusually successful national conference was held at Delaware Valley College in June 1982. As an institution with a teaching mission, Delaware Valley College has been an active member and supporter of NACTA for many years. Some of its faculty have served in important positions and on committees.



QUALITY BINS MADE IN U.S.A.



NEW
From GSI
 (The #1 Bin Company in the U.S.A.)
HEAVY DUTY 2 1/2" CORRUGATED FEED BIN



Featuring The New Flex Auger Boot & Straight Auger Boot

★ FULL LINE PARTS DEPARTMENT

EMHERR EQUIPMENT, INC.

RD 1, Rt. 272 S., Herrville Rd., Willow Street, PA 17584

Phone 717-464-3321 or Toll Free: 800-732-0053

★ WE SELL, SERVICE & INSTALL

Serving the Industry For Over 20 Yrs.

NEW JOHN DEERE EQUIPMENT Pre-Season Sale



WAIVER OF FINANCE UNTIL 1/1/85 ON TRACTORS

- | | |
|---|--|
| JD 148 Loader Mountings- (2840-2940) | JD 1600 Plow 4 Bottom, Spring Reset, 18" Coulters |
| JD 37 Loader 60" Bucket only | JD 606 Rotary Cutter 6 Ft., Slip Clutch Drive, 3 Pt. Hitch |
| JD 75 Loader Bucket only - 53" | JD 225 Disk Harrow 10'6" - Offset, 24" Blades |
| JD 8200 Grain Drill 18x7 Plain Drill, Gauge-o-Matic Opener, Grass Seed Att. | JD 315 Disk Harrow 12'10" - Double Offset, 24" Blades |
| | JD 7 1/2' Hay Pickup |

CALL TODAY FOR SPECIAL PRICES

WENGER IMPLEMENT, INC.
 RD 1/Quarryville
 Buck, PA 17566
 717-284-4141