



OPINION

Work Together To Prevent Outbreak Of Dreaded Disease

Avian Influenza has the poultry industry in Pennsylvania and neighboring states on the defensive again. Outbreaks of the highly pathogenic disease resulted in losses of more than \$100 million in 1983 and 1986.

Last month, blood samples from a Montgomery County turkey flock were found to be Avian Influenza seropositive by New Bolton Center. Subsequent examination of these samples by National Veterinary Services Laboratory revealed the influenza type to be H5N2. While all birds on the farm appear to be clinically healthy at this time, the farm and all poultry thereon are under quarantine.

Discovery of the H5N2 influenza antibody prompted Pennsylvania and neighboring states to upgrade surveillance. This surveillance discovered the virus in a chicken in a Philadelphia market and in several New York City markets. And the H5N2 antibody was also found in a flock of exhibition birds at the Farm Show.

Therefore, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has issued a quarantine that temporarily suspends poultry exhibitions and transportation of live birds to markets and auctions. Birds may be transported to recognized slaughter establishments without restriction.

To date, the discovery is called a potential Avian Influenza outbreak. But in order to avoid that outbreak, the Pennsylvania poultry industry must begin immediately to submit regular Avian Influenza surveillance samples promptly to diagnostic laboratories. One hundred percent participation in the surveillance program is necessary so the industry can monitor and detect the introduction of virus into commercial poultry flocks.

In addition, everyone must maintain strict bio-security measures. Proper dead bird disposal and manure management are also especially important at this time. With everyone working together, the industry has a better chance to prevent an outbreak of this dreaded disease.

Farm Calendar

Saturday, January 30

Small and Part-Time Farmer Workshop, Edinboro Community Building, Edinboro.
Lehigh County 4-H livestock awards dinner, Schnecksville Fire Co., 6 p.m.
Beaver/Lawrence Holstein annual meeting, Liberty Grange, New Castle, 11 a.m.
Butler County Holstein meeting, Garden Gate Restaurant, Butler, 11:45 a.m.

Monday, February 1

Northeastern Pasture Grazing Conference, Lancaster Host Resort, thru Feb. 2.
York DHIA Workshop, Airville Fire Hall, 12:15 p.m.-2:30 p.m., repeats 7:15 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
Fayette Co. Crops Day, Penn State Fayette Campus, 12:30 p.m.-4 p.m.
Income tax meeting, Montoursville Presby. church, 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

Tuesday, February 2

Ag Information Series, Weed Control in Nursery and Landscape Plantings, UNILEC Building, DuBois, 7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
Swine Production Update Meeting, Alwine Civic Center, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
Lancaster County Cattle Feeder's Day, Farm and Home Center, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
Milker's School, Adams County Extension Office, 7:30 p.m., also Feb. 3.
Pennsylvania Dairy Promotion Meeting, Atherton Hilton Hotel, State College, 9:30

a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Part 3 Small Beef Herd Management Short Course, Holiday Inn, Belle Vernon, 5:30 p.m.-9:15 p.m.
Beef Educational Evening, Midway Diner, 5:30 p.m.
Rutgers Dairy Conference and Trade Show, Elmer Grange Hall, Pole Tavern, N.J., 6 p.m.-11 p.m.
EAYFA banquet committee meeting, EHS Audion Room, 7:30 p.m.

York DHIA Workshop, Jefferson Fire Hall, 10 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Harford Co., Md., Commodity Marketing Training Sessions, Feb. 2 and 9 extension office, Forest Hill, 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 16, Bel Air Methodist Church, Bel Air, 6:30 p.m.
Beaver Co. Crops Day, Big Knob Grange, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Ohio Fruit and Vegetable Conference, Seagate Centre, Toledo, Ohio, thru Feb. 4.
N.Y. State Vegetable Conference, Syracuse, N.Y., thru Feb. 4.

Wednesday, February 3

Meeting on Freestall Housing Alternative, Conference Room of County Human Services Building, Chambersburg.
Soil Fertility Workshop, Washington County Extension Office, Washington, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Ag Outlook Forum, Country Cupboard, Lewisburg, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pasture Management Clinic, Penn State Schuylkill County Cam-



NOW IS THE TIME

By John Schwartz
Lancaster County
Agricultural Agent

To Fight Avian Influenza

Avian influenza (AI) has been diagnosed in Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has issued a quarantine order that suspends, until further notice, all exhibitions of poultry in Pennsylvania and transportation of live birds to animal markets and their sale.

Every poultry producer should increase their biosecurity measures to minimize the spread of AI. These measures include:

- Do not visit other poultry farms.
- No visitors to your poultry farm.
- Lock all buildings all the times (even when you are in them.)
- Restrict movement of all vehicles on your farm.
- Do not loan or borrow farm equipment.
- Bring onto your farm only items that may be cleaned and disinfected.
- Always take a shower and wash hair when arriving home from a meeting with other poultry farmers.
- Keep a pair of boots for use in only your poultry house.
- Clean and disinfect boots before entering and leaving the

pus Conference Center, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Blue Ball National Bank Farm Seminar, Blue Ball Fire Co., 9:45 a.m.-3 p.m.

Butler Crops Day, Days Inn, Butler, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 4

Dairy MAP, Lighthouse Restaurant, Chambersburg, 9:45 a.m.-3 p.m., repeats Feb. 18.

Pennsylvania Beef Council Meat Marketing Seminar, Willow Valley Resort, Willow Street. Berks County Supper Series, Ag Center, 7 p.m.

Lancaster 4-H Recognition Banquet, Country Table Restaurant, Mount Joy, 6:30 p.m.

Northeastern Pennsylvania Turfgrass and Grounds Maintenance School, Mount Laurel Resort, White Haven.

4th annual Regional Meat Marketing Seminar, Willow Valley Resort and Conference Center, Willow Street.

Cambria-Somerset Winter Potato Meeting, Richland Mall Community Room, Johnstown, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Northeast Regional Vegetable Growers Meeting, Thompson's Dairy Bar, Newton-Rainson Blvd., 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Ag Outlook Forum, Troy Vets Club, Troy, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Managing Dairy Farms for Success, Lighthouse Restaurant, Chambersburg, 9:45 a.m.-3 p.m., also Feb. 18.

Franklin Co. Dairy Nutrition Ser-

(Turn to Page A36)

house.

• Avoid contact with all wild birds and waterfowl.

• Report rise in mortality or sickness in your flock to your service person immediately.

By taking precautions now, we will make it very difficult for AI to become established in our poultry flocks.

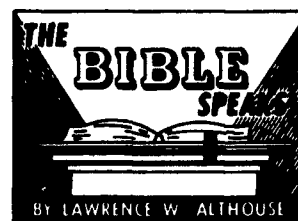
To Reserve Ag Progress Days Dates

The 1993 version of Penn State's Ag Progress Days will be held August 17 to 19, 1993 at Rockspring.

This large outdoor show features the latest in research being conducted by the College of Agricultural Sciences, machinery demonstrations, soil and water conservation tours, commercial exhibits and antique farm and home implements.

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend Ag Progress Days this year. Admission and parking is free!

To Prevent Farmer's Lung Farmer's lung disease is a



HELPING THE DEVIL
January 31, 1993

Background Scripture:

Ephesians 4.

Devotional Reading:

1 Corinthians 12:12-27.

The writer of Ephesians admonishes us: "... and give no opportunity to the devil..." (4:27).

That reminds me of the song Phil Harris used to sing about a man treed by a bear: "Lord, if you can't help me, please don't help that bear!" The bear has a lot going for him and doesn't need any help when it's man vs. bear. So does the devil. The last thing in the world a Christian should do is to help the devil, to give him an "opportunity". But, if my experience is reasonably representative, the devil is getting a lot of help from many of those who ought to "give no opportunity to the devil".

P.R. FOR THE DEVIL

Who are they? In my experience, they are the very ones who spend so much of their time and effort in warning others about the devil. He has all the publicity he needs in this world without Christians giving him even more. It is ironic that some Christians are often the ones who make others so conscious of the devil. They talk about him incessantly, they warn others about him, and they look carefully into the words and deeds of others so as to discern whether or not the devil might not be operative there. Some Christians, it seems, give more attention to and spend more time talking about the devil than they do God. My question: why give him any attention or time at all? Given the opportunity, I'd rather, to paraphrase Paul, speak "five words" for God than "ten thousand" against the devil.

Just as at various times in human history, Christians have become obsessed with finding and punishing those they judged to be "witches", so some Christians today are equally engrossed in identifying those whom they believe to be in league with or influenced by the devil. Jesus also was targeted

respiratory illness that may develop in agricultural workers who inhale dust containing bacterial or fungal proteins. Typically it occurs in farmers who handle silage or compost in a confined space.

Symptoms include chest tightness, fever, muscle aches, chills, shortness of breath, and sometimes dry cough. Symptoms may develop slowly, several hours after exposure. In the absence of repeated exposure, the symptoms often disappear.

Continued exposure may cause loss of normal respiratory function and permanent damage.

The key to preventing farmer's lung disease is to avoid prolonged work with silage or compost in unventilated areas. If that is not feasible, wear personal protective equipment.

The minimum respiratory protection would be a toxic dust mask that prevents inhalation of organic particulates. If you develop symptoms, seek medical attention and tell the doctor to consider farmer's lung as the problem.

Feather Prof's Footnote: "The man who wants to do something finds a way; the other kind finds an excuse."

by the witch hunters of his day and one of his sharpest responses was a rejoinder to the charge that his works were in league with the devil: "If I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out? ... every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven" (Matt. 12:22-37). To brand someone as being in league with the devil, either consciously or unconsciously, puts us in danger of committing blasphemy. Thus, Ephesians warns us, "... do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God" (4:30).

DEVIL-SLEUTHING

Those who act as self-appointed devil-detectives further "grieve the Holy Spirit of God" by dividing what Ephesians tells us God wills to be one: "There is one body and one spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all" (4:4-7). Whether in the middle ages, colonial times or our present age, witch-hunting and devil-sleuthing always divides the church. One cannot focus on the devil and still "attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the stature of the fullness of Christ" (4:13). Nor can we recognize, as Ephesians put it, that "we are members one of another" (4:25).

I have never known anyone deeply concerned about the devil who was also very humble and loving. In fact, just the opposite: censorious, judgmental, and self-righteous. What a contrast with the prescription in Ephesians 4:31: "Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, with all malice, and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you".

Lancaster Farming

Established 1955

Published Every Saturday

Ephrata Review Building

1 E. Main St.

Ephrata, PA 17522

— by —

Lancaster Farming, Inc.

A Steinman Enterprise

Robert C. Campbell General Manager

Everett R. Newmeyer Managing Editor

Copyright 1992 by Lancaster Farming