Poultry Progress Day

(Continued from Page A1) producer who wants to achieve a quality product.

In a report on nutrient management regulations and how they will affect the poultry farmer was addressed by Jay Howes, manager, ag service of Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

While there are still a lot of unanswered questions as special planning considerations are debated, Howes said farmers should continue to keep abreast of the discussions and offer input into the process.

Although there is a heavy DER component on the board, to date the participants seem receptive to the farmers' concerns and farmers should seek to dialogue not only with agricultural representatives but also those from DER, Howes said

A favorable aspect for farmers, Howes said, is that local conservation districts that give approval of nutrient management plans are staffed by people knowledgeable of the farming community's concerns.

Dr. Gwen Franz of Intervet helped farmers examine the influence of infectious bursa disease on profits. While vaccination is the most efficient method to control losses, Franz explained the types of vaccine available. The most effective vaccine to use depends on the health status of birds, weight, age, and type of birds, and the maternal antibody level.

Gary Gladys of Pennfield Corporation said that bird performance can be improved through proper ventilation. A common problem this winter was that houses were not tight enough to get the most out of the ventilation system installed. Gaps in doors and open fan louvers cause heat losses and can be controlled by tightening these areas.

Infectionious Laryngotracheal (L.T.) can be controlled through biosecurity and vaccinations.

Zoann Parker, extension agent, said it is important to recognize, you are the spreader, not birds nor the environment. Cleanliness starts with you.

She emphasized the importance of change of footwear every time a new facility is entered. Washing hands and arms and disinfecting vehicles before entering a facility are important.

It is easy to get complacent, but insist that visitors disinfect before and after entering your facility, she said.

Dr. Patty Dunn of Penn State's veterinary science department said that L.T. can be controlled by vaccination although it is difficult because L.T. is highly contagious and easily transmitted before clinical signs appear in the birds. Vaccinations can be applied by eye drops, spray, and through drinking water. The advantages and disadvantages of each method was examined.

Birds cannot be vaccinated for (Turn to Page A39)



Dr. Patty Dunn, Penn State veterinary science department, tells how vaccinations can be effective again L.T.



The afternoon agenda at Poultry Progress Days Include these speakers, from left, John Hoffman, Pa. Poultry Federation; Gary Gladys, Pennfield Corporation; Gregory Kirkham, Old Guard Mutual Insurance Co.; Bob Armstrong, president of the Lancaster County Poultry Association; and Zoann Parker, extension agent.



Addressing concerns of the poultry industry are from left, Dr. Gwen Franz, intervet; Dr. Milt Madison, USDA; Dr. Paul Patterson, Penn State science department; Jay Howes, Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and Industry; and Dr. Richard Peacock, Pennfield.

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