

The Mid-Atlantic POULTRY

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FARMER

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Growers should take steps to prevent manure fires



J. Richard Nottingham, Extension agent in Somerset County, Md., told poultry growers at a nutrient management session in Georgetown, Del., how to prevent poultry manure fires.

Photo by Carol Kinsley

By CAROL KINSLEY
Staff Writer

GEORGETOWN, Del. — Your first instinct, if you notice the pile of poultry litter in your manure shed is smoldering, might be to launch in with a pitch fork or front end loader to pull it out into the open.

Don't, warned J. Richard Nottingham, Extension agent in Somerset County, Md., at a nutrient management session in Georgetown, Del., in January.

Not without the fire department standing by, because once you move the overheated manure, it may burst into flames.

Maryland growers are presently so concerned about outside storage of manure that they're overfilling their sheds, Nottingham said, blaming that concern on Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) and Maryland Animal Feeding Operations (MAFOs) regulations and Waterkeeper Alliance members circling in helicopters taking pictures.

"Ideally, growers are supposed to put all manure in a shed and not touch it until just before planting, when they take it out and spread it," he said. "The problem is, the sheds are not designed to hold all the manure produced in an entire year, so what's a farmer to do with

it?"

Farmers spread manure as close to planting as possible, but if they've got a lot of farms to get to, there's not always enough time, so litter is stockpiled on the farm in cone-shaped piles. The farmer later comes back and spreads it from the farm.

Maryland's proposed regulations limit litter storage in the field to no more than 14 days unless it is contained, and EPA CAFO regulations limit uncovered storage to 14 days.

"In Maryland, the way things are going (someday) you won't be able to store manure outside," Nottingham said.

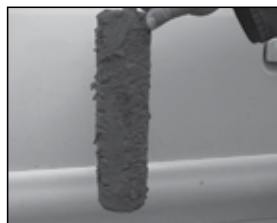
One farmer who tried to cover a pile said he would never do it again, no matter what, Nottingham said.

"Condensation rises, making the pile like concrete. It's impossible to spread. In my opinion, covering a pile does not work, will not work," he said.

On several different farms, where stockpiles were pushed into cone-shaped piles, the piles got a crust a few inches thick, as hard as a rock, he said. The center of the piles was completely dry. When clay was hauled in to put a clay pad under the piles, the pads became so hard no

See FIRES, Page 5

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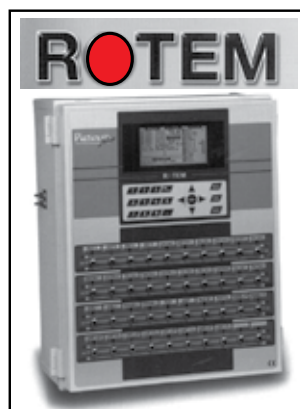
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VEBs: How they can help your farm

As a chicken grower on Delmarva, you may have vegetative environmental buffers (VEBs) planted on your farm or live near a farm with VEBs installed around its chicken houses.

There is an obvious visual appeal of VEBs on poultry farms, which provides a barrier for operations to limit exposure of routine activities on farms neighboring residential homes.

I am also sure you are aware that emissions of ammonia, dust, odor and fan noise are a concern from both a neighbor-relations and environmental perspective.

With urban growth increasing into farmland and little understanding of the day-to-day activities on a poultry farm, VEBs can be an essential tool for providing good neighbor relations.

Additionally, installing VEBs can reduce odors, dust and other factors impacting the immediate

environment around poultry farms as well as improve farm biosecurity.

A VEB is a multiple row planting of trees and shrubs around poultry facilities, which serve to promote good neighbor-relations, maximize environmental stewardship and improve farm biosecurity.

There have been many studies in Delaware, Iowa and Pennsylvania investigating some of the benefits of VEBs on poultry farms. A study by Penn State researchers, conducted on a hen farm, reported a 67 percent reduction in total levels of particulate matter (dust) 20 feet downwind from a five row vegetative buffer.

University of Delaware researchers reported similar results, with a 56 percent reduction of total dust from a three row planting of trees on a broiler farm. Tree species also can significantly impact the ability of the buffer to trap

POULTRY SPECIALIST



By Jennifer Timmons

Extension Poultry Specialist
University of Maryland Extension

dust exhausted from the poultry house.

Odor from poultry facilities can also be reduced by VEBs. In Pennsylvania, a 46 to 56 percent reduction in odor levels was measured as a result of installing a VEB. A 26 percent reduction in odor levels from a broiler farm due to VEBs was reported by University of Delaware researchers.

Additionally, VEBs can also be effective to help trap ammonia emissions from poultry facilities. Ammonia emissions can be reduced by as much as 50 percent as a result of VEBs.

Researchers at Penn State indicated that the amount of foliage needed to reduce emissions

depends on the size and type of facility.

In addition to the environmental benefits buffers offer around poultry houses, University of Missouri scientists have reported that grass buffers in cropland can filter herbicides in surface runoff by trapping sediment and supporting microorganisms that break down herbicides. A more recent report suggests that plant buffers can trap and break down veterinary antibiotics in manure used as a fertilizer.

In addition to the environmental benefits of VEBs, they may also offer energy conservation and improved farm biosecurity.

See VEB, Page 6

MDE offers guidance on burning livestock structures

The Maryland Department of the Environment's (MDE) regulatory guidance specifies that building materials are demolition debris and must be transported to a permitted disposal facility for disposal once the weather clears.

However, due to the extreme nature of the recent snow storms, MDE has determined that the county government or health department for the county in which the structure is located may issue a permit for burning of poultry and other livestock shelters and manure storage structures that suffered structural collapse during the heavy snowstorms of February 2010, subject to the following conditions:

1. The building must be damaged, and the damage must have occurred during the snowstorms of February 2010.

2. All animal carcasses must be segregated from the debris to be burned, and managed in accordance with Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) guidance fact sheet that can be found on the MDE Web site at http://www.mde.state.md.us/assets/document/MDE_LMA_AnimalHouseMgmt_collapsed_buildings.pdf, and Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) guidance for managing animal carcasses (e.g., disposal at a permitted landfill, composted, etc.) referenced in the cited MDE fact sheet.

3. Non-combustible materials such as steel reinforcing and masonry must be removed from the debris to be burned to the extent possible. Due to the higher concentrations of toxic chemicals, pre-

served lumber may not be burned, and must be segregated and disposed of properly.

4. The county government or health department for the county in which the structure is located must issue a burn permit for the activity, and is responsible for ensuring that the conditions of this approval are met (Note: If you are located in Caroline County, call the MDE Eastern Shore Regional Office at 410-713-3680 for approval). The county health department must include conditions in the burning permit that state the following:

a) That by accepting the permit, the landowner grants authorization to the county and MDE to verify that the conditions of the permit and other environmental laws and regulations have been complied with; and

b) That if burning occurs under the terms of the permit, that constitutes acceptance of the conditions of the permit.

5. The burning of the structure must occur by March 21, 2010, unless this deadline is extended by MDE. The permittee is responsible for ensuring that the activity is performed in accordance with the provisions of the burn permit.

6. The ash from the combustion of building demolition debris and animal manure that may have been present in the structure is likely to contain a variety of pollutants, including soluble salts, metals and organic substances that have been created or concentrated by the volume reduction that occurred when the material burned.

Therefore, all burned material,

including ash and partially burned residuals must be removed for disposal at a disposal site acceptable to the department, for example, a permitted municipal or rubble landfill.

A list of permitted refuse disposal facilities is available on the MDE Web site at http://www.mde.state.md.us/Programs/LandPrograms/Solid_Waste/facilities/index.asp. Failure to properly dispose of the ash and burned residuals may be grounds for MDE to take enforcement action.

7. Clean concrete derived from

the foundation may be considered to be clean fill, and may be buried or recycled. Metal and other residuals are not considered to be clean fill and must be managed appropriately.

8. The county health department that issues a burn permit for a structure covered under this approval must notify MDE of the locations of the structures to be burned by faxing a copy of the permit to the Solid Waste Program at 410-537-3842 and the MDE Eastern Shore Regional Office at 410-713-3681.

SAUTÉED CHICKEN WITH TARRAGON-MUSTARD SAUCE

8 boneless, skinless chicken breast halves
1 teaspoon garlic salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 cup plain yogurt
2 1/2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
1/2 teaspoon tarragon leaves
1/4 teaspoon sugar
1/8 teaspoon hot pepper sauce

With meat mallet or similar flattening utensil, pound chicken breasts to 1/4-inch thickness. Sprinkle chicken with garlic salt and pepper.

In frypan, place olive oil and heat to medium-high temperature. Add chicken and cook, turning, about 10 minutes or until chicken is brown and fork tender. In a bowl, mix together yogurt, mustard, tarragon, sugar and hot pepper sauce.

Arrange chicken on serving platter. Drizzle half of sauce over chicken; pass remaining sauce.

Makes eight servings, approximately 230 calories per serving.

Courtesy of the Delmarva Poultry Industry Inc.

Planning for your spring flock

As spring begins to peek its head around the corner, many of us begin to think about planning gardens, ordering seeds, and best of all, starting a small flock of chickens.

Many of you may have been bitten by the chicken bug either through reading articles or speaking with friends and family. Many people are excited about the prospect of keeping chickens as they read articles in popular magazines about the ease of raising chickens.

Yes, keeping a flock of laying hens or backyard chickens is relatively easy, but, as always, when taking on a new pet or project, you should thoroughly do your homework ahead of time.

Are you tempted to try a different breed? Do you see the Chick Days signs at the local feed store? Don't those chicks look darling? Does seeing ducklings make you dream of a small pondside flock of waterfowl?

It is hard to resist the "awwws" of your children as they admire those chicks at the feedstore, but make sure you insist that everyone understand what they are getting themselves into first.

Do you know whom to contact for management information in your area? Are you unsure how to get started with a coop building project or are unsure as to what breeds will suit your needs?

You should have the telephone

Penn State club wins big at expo

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — Members of the Penn State Poultry Science Club had their hands full earlier this year — full of awards. Penn Staters were big winners in the College Student Program at the recent 2010 International Poultry Exposition in Atlanta.

Hannah Atkins, a senior majoring in animal sciences with a minor in poultry and avian science, received the Frank Perdue Student of the Year Award, which includes a \$1,000 cash prize. Jim Perdue, chairman of Perdue Farms Inc. and son of the late Frank Perdue, presented the award to Atkins.

Atkins, a native of Lewistown, Pa., was thrilled by the honor.

"I was so excited I was shaking afterwards, I even think I cried," she wrote in her blog. "I've wanted to win the Student of the Year Award ever since I was a freshman at Penn State."

National awards won by the Penn State Poultry Science Club included the Best Scrapbook Award, a contest that Penn State has won for 11 con-

number of your local Cooperative Extension office front and center on your refrigerator. There are many programs in the area that offer information on how best to manage your small flock of hens, or even a small flock of pet chickens.

It is also a great way to network with other small flock owners to get innovative ideas. Keep in touch with your Extension office to keep abreast of the latest and greatest info on chickens.

For fun and interesting reading for children and adults alike, pick up a copy of a poultry magazine or poultry keeping book. The Internet is nice, but keep in mind that the information on the Internet may not be trustworthy. Anybody can put their opinion on the Internet and make it seem as though it is fact.

If choosing reading material from the Web, then select information from Extension Web sites, as they are based upon science and not opinion.

Do you know where to take your chickens should they become ill? There are at least three independent veterinarians that will see

SMALL FLOCKS



By Brigid McCrea

Small Flock Poultry Specialist
Delaware State University

poultry on the Delmarva Peninsula.

In Salisbury, Md, Dr. Mike McAllister of McAllister Veterinary Services will see chickens that are brought in to his clinic. In Chestertown, Md., Dr. Michael Forney of Chestertown Animal Hospital will also see chickens in his office by appointment. Lastly, Dr. John Weiher of Atlantic Veterinary Center in Middletown, Del., will also see chickens by appointment.

If you do not consider your small flock as pets, and you experience an illness in the birds, you have a solution that is an alternative for you as well. There are in Delaware and Maryland, two excellent diagnostic laboratory systems at the disposal of small flock owners.

In Delaware, the Lasher Laboratory in Georgetown (302-856-0046, ext. 702) will guide you

through the ins and outs of taking a dead or severely ill bird through the submission process.

Please keep in mind that when you submit a bird to the diagnostic laboratory, you will not receive the bird back, as this is a terminal facility. A thorough necropsy is performed of each bird and samples of all the affected tissues and organs are taken for closer analysis.

If you live in Maryland, your poultry diagnostic lab is located in Salisbury, Md., and can be reached at 410-543-6610. These diagnostic labs are typically low cost solutions for a quick diagnosis of what ails your flock.

Think of your new flock adventure as a new learning opportunity. Take advantage of the services that are in your area to ensure that you are able to keep your flock happy, healthy and profitable. We hope to see you at the upcoming poultry events!

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History shows industry keeps evolving

A few years ago, I had the opportunity to contribute to a book dedicated to the Centennial of the Poultry Science Association, "PSA, 1908-2008, The Poultry Industry," published by the American Poultry Historical Association (APHS), edited by Louis C. Arrington.

My contribution was to provide representative poultry photographs from before 1908.

The APHS collection of historical poultry documents was the source of these old photographs. The collection is located in the National Agricultural Library in Beltsville, Md., and is available to the public. The collection is huge and fascinating.

My assistant, Kelly Brannan, and I viewed less than 2 percent of the collection during the two days

POULTRY RESEARCH



By Nick Zimmermann

**Extension Poultry Specialist
University of Maryland College Park**

devoted to the project, but we managed to get the photos needed for the book.

I say managed to get, because it was almost impossible to not be

lured into reading articles about the latest management guidelines of the time. Some of these were shocking by today's standards.

As the newly hatched poultry industry was racing into the 20th century, the big debate was whether artificial incubation was a legitimate management tool. There were adamant advocates on both sides of the issue.

At that time, it was recommended that newly hatched chicks not be fed for the first 24 to 48 hours.

The use of artificial lighting to promote year-round egg production would not be discovered for another 20 years. The birth of the broiler and caged layer industries would not occur for another 40 to 50 years.

As poultry science and technology has fledged and matured, currently only a few backyard chickens are not artificially incubated. Artificial lighting of poultry reared in windowless barns now allows complex photoregimes to be used to improve the health and wellbeing of poultry.

Chicks are now fed and watered as they are transported to poultry houses. Some advocate that chicks should be fed before they hatch using in-ovo technologies.

In the fledgling stage, poultry science and technology discovered that broiler chickens reached slaughter weight more quickly and efficiently if given almost continuous lighting. Usually 23 hours of light and 1 hour of dark was used to prevent mass hysteria in the event of a power outage.

Poultry genetics advances allowed rapid growth and selection for heavy broad-breasted broilers. Rapid growth began to negatively impact broiler health. Fatal heart attacks occurred in many of the fastest growing birds and lameness was noted in many others.

As we enter the second decade of the 21st century, we now have windowless poultry houses where longer periods of darkness can photo-restrict feed intake. Reduced feed intake slows growth, and the incidence of heart attacks and lameness is lower.

We have also learned that periods of darkness allow the eyes and pineal gland to secrete melatonin. Melatonin has been shown to stimulate the immune system and thus improve health.

The account above is a vast oversimplification. But I hope it conveys that management systems

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Club ...

Continued from Page 3

secutive years. Penn State was the runner-up to Texas A&M University for the Club of the Year Award. Penn State's Poultry Science Club has been named Club of the Year four times in the past eight years.

The International Poultry Exposition has been held annually in Atlanta for more than 60 years. With nearly 900 exhibitors, the event is the world's largest display of poultry and egg processing technology, equipment, supplies and services.

Approximately 300 students from 25 universities attended the College Student Program, and many participated in interviews for internships and jobs with industry and allied firms.

Industry...

Continued from Page 4

constantly evolve as our knowledge of poultry biology and housing technology improve.

We must continually seek to improve poultry management systems to ensure that health and well-being are maximized.

Dr. Henry Classen at the University of Saskatchewan will speak at the Mid-Atlantic Nutrition Conference (MANC) on March 25 in Timonium, Md., on "Broiler lighting programs, an underestimated management technique."

His presentation will make the argument that a maximum of 20 hours of light per 24-hour period is optimal for broiler health and welfare. Classen's argument has been heard.

The National Chicken Council has recently released its Revised Program on Animal Welfare; a minimum four hours of darkness per 24-hour period is advised.

Three other MANC speakers will discuss the impact of legislation on animal agriculture.

On March 24, Debbie Murdock, executive director of the Pacific Egg and Poultry Association, will address "Animal agriculture following the passage of Proposition Two in California." Mike Bumgarner with the Ohio Farm Bureau will talk about "Animal agriculture following the passage of Issue One in Ohio." Tom Lenz will discuss "The Unwanted Horse in the U.S.: An Overview."

Twenty other speakers will discuss the latest nutritional information for poultry, dairy and horses at the Mid-Atlantic Nutrition Conference March 24-25 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Timonium, Md.

Danisco Animal Nutrition will sponsor a Technical Symposium on March 24. Continuing education credits are available.

Visit <http://www.manc.umd.edu> to learn more about the program or contact Kiera Finucane by calling 301-405-1392; faxing 301-405-8831; or e-mailing: kieraf@umd.edu.

Mid-Atlantic Nutrition Conference is March 24-25

TIMONIUM, Md. — Growers and industry professionals can make plans to attend the eighth annual Mid-Atlantic Nutrition Conference March 24-25 at the Crowne Plaza to learn more about poultry nutrition.

On March 24, experts will discuss enzyme supplementation and efficacy with diverse feedstuffs; implications on phytate hydrolysis

and nutrient utilization; and avian enteric challenges in commercial production.

The poultry nutrition program for March 25 includes discussion on several topics, including production strategies and feeding opportunities for pellets of high quality; quality control considerations in commercial feed; inclusion effects of DDGS in poultry production and feed mill-

ing; broiler lighting programs, and effects of enzyme supplementation on intestinal environment and poultry performance.

Registration is due by March 15, and is \$100. For sponsorship and registration information, contact Kiera Finucane at 301-405-1392 or kieraf@umd.edu.

To view the complete agenda, visit manc.umd.edu.

Fires...

Continued from Front Page

one could dig through them. Project test wells under the clay pads show very little nutrients under the pad.

A manure storage structure allows manure to be stored in an environmentally sound manner and preserves the nutrient content. Storage provides flexibility in timing of application, protection from water and prevention of nutrient loss to surface water.

"Poultry litter must be stored properly to avoid dangers of fire," Nottingham said. "Microbial activity produces heat and flammable methane gas. If either is trapped, the pile will get too hot and a fire will result. Heat also is produced at the boundary between moist and dry litter."

Overheating and spontaneous combustion may occur as temperatures climb above 190 degrees F.

Conditions that contribute to fire include:

- **Moisture:** When dry litter contacts moist, the dry litter absorbs moisture and heat is released. Nottingham advised: "Put wet manure at the other end of the shed, not side by side or on top. In a large pile, the heat release is significant."

- **Layering:** If new litter is stocked on top of old, or against old, this will allow moist, new litter to come in contact with dry litter, and as a result, the area between them becomes a heat-producing layer.

- **Compaction:** Heat can be trapped in a compacted pile; for example, when a tractor is driven onto a pile.

- **Size:** A larger pile has a greater chance of heat buildup and fire.

Piles too high create an insulating compacted area that traps heat.

"Inches from the roof is too little space," Nottingham warned. "Limit the pile height to 5 to 7 feet in the middle of the pile and 4 feet against the walls," he said, citing NRCS recommendations.

At the same time, he said he didn't know anyone who doesn't store higher than the shed is designed for. He also listed several important "don'ts."

"Don't wet litter down in hopes of preventing fire. Don't add composted birds to the pile. Don't store expensive equipment in a manure shed. If you have a fire, you'll damage the equipment, too."

If a thermometer inserted into the pile registers more than 190 degrees F, or smoldering occurs, the manure will need to be removed. Have the fire department on hand; don't expect a garden hose to help.

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Award winners ...



Three families were honored by the Delaware Nutrient Management Commission (DNMC) and Delmarva poultry companies during Delaware Ag Week on Jan. 21 for their stewardship and their farm practices that contribute to the preservation of the environment, water quality and overall farmland. Mary Bryan, owner and manager of Mary Bryan Farm in Laurel, Del., received the top 2009 Environmental Stewardship Award along with a check for \$1,000. Other environmental stewardship nominees receiving a lane sign, a plaque and awards of \$500 were Matt Tull, owner and manager of Turtlecreek Farm in Seaford, Del., and Ray Tull, owner and manager of Woodpecker Farm, also in Seaford.

Top: Steve Brittingham, of Mountaire Farms of Delaware; Bill Rohrer, DNMC program administrator; Mary Bryan; her husband Robert Bryan between their sons Tyler and Wade; Wade's wife Bobbie Bryan; and Beth Sise.

Bottom left: DNMC Chairman Bill Vanderwende, left, and Bill Rohrer, far right, were on hand to congratulate Matt Tull and Allen Family Foods representative Tom Brinson for Tull's nomination for the 2009 Environmental Stewardship Award.

Bottom right: Ray Tull, center, is congratulated by, from left, Vanderwende, Ron Darnell and Jeff Smith of Perdue Farms, and Rohrer.

Photos by Carol Kinsley

VEB ...

Continued from Page 2

PSU reported that VEBs can be effective in reducing Infectious Bronchitis virus transmission from wind to birds on the same or different farms.

If VEBs are properly placed for windbreaks and shade, they have the potential to help reduce energy costs on farms.

VEBs can be planted to shade the radiant load of the summer sun on buildings to cool the air entering the inlets.

The Delmarva Poultry Industry Inc. has developed a VEB Tool-Kit (<http://www.dpichicken.com/download/VEBTK.pdf>) and can assist in the design, installation and maintenance of VEB on chicken farms.

The average cost for installing a VEB on an existing chicken farm is approximately \$6,000 and cost will vary depending on the spe-

cies, plant size and row density you choose to install.

Cost share funding may also be available through the Natural Resources Conservation Services Environmental Quality Incentive program (<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/eqip/index.html#prog>), the Maryland Agriculture Cost-Share Program (http://www.mda.state.md.us/resource_conservation/financial_assistance/) or the USDA Farm Service Agency (<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/web>

[app?area=home&subject=copr&topic=landing](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/web/app?area=home&subject=copr&topic=landing)).

A VEB is also required to be installed on newly constructed poultry farms that are categorized as a Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation by the Environmental Protection Agency.

It is recommended to seek technical assistance with VEB design and installation on your farm in order to maximize the benefits provided by this valuable management tool.

BROILER REPORT

Placements down 4 percent

For the week ending Feb. 27, 2010, growers placed 10.2 million broiler chicks in Delmarva growing houses, according to the Maryland field office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. These placements were 3.8 percent below the comparable week a year earlier. Broiler-type chicks hatched (9.9 million) decreased 6.5 percent from the comparable week in 2009. Eggs set in incubators during the week totaled 12.4 million, a decrease of 11.7 percent from the same week a year earlier. Federally inspected slaughter on Delmarva was 11.2 million for the week ending Feb. 20, 2010, compared to 10.4 million slaughtered during the same week in 2009.

Broiler-type eggs set and chicks placed on Delmarva

Week Ending	Eggs set 1/		Chicks hatched 1/		Chicks placed 2/	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
01/02/10	13,241	13,462	11,031	11,225	11,129	11,358
01/09/10	13,225	13,308	11,394	11,308	11,495	11,405
01/16/10	13,468	13,216	11,138	11,366	11,225	11,694
01/23/10	12,666	13,147	11,026	11,161	11,139	11,427
02/30/10	12,929	12,319	11,080	11,068	11,179	11,271
02/06/10	12,754	13,233	11,278	10,965	11,367	11,327
02/13/10	13,353	13,441	10,637	10,827	10,727	11,037
02/20/10	13,602	13,596	10,793	10,274	10,793	10,436
02/27/10	14,016	12,370	10,635	9,941	10,634	10,228

1/ For all broiler-type chicks, including those intended for hatchery flocks.

2/ The difference between chicks hatched and placed. Includes chicks withdrawn for hatchery flocks, inshipments and outshipments. To avoid disclosure of proprietary information, those numbers are not published.

BRIEFLY

Townsend's appoints new management team

ATLANTA — Georgetown, Delaware-based Townsend's Inc. announced that effective Feb. 25, two of the company's board members have also assumed roles as executive officers.

Frederick B. Beilstein has been appointed Chief Executive Officer and Michael P. Schall will be president of sales and marketing.

Beilstein is a managing partner in the private investment firm of Atlanta-based Equicorp Partners LLC. Equicorp principally invests in franchised restaurant sector companies.

He is also the former Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of AFC Enterprises Inc. the franchisor of Popeye's Chicken & Biscuits, and former franchisor of Church's Chicken, Cinnabon and Seattle's Best Coffee.

Beilstein previously served as Chief Financial Officer of AmeriCold Logistics Inc. one of the world's largest temperature controlled warehousing and transportation management companies serving both the wholesale and retail sides of the food industry.

Schall most recently served as senior vice president of Monterey Gourmet Foods and was a member of its Board of Directors from 2000 to 2008.

Prior to joining Monterey Gour-

met, he served as senior vice president of Sales and Marketing for Wise Potato Chips, the large regional snack food company, and was President and Chief Executive Officer of the B. Manischewitz Company, one of the nation's premier kosher food marketers.

His sales and marketing experience spans customer relationships in foodservice national accounts, retail grocery, club store and the natural food channels.

Small flock growers invited to Cooptastic!

HARRINGTON, Del. — Cooptastic!, a workshop sponsored by Delaware State Cooperative Extension, will be held March 13 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Dover Building at the Delaware State Fairgrounds.

Attendees will learn about designing coops, ordering/buying chicks, cleaning and storing eggs, composting litter, grading and sizing eggs, and nutrition, among others. There also will be an egg judging contest, a biosecurity scavenger hunt and the Mid-Atlantic 4-H Avian Bowl Challenge. The cost is \$10 at the door. For more information, contact Brigid McCrea at 302-857-6424.

Chicken festival invites vendor participation

GEORGETOWN, Del. — The 61st Delmarva Chicken Festival is

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE

March 4 — The market tone was steady overall. Retail demand was light to moderate approaching the weekend. Food service demand light to fairly good. Supplies of all sizes were light to moderate to satisfy current trade needs. Floor stocks were in full range.

In the parts structure, movement was light to instances fairly good for late-week business. Breast items were in good supply and moving well. Wings were moderated to heavy with larger wings in the weakest position. Dark meat items were mostly moderate. In production areas, live supplies were moderate; weights were mixed, but mostly desirable.

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch
Atlanta, GA 404-562-5850
PVMNATL@ams.usda.gov

DELMARVA BROILERS AND FRYERS

Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was fair to moderate approaching the weekend. Seller offerings were sufficient for immediate trade needs. Live supplies were moderate; weights varied, but noted as mostly desirable. Processing schedules moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices remained unchanged to one cent higher at 83 to 92 cents. The market tone was steady. In the parts complex, breast items were light to moderate. Dark meat cuts were moderate. Wings were available.

*Estimated Slaughter of Broiler/Fryers in Virginia, March 4, 2010

Estimated	Actual	Avg. Weight	Actual	Avg. Weight
03/04	03/02	03/02	02/25	02/23
2,266	2,279	5.83	2,214	6.07

* 6 of 6 plants reporting

Source: Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
USDA-VA Market News, Harrisonburg, Va. 540-209-9144
www.vdacs.virginia.gov/marketnews
market.news@vdacs.virginia.gov

seeking arts and crafts, commercial, and food vendors to participate in the festival that will be held at Delaware State University in Dover, Del., on June 18-19.

The festival's home and trade show is open to businesses, trade associations, government agencies, and other groups interested in promoting their products or services to an estimated general public audience of about 25,000.

Crafters who create their own artistic wares are invited to share their products at the festival's arts and crafts show. Limited food booths are available to vendors who offer chicken or other complementary festival food products. Deadline for vendor application is Friday, April 30, pending space availability at that time.

Additional information and applications are available at www.desu.edu/chickenfestival. Click on "events" and look for the appropriate area of interest or call 800-878-2449.

Workshops to focus on farm insurance policies

Two workshops will be held to help growers review the insurance policy for their farm.

These two workshops will be held March 9 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Somerset County Extension office in Princess Anne, Md., and March 10 at 11:30 a.m. at Tilghman Terrace in Centreville, Md.

For more information or to register, call 410-651-1350.

POULTRY AND RABBIT SWAP

Saturday, March 20, 2010

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Rain date March 27, 2010

\$5.00 set up Fee

Provide your own tables and cages

Refreshments available

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**For more information call Megan at
1-800-634-5021**

