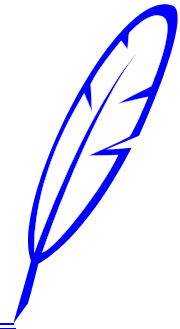


# Atlantic Poultry Research Institute

**SERVING ATLANTIC CANADA'S POULTRY INDUSTRY  
MEETING THE POULTRY RESEARCH NEEDS OF THE REGION**



NEWSLETTER  
**June 2002**

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Research capability looks promising. In addition to the two poultry researchers located at NSAC the development of the Atlantic Canadian Centre for Poultry Research provides the missing piece in an ability to continue to do research based on industry priorities for the Atlantic region.

APRI Directors are active in support of the NSAC initiative to provide adequate research facilities to meet the needs of the regional poultry industry into the foreseeable future.

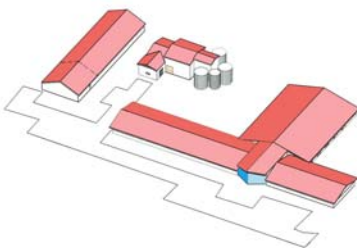
The industry needs research capabilities that can be brought to bear on issues and opportunities. These days this is a partnership of all sectors of the industry and governments. All sectors of the poultry industry have a responsibility to get involved. Just as industry research dollars are considered foundation funds to which funding can

be matched for on going research projects, industry's infrastructure funding support is being measured as a barometer of commitment. I know the NSAC is looking for your support as individuals and groups. Industry needs to be proactive in support.

There are predictions of a future shortage of highly qualified people in Agriculture in general and the poultry industries are no exception. Modern infrastructure resources with industry connection are a valuable way to attract people to support the poultry industries. Training of people for the poultry industry is essential.

Get active, get involved to ensure a regional research capability is secured to support the poultry industry.

**Dr. Derek M. Anderson**



## **Atlantic Canadian Centre for Poultry Research Gets a Boost**

**Canada Foundation For Innovation** conditionally approved \$2.1 million towards NEW POULTRY RESEARCH FACILITIES at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College.

The **Government of Nova Scotia** committed \$1 million towards this project.

The **Egg Producer Boards** of Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have committed dollar amounts as well.

**Dr. Harold Chute**, an alumni of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, has contributed funds that will cover the matching dollars required for the feed mill and nutrition centre expansion.

Generous discounts on equipment from **Suppliers to the Poultry Industry** are in the works.

Currently all commitments are conditional and require that the remaining funds are secured prior to the delivery of funds or equipment discounts.

To learn more about this project and to view the proposed facilities please visit [www.nsac.ns.ca/apri/accpr.htm](http://www.nsac.ns.ca/apri/accpr.htm)

For more information contact Bruce Rathgeber at (902) 893-6654 or email [brathgeber@nsac.ns.ca](mailto:brathgeber@nsac.ns.ca)

## Poultry Research Facilities Information Day a Success

*May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2002 approximately 60 invited industry personnel, government and prospective sponsors gathered at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College for an opportunity to share, discuss and network regarding the components of the new Atlantic Canadian Centre for Poultry Research.*

**Dr. Garth Coffin, Principal, NSAC** welcomed everyone to the Poultry Facilities Information Initiative.

**Mr. Rick Bennett, Maple Leaf's Poultry Live Operations Manager** from Kentville, NS and a long time supporter and Director of APRI, expressed in his presentation the need for highly educated personnel. Mr. Bennett indicated our company hires a lot of NSAC alumni and it is a real challenge finding people lately with a background in the poultry industry. The new infrastructure would allow NSAC and APRI to recruit undergraduates and graduates to do their research in poultry here in NS.

**Dr. Bruce Rathgeber, Poultry Products Scientist** elaborated on the proposed infrastructure and where we are to date, how we are raising funds and opportunities for industry to become involved.



left: Past & present Directors of APRI who attended May 1<sup>st</sup> included Dr. Robert Hamilton (retired AAFC) Dr. Bruce Rathgeber, Mr. Stu Allaby (retired NSDAF) and Mr. George Smith, (NSDAF)



Speakers for the day from left:  
Dr. Bruce Rathgeber, Professor NSAC, Deborah Whale, Chair Poultry Industry Council and Rick Bennett Maple Leaf Live Operations Manager

Keynote speaker **Deborah Whale, Chair Poultry Industry Council** gave an interesting presentation on the overall situation of poultry research in Canada. Stressing the importance of regional research as well as sharing the knowledge of all poultry research across Canada, Deborah emphasized the need for industry support. Whale cautioned regional supporters "Don't fail to deliver or it will be noted by all of us. On the other hand, if you succeed, you will have succeeded in creating a centre around which your Atlantic poultry industry could thrive and grow".

For more information on the facilities please visit our website at [www.nsac.ns.ca/apri/accpr.htm](http://www.nsac.ns.ca/apri/accpr.htm) Or contact Dr. Bruce Rathgeber (902) 893-6657 email: [brathgeber@nsac.ns.ca](mailto:brathgeber@nsac.ns.ca)



Mr. David Fuller, Chicken Farmers of Canada representative with Dr. Bruce Rathgeber and Mr. Rick Bennett discussing the proposed facilities

## RESEARCH UPDATES

### A Message from Dr. Bruce Rathgeber,

Two new courses in Poultry Science were offered since the fall semester at the NSAC. A module dealing with poultry diseases was offered as part of the series of Animal Science production modules and a poultry microbiology and food safety module is currently being conducted with three graduate students enrolled. This year there were 3 fourth-year students who choose research projects involving avian species for their project seminar course. Each of these students performed spectacularly, in particular, Tiffany Bateman received a second place award at the year-end conference where research findings are presented.

Research results from a broiler trial were presented at the International Poultry Scientific Forum in Atlanta in January of this year. We found that female broilers fed excess tryptophan (an amino acid) grew more rapidly, however, the growth of male broilers was reduced. Elevated levels of an enzyme indicative of muscle damage was found in blood samples from broilers given tryptophan. Part of Margaret MacKenzie's (new graduate student) research will investigate the impact this may have on broiler meat quality.

The Atlantic Canadian Centre for Poultry Research is well on its way to becoming a reality. A fund raising program is in full swing and investigative travel has been very useful for exploring new technologies. The annual trade show in Atlanta in January was an exhibition of the latest equipment and technology applicable to all segments of the poultry industry. This was also an opportunity to meet with industry representatives and draw attention to our project. A trip to the University of Alberta in May was extremely helpful. The recent construction there provided valuable insight into the do's and don'ts of new poultry research facilities.

### A Message from Dr. Fred Silversides,

Summer's here and for researchers, besides barbecues and beaches (and continuing work), that means attending a conference or two. Janet, Krista and I are heading down to the Poultry Science Association meetings which are being held this year at the University of Delaware in August. While there, I'll present our work on feeding hempseed meal to layers and Janet will present data from her M.Sc. thesis on feeding wheat that was grown at Charlottetown to chickens. We're all looking forward to getting away and seeing old friends or meeting new ones. We're especially looking forward to the scientific challenge and stimulation that we need to come up with new ideas, new projects, and new plans for the future. I hope that you all have a good summer.

### Graduate update



Graduate Students - Margaret MacKenzie (right) standing with Janet Rafuse

Anita Menon, Jennifer Saunders-Blades and Vanessa Churchill have all successfully defended their theses these past few months. Kareen Burgoyne hopes to defend her thesis this summer. Margaret MacKenzie started her graduate research with Dr. Bruce Rathgeber in May 2002. Margaret will be researching improved broiler chicken meat quality through nutritional management of stress.

## SNIPPETS

### Welcome Back/Congratulations

It is with great pleasure that we welcome Janice MacIsaac back from maternity leave.

Bruce & Cheryl Rathgeber are the proud parents of a new little boy (April 26). Jonah was welcomed by his three older sisters Magan, Mackenzie and Janessa.

Krista Budgell will be staying on as Research Technician with Dr. Fred Silversides, AAFC.

**Factsheets** published since our last newsletter are: #10 *Whole Wheat for Layers*  
#14 *Evaluating Whole Hulless Barley Feeding for Broiler Chickens*  
#15 *Effect of Anticoccidia Program on Runny Manure in Turkeys*

These factsheets and all previous factsheets are available at the APRI office or on the web at [www.nsac.ns.ca/apri](http://www.nsac.ns.ca/apri).

### Alex Oderkirk

#### London Poultry Show

*(sponsored by Poultry Industry Council)*

Alex Oderkirk, Agricultural Development Institute, was representing the Directors of APRI at the London Poultry Show. Alex made contact with several organizations at the show regarding industry support towards the Atlantic Canadian Centre for Poultry Research.

## Poultry Research Priorities

The poultry research priority list is currently being updated for this year. The Directors of APRI appreciate input and look forward to hearing from industry on our future direction. Once compiled the list will be published in our next newsletter and will also be made available on the APRI website. For a copy of the current priority list contact Natalie Cole at (902) 893-6657 or [ncole@nsac.ns.ca](mailto:ncole@nsac.ns.ca). Or visit [www.nsac.ns.ca/apri/research](http://www.nsac.ns.ca/apri/research).

## The Atlantic Poultry Conference



### Atlantic Poultry Conference

is scheduled for February, 2003 in Moncton, New Brunswick. We will meet as a

committee this month to start plans for the upcoming conference.

## THANK YOU to our sponsors

Watch the Canada Poultry Magazine (formally Canada Poultryman) for featured articles on APRI and the new infrastructure fundraising in their July edition of Who's Who. Farm Focus have featured APRI and The Atlantic Canadian Centre for Poultry Research in their past few issues. Canada Poultry Magazine and Farm Focus have both generously donated advertising space for fundraising.

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This newsletter is a publication of the Atlantic Poultry Research Institute (APRI). Its role is to keep those interested in poultry research activities in Atlantic Canada informed on the Institutes's plans, activities and achievements.

The purpose of the Atlantic Poultry Research Institute is to further the interests of the regional poultry industry through research. It will endeavor to do this through the following objectives: 1. To serve as a vehicle for consultation amongst all stake-holders in the Atlantic poultry industry regarding research and development needs; 2. To encourage joint participation by industry and research institutions in setting research priorities; 3. To integrate the poultry research and development activities of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College and the Atlantic Veterinary College into one strong regional program; 4. To solicit funds for poultry research development.

To be added to our Newsletter list or for comments & or suggestions please contact Natalie Cole, PO Box 550, 58 River Road, Haley Institute, Room 213, Truro, NS B2N 5E3 Phone: (902) 893-6657 Fax: (902) 895-6734 or [apri@nsac.ns.ca](mailto:apri@nsac.ns.ca)