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Chairman's Report

- Dr. Derek M. Anderson

Research funding is always a challenge that faces APRI. A greater input from the poultry sectors have been required to trigger active research since a high proportion of government funds are given to match the industry contributions. This means that the industry has become more concerned with the direction of research. This is not new for APRI, since their board members represent the various sectors of the poultry industry, and are responsible for bringing forth research priorities. It is from these priorities that APRI takes its direction for research initiatives.

Gradually, we are seeing a solidification of ongoing financial support for research from the provincial poultry producer sector, the regional poultry processors, hatchery and feed sectors. Our next step is to bring all the feather industry groups in all the Atlantic Provinces on side with financial support for research initiatives. There have been successes in this regard. As an industry, your research dollars can be multiplied through sources that will match your contribution. The starting point to ensure that funds are captured for poultry research is the foundation dollars that you can contribute.

APRI has listened to the wishes of the industry and is actively preparing research fact sheets and the newsletter for distribution in both French and English. We are currently seeking a chief executive officer on a part time basis to strengthen the connection between APRI, it's researchers and the groups that make up the feather industries in Atlantic Canada.

The Chairman and Board of Directors look for your input to keep APRI connected to the industry it serves.

APRI Staff Profile on Rena Currie

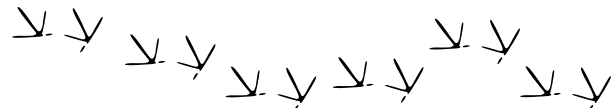


Rena is a familiar face on the NSAC grounds, graduating with her B.Sc. in Animal Science in '94 and beginning her employment with APRI in April of 2001.

Since that time, Rena has had the opportunity to work in Swine, Fur and Poultry units in term positions. She was also able to toss her hat in the Acting Manager positions of the Poultry Unit (from Nov '02 – May '03), as well the Fur Unit (Jan '04 – Jan '05). After both terms, she returned to her position with APRI.

Her strong interest in poultry adds a great asset to the APRI team, and growing up on a family farm, with 6 siblings, makes her no stranger to the hard work and challenges that arise with her position at APRI.

Rena enjoys the chance to learn new skills, and tries to take some time to improve on her old ones, whether it is at work, or relaxing at home, playing the piano, flute or violin. Time away for Rena means time outdoors, hiking, canoeing or camping with her family. Rena resides in East Stewiacke with her husband, Mike, and their two children, Justin (10) and Jessica (8).



We have moved!!

The APRI Office is now located in
Room 203 of the Haley Institute.



The Atlantic Canadian Centre for Poultry Research Construction Update

- Dr. Bruce Rathgeber

The long awaited start of construction of the new poultry research centre is close at hand. After much anticipation the tender for the construction of the new poultry facility will be advertised starting August 31. The closing date for receipt of tenders was September 23. Shortly after reviewing these quotations a contractor will be selected. We anticipate demolition of the current two story building to occur shortly afterwards and construction to commence immediately after that to minimize construction efforts during the winter months. We will keep the Atlantic poultry industry posted for ceremonies involving this project including the grand opening which we hope all will be available attend. Please watch for notices in the months to come.

Additional developments – Poultry Products

In addition to the new poultry research construction, renovation of the NSAC meat lab has occurred over the summer. This area in the Haley Institute will be the location where valued-added further processed product will be manufactured. The renovation has included separation of the area for handling raw ingredients from fully cooked product and installation of equipment for manufacturing, cooking and packaging products to be tested. The next step in this project is to equip a level two microbiology lab for monitoring spoilage and pathogenic organisms associated with poultry products. This will provide a much needed tool for evaluating the quality and safety of poultry meat and egg products and serve as a location for research on developments in new products for the poultry industry.

Poultry Science Activities

The current poultry research facilities continue to be an area of constant activity on the NSAC campus. There were five undergraduates conducting research with poultry or poultry products this last winter semester as part of the requirements for the completion of their Bachelors of Science in Agriculture. These students included **Kari Isenor** (who stayed on this summer to work as a summer student in the poultry unit), **Deanne Spurgeon**, **Emily Fraser**, **Sara Butt**, **Sarah MacPherson**, **Tara MacKinnon**, and **Richard Jacobs**.

Three Masters of Science students successfully defended their thesis, **Baoyan Wang** in December, **Margaret Mackenzie** in April, and **Kareen Burgoyne** in September. In January of this year, **Natasha McKillop** from Stewiacke started her master's program at the NSAC. She will be evaluating the benefits of feeding a purified carbohydrate from the cell wall of yeast on bone mineralization and egg shell quality for laying hens. In September, we lost one of our APRI employees. **Krista Budgell** originally from Gander Newfoundland, as she has started graduate school. She will evaluate feeding a combination of currently available products derived from yeast to broiler chickens as an alternative to antibiotics for controlling necrotic enteritis. **Clinton Ronalds** of Bathurst New Brunswick has also started in September. He will be investigating the effects of bioactive molecules from the peels of apples on the health and meat quality of broiler chickens. Michelle Daniel of Nova Scotia will be working with laying hens, evaluation marine sources of calcium.

The Atlantic Poultry Conference

The Atlantic Poultry Conference in Wolfville this past February was a resounding success. We received substantial positive feedback regarding the quality of presentations as well as the choice of venue for this meeting. The combined effort of AgraPoint International, members of the Atlantic poultry industry and APRI were once again instrumental to the success of this well attended conference. We look forward to continuing to contribute to many more of these important meetings in the years to come.

Bruce's wanderings

Bruce Rathgeber has been traveling around the Maritimes as well as the world in the last few months. Once again he traveled to as many annual meetings of marketing boards in the region as possible. Bruce and Derek Anderson attended a workshop conducted by the Canadian Poultry Research Council (CPRC) in Ottawa in early May. The workshop brought together researchers from across the country to discuss poultry research priorities in Canada. Later that same month, Bruce traveled to The Gambia in Africa after he agreed to spend some time with a Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) project. The purpose of this trip was to help revitalize the poultry program at the country's agricultural college. Bruce accompanied two NSAC students to the region where they stayed for an additional four weeks to continue in the effort to improve educational capacity in the community. Shortly after arriving home Bruce and Tarjei Tennesen, traveled to Lublin, Poland to attend the 6th European Symposium on Poultry Welfare. Many European contacts were made at this conference where we both learned first-hand the challenges Europeans are facing with the evolving production practices due to the legislation in the part the world. During this same trip poultry equipment manufacturers in Germany and the Netherlands were visited in order to discuss possible modifications that could be made to equipment that would facilitate conducting research at the new research facility in Truro. A new production facility and hatchery in Liège Belgium at the University of Liège was an additional highlight of the trip.

Bio-Security & Food Safety Workshop

Will take place on November 23rd at The Old Orchard Inn, Greenwich with an 8 am registration. For more information, please contact Alex Oderkirk or Heather Anne Grant at (902) 896-0277.



APRI welcomes four new grad students this fall. **Krista Budgell**, **Tasha McKillop** and **Clinton Ronalds** will all be under the supervision of Dr.

Bruce Rathgeber, while **Michelle Daniel** will be under the supervision of Dr. Derek Anderson.

A welcome back and congratulations goes out to **Janice MacIsaac**. Janice, Paul and Chelsea welcomed Noah to the family on

January 14th. Janice has returned to the APRI office in September.

Grad students **Margaret MacKenzie** and **Boayan Wang** have both successfully defended their thesis. Margaret currently works in research at the NSAC, and hopes to attend the University of Alberta in January to work on her Ph.D. Boayan is currently living in Alberta with her husband and their son.

Thank you to all who contributes to our Newsletter. We value your comments and look forward to hearing from you.

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 Institute'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 stakeholders 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 Lynn McNutt, PO Box 550, 58 River Road, Haley Institute, Room 213, Truro, NS B2N 5E3 Phone: (902) 893-6657 Fax: (902) 895-6734 or lmcnutt@nsac.ns.ca