

Next A.V.P.A. Scientific Session and
Business Meeting is in Maori Room,
Wentworth Hotel at 2.00 p.m. on Thursday
18th May, 1978.

Do We Need A Newsletter

A high proportion of A.V.P.A. members seem to manage to get to 3 or 4 meetings a year, but many members who are on the periphery of the poultry industry or in distant places, miss out on the meetings. In addition, we probably could gain more members if some of these distant people got some benefit from the Association. Even those who attend meetings regularly would be aware that things happen so quickly in the poultry industry that a newsletter might help.

We have some funds as a result of sustaining memberships by a number of poultry industry firms. At the last business meeting I was asked to prepare a trial copy of a newsletter to circulate to members to give them an idea of the sort of thing that is possible. This attempt is based mainly on quotations from the literature, but it would be anticipated that submissions of "news" by A.V.P.A. members could occupy a bigger part in future editions if members agree to proceed.

Poultry Disease Leaflets from Queensland

Bronwyn Dowling of the Queensland Department of Primary Industry, is producing a series of "Farm Note" leaflets on poultry disease which could be useful for members to use for their own extension purposes. The first half dozen leaflets are already available to cover Cholera, IB, Coryza, CRD, Fowl Pox, Newcastle Disease and Fowl Plague. Marek's Disease, Leucosis and I.L.T. are on the way.

Classical I.L.T. in Queensland

Bronwyn also reports an outbreak of Classical I.L.T. in a broiler flock in Queensland. It appears to have occurred in two successive batches of broilers despite clean-out between batches. The second batch was 7 weeks old when it became infected. The source of infection is apparently unknown. It is worth noting that the classical form of this disease is now fairly rare in most States.

Diabetes insipidus in Leghorns

Pennsylvania State University workers (Clagett et al) have shown a genetic factor in Leghorns which controls the hormone arginine vasotocin. The hormone controls excessive thirst which leads to diabetes insipidus. Affected birds are normal in terms of production characteristics, but drink excessive water and subsequently excrete it in excess. The affected birds appear to drink more than three times the water consumption of normal birds. Your comments on the possible significance of this in Australian wet droppings problems could be useful to other members.

3/1/5 - Circulate & back to me

1/6
PS
2/1/76

Are Scald Tanks Necessary

Research workers at Colorado State University and in the United States Department of Agriculture, are investigating the use of microwave energy to release feathers from the feather follicle. The aim is to avoid passing carcasses through the bacterial broth which scald tanks become soon after the commencement of the day's processing.

What is "Booz, Allen and Hamilton"

If you have been reading your industry literature recently, you will have seen many references to a report prepared by the firm of Booz, Allen and Hamilton. The report was produced by this private company at the request of U.S.D.A. to suggest ways of cutting the cost of individual carcass inspection in poultry plants without reducing the level of consumer protection. The Secretary has a copy of the relevant parts of the report if anybody is interested. It appears that there will be some changes in the future but the American negotiation is likely to be spread over some years.

Salmonella Control - An Education Problem

One of the world's experts in regard to food poisoning Salmonella is Dr. Ella M. Barnes of the Food Research Institute, Norwich, England. She recently summarised discussions at a W.P.S.A. Symposium by pointing out the unrealistic expectations some people have with regard to control of food poisoning, and concluded "A much greater effort should be made in educating the public in the importance of the separate handling of the cooked products, and there should be statutory requirements that processing plants preparing cooked products and all communal kitchens should be required to have separate rooms for handling the raw and cooked foods".

Fungal Diseases

The Russians have apparently become interested in the control of Fungus Diseases. Two recent papers deal with -

1. "Mycological characteristics of mixed meals for poultry". Only about 10% of 204 fungal strains tested for toxicity were non-toxic. Recommendations for disinfection of feed by steam under pressure or by the addition of preservatives such as Acetic or Propionic Acid or Sodium Propionate were suggested.
2. "Prevention of Fungal Diseases of poultry (by using aerosols or anti-fungal agents)". Exposure for $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours to an aerosol containing 2% solution of Boric Acid is claimed to be successful in the treatment of Candida infection. $\frac{1}{3}$ Iodine solution for $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours was also effective. Amphotericin B aerosol was used in the first hours of life against Aspergillus and Candida.

If anyone reads Russian they may be able to let us know whether there is anything in these treatments. Feed additives such as propionate and

Gentian Violet have been used overseas and more recently in Australia.

Aerosol Vaccination Against Newcastle Disease

Dodovski et al in Yugoslavia compared aerosol, oculonasal and drinking water routes of vaccination against Newcastle Disease. Aerosol method gained the highest antibody titres and drinking water gained the lowest after the greatest delay. Aerosol route of vaccination has a big future.

Review of Pasteurella multocida

Any members with Cholera problems should get a copy of this review by Frank M. Collins (1977) published in Cornell Veterinarian 67 (i), Pages 103 - 138.

Cross Protection Studies with Haemophilus gallinarum

Rimler et al (1977) Am. J. Vet. Res. 38 : 10 Pages 1587 - 1593. If you wondered why Coryza sometimes seems to break out several times on the one property, this article shows three distinct immuno-types occur.

Mycoplasma gallisepticum - Killed Vaccine

Hyatsu et al (1974) Jap. J. Vet. Sci. 36 : 311 - 319. These workers have demonstrated that a killed vaccine can protect. Perhaps there is a space for it in Australia. In America and Europe attenuated vaccines have been used.

Caged Layer Mortality

Every member should check out this article and let the Secretary know whether their own experience agrees with this reported incidence of causes of mortality in adult layers. The article is by Randall et al (1977) Avian Pathology 6 : 149 - 170.

Adenovirus Immunity

If you are hoping for the development of vaccines to prevent Adenovirus problems, such as Inclusion Body Hepatitis, you should read Winterfield et al (1977) Poultry Sci. 56 : 1481 - 1486 which indicates a lack of cross protection and thus the need for Polyvalent vaccines.

Proventriculitis May Still be with Us.

Kouwenhoven et al (1978) Av. Path. 7 : 183 - 187, have reported on an infectious Proventriculitis causing runting in broilers. This article underlines the importance of appreciating that the Reticuloendotheliosis Virus, which contaminated some Marek's Disease vaccines in Australia, was never shown to produce the full field syndrome including Proventriculitis in the laboratory. The occurrence of cases of Proventriculitis should not, therefore, be assumed to result from contaminated vaccine and should certainly be investigated as a possible separate disease entity.

Blood Sampling Technique

You should give some thought to the paper by Beard and Brugh in Avian Diseases 21 : 4: 630 concerning a paper strip used for Newcastle Disease serology. R. Burton at the Poultry Research Station, Seven Hills has used this for Pullorum testing and it looks as though it could be useful for testing Fancy flocks.

Vaccine Developments

Arthur Webster Pty. Ltd., has developed a Newcastle Disease Virus vaccine from the Australian V4 isolate. This is being used in Asia and controlled tests in Malaysia indicate that a single dose by the intra-nasal method of administration will provide 100% protection up to 8 weeks after vaccination at 3 weeks of age. Further work will investigate aerosol method of administration and Australian strains of chickens will also be tested.

Infectious Bursal Disease Virus vaccines are being investigated. Two N.S.W. strains are being checked in chickens for safety. It is hoped that one or both of these strains will be suitable for the vaccination of parent breeders to provide maternal antibody for the protection of their progeny.

The Armidale strain of Infectious Bronchitis Virus has still not been proven the culprit in apparent failures in the field. Many organisations switched to older strains of virus, but those who have stayed with the A strain still have no problems. Co-operation between NBSL and the University of New England is hoped to shed some light on the relationship between antigenic variation and immunity.

A mild Marek's Disease Virus vaccine is being investigated in N.S.W. for possible use in breeders to protect them against Marek's Disease without producing maternal antibody as would occur if HVT vaccine were used. Present tests are encouraging and further results are expected within the next few months.

Egg Drop Syndrome (EDS)

Drops in egg production can result from a number of causes, both management and infectious. A number of people report apparent infectious causes recently and your views on the possible implication of Adenovirus and the "Adeno-like" virus would be of interest to other members. This latter virus is not known to be present in Australia, and diagnostic re-agents are not available here. Is AE virus involved?

New Poultry Health Research Projects

It appears that research funds have been recommended for the following:-

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| Tom Grimes | - | Adenovirus. |
| Peter Spradbrow | - | Newcastle Disease Virus. |
| Queensland Department of Agriculture | - | Fatty Liver Syndrome. |
| Rob Cumming | - | Infectious Bronchitis. |
| Trevor Bagust &) | - | Infectious Bursal Virus. |
| Donald Dennett) | | |
| Rob Cumming | - | Competitive Exclusion in Poultry Diseases. |
| Clive Jackson | - | Avian Vaccines. |
| Murdock University | - | Viral and Immunologic Studies in Broiler Chickens. |