



Cheeps & Chirps

..... *Points for Poultry Profitability*

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KENTUCKY FARM WINS NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD

Each year the US Poultry and Egg Association awards five family farm environmental excellence awards—one for each of the five regions of the country. This year Morrison Poultry from Wingo, KY took the award for the Southeast Region. The Morrison's are repeat winners, having also taken the national award in 2016. Congratulations to Tim and Deena Morrison.



Tim Morrison receiving state award at the Kentucky Poultry Festival October 2017

2018 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

The Kentucky Poultry Federation is looking for graduating High School seniors (Spring 2018) or enrolled students who are attending a college, university, or technical training program, to be recipients of KPF Scholarships. These students must have good character and determination to succeed.

Through the generosity of our members and allied companies, scholarships have been established to assist graduating high school students or students currently attending a college or university to continue their education. **These scholarships were created to benefit the children and grandchildren of our poultry complex employees, growers, and allied members.** The Kentucky Poultry Federation Board of Directors and members established this fund to help young students continue their academic careers or receive additional training in another area beyond high school.

The Kentucky Poultry Federation will be awarding up to four \$1,000 scholarships. **The recipients of the 2018 Kentucky Poultry Federation Scholarships must be a child or grandchild of an employee of a Kentucky poultry complex or a child or grandchild of a grower who is a member of the Kentucky**

Poultry Federation or a child or grandchild of an allied member of the Kentucky Poultry Federation. Recipients must be residents of Kentucky. Up to two scholarships have been specifically earmarked for a child or grandchild of a poultry grower who is a member of the Kentucky Poultry Federation.

Interested candidates should review the application rules and instructions carefully and determine their eligibility. The award winners will be announced at our 20th Annual Kentucky Poultry Festival Hall of Fame Banquet on Saturday, October 6, 2018 at the Griffin Gate Marriott Resort & Spa Lexington, Kentucky. For consideration in the scholarship competition, all application packets **must be electronically submitted** by **June 30, 2018**. No exceptions will be made. This application can be found on-line at: www.kypoultry.org.

FAN MAINTENANCE

As we start to get some warmer weather, it is time to think about getting all the fans ready to perform optimally. In terms of summer ventilation, fans are needed for two purposes. Exhaust fans increase air exchanges in order to remove heat from the animals. Panel fans are used to create areas of higher air speeds that allow the animals to dissipate more heat. Completing fan maintenance can have a major impact on fan performance over these summer months, and therefore reduce heat stress to animals.

One of the easiest issues to identify with fans is the build-up of dust. Dust can create up to a 40% reduction in performance of fans. When dust builds up on the guards around the fan it decreases the area for air to move through, restricting the fans capacity. Also, when dust builds up on the blades, the geometry of the blades is compromised, reducing the amount of air each blade can push.

Often dust in animal barns is sticky, making blowing the dust off the fans difficult. A wire brush or a hard-bristled broom will help with removing the majority of the dust. It is best to do this before you start running the fans; make sure the switch or breaker is off before you work on cleaning your fans. Compressed air can be used to remove the remaining dust from the large surfaces as well as to get dust out from smaller areas around the motor and belts.

One additional benefit of getting the dust off of the motor is that it will allow the mo-

tor to run at a cooler temperature. This should extend the life of your motor. Also, while most fan motors are damp environments, many motors are not rated for direct washing, making pressure washing a potential issue. If you want to use water to clean a fan, a damp cloth is a better option.

Other components to check are the pulleys, belt tension, and wear and tear on the belts. Any belts showing large cracks should be replaced. Also, if the pulleys that hold the belt show wear, it should also be replaced. Loose belts or slipping belts can result in up to 60% reduction in performance of fans. A worn pulley will cause the belt to slip or move out of alignment as the motor turns. Belt tensioning should be done according to manufacturer recommendations. Having loose belts is a large issue, but over tightening can also create extra wear on the belts and the motors.

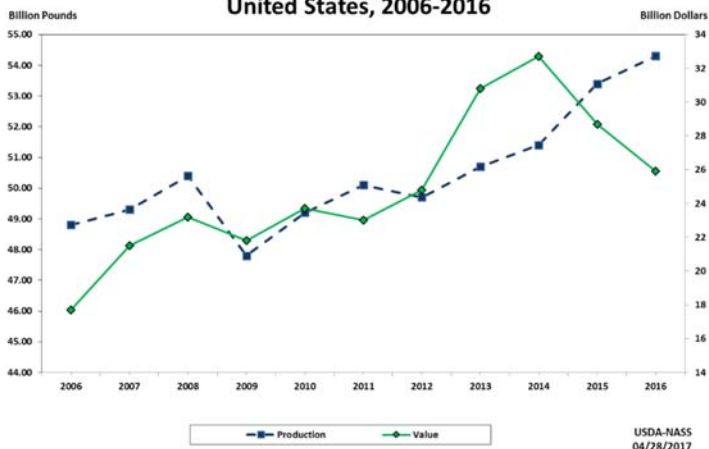
Two additional things that are critical to check are possible grease points and power connections. Many fans do have bearing that can be greased, and grease should be provided via manufacturer recommendations to prolong motor and fan life. The power connections are another point to check, primarily for safety concerns. Often the insulation on power cords can become cracked or worn, which presents a fire hazard. New cords should be run as worn lines are identified.

Dr. Morgan Hayes
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LATEST NATIONAL POULTRY STATISTICS

Broiler Pounds Produced and Value of Production
United States, 2006-2016



CLEANING EVAPORATIVE COOLING PADS

The following procedure is recommended for cleaning and flushing the pads on a quarterly basis:

- » Completely empty the sump of water and silt
- » Refill the sump with clean water
- » Turn off the ventilation fans, if possible
- » Manually turn pumps on to run fresh water over the pads for 30 minutes, using as much water as possible
- » Open the ends of the water distribution pipes to flush out debris; replace the covers
- » Remove the plug and drain the system for silt collection
- » Gently hose deposits from the face of the pads (do not use a power washer)
- » Completely empty the sump to remove the algae and dirt rinsed off the pads
- » Disinfect the system with the proper amount of approved chemical
- » Check to make sure the bleed-off is working properly
- » Refill with clean water

Algae growth within the pads can clog pad pores reducing cooling efficiency. Algae require light, moisture, and nutrients to survive, and all of these can be plentiful in pad systems. In order to control algae, the following are recommended:

- » Shade the pads and the pump
- » Dry the pads daily (usually overnight)

- » Avoid nutrient contamination (either from nutrients blowing into an uncovered sump or algaecides which degrade into nutrients)
- » Drain and disinfect the sump regularly

In some tests of algaecides, those using quaternary ammonia (such as ammonium chloride) have been more effective than oxidizing-type biocides such as sodium hypochlorite and calcium hypochlorite. Use the recommended concentration specified by the chemical manufacturer. Different algaecides can have vastly different recommended concentrations, so it is extremely important that manufacturers' specifications be followed. Overdosing is easy to do and can damage the pads, pumps and gutters.

FIRST HUMAN CASE OF H7N4 BIRD FLU CONFIRMED IN CHINA

It is important to note that the avian influenza virus causing human cases in Asia is NOT currently in the US.

Avian Influenza is caused by a Type A influenza virus that occurs in birds. This is different from the types of influenza that infect humans. On the outside of the virus are two glycoproteins. One glycoprotein is a hemagglutinin (H) and the other is a neuraminidase (N). The H is responsible for allowing the virus to attach to a host. The N is responsible for allowing newly formed viruses, assembled in the host cell, to escape the cell.

So far there are 16 different Hs and 9 different Ns. These glycoproteins are used to type influenza viruses. Each virus has a single H type and a single N type and they can occur in any combination. There can be H1N1, H1N2, H1N3, H2N1, etc. To date, the bird flu virus that has been affecting humans in Asia is an H5N1.

More recently, however, a human

case of H7N4 has been confirmed in China. According to the Chinese authorities, a 68-year old female from Jiangsu Province developed symptoms December 25, 2017. She was admitted to the hospital and discharged on January 22. The testing of the virus involved confirmed her to have an H7N4 bird flu. It was confirmed that the woman had close contact with poultry prior to her infection. No people having close contact with her have displayed symptoms indicating it is not transferring human to human.

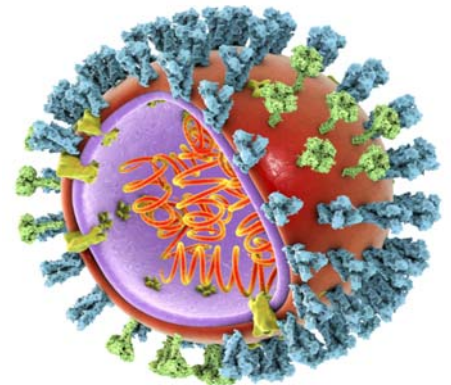
While this strain is NOT in the US, it is important to follow good biosecurity protocols and handle chickens with care.

Flock observation. Early detection is very important to stop the spread of the disease. Observe your flocks daily. Poultry infected with bird flu may show one or more signs of eating less, coughing, sneezing, nasal discharge, differences in egg production, lack of energy, swelling, purple discoloration, lack of coordination, diarrhea, depression, muscle tremors,

drooping wings, twisting of head and neck, inability to move, or sudden death.

Limit traffic. Contaminated clothing and equipment can spread avian influenza between poultry premises.

Unwanted critters. AI can be spread through the feces and bodily fluids of infected birds. Keep poultry from coming into direct contact with wild birds. Control rodents.





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2018 KPF MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The Kentucky Poultry Federation is your organization and the voice of the poultry industry in Kentucky. The KPF, however, needs your support and commitment to make it successful.

Membership includes access to Cheeps and Chirps, a newsletter offered via e-mail; a lobbyist in Frankfort to provide aggressive involvement in legislative action in regards to the security of the poultry industry in Kentucky; subscription to Poultry Times and Farmer's Pride as well as the Sunnyside, the KPF newsletter; eligibility for the environmental awards; and eligibility for scholarship for children or grandchildren of KPF members.

Membership dues for contract grower/producers is \$40.00. Membership dues should be paid by April 1. See the KPF website (www.kypoultry.org) for membership applications.

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