



Cheeps & Chirps

..... *Points for Poultry Profitability*

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NEW BIOSYSTEMS ENGINEERS JOINING UK

Morgan Hayes is joining the Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering at the University of Kentucky as an Extension Assistant Professor in July. She is excited to be returning to Kentucky and will be working in the area of livestock and poultry facilities. Her interests are ventilation design, heat stress management and resource (energy, fuel, and water) use on farms.



She received her B.S. in Agricultural Engineering from Pennsylvania State University. From 2006 to 2008 she completed her Master's degree here at the University of Kentucky where she worked on a project looking at blood flow in the ears of beef cattle.

Morgan then went to Iowa State University to attain a Ph.D. in Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering. Her research project evaluated an aviary style cage-free laying hen house considering factors like hen performance, hen energetics, air quality, energy and fuel use, welfare measures, and economics.

After completing her Ph.D., Morgan moved to Clay Center Nebraska to work for the USDA-ARS Meat Animal Research Center. While there she worked on projects measuring heat stress, reducing odors from manure, and determining swine heat and moisture production rates.

Since 2014, Morgan has been working for the University of Illinois. She had a 50% Extension and 50% Research appointment focused on livestock facilities and manure management, including projects measuring energy and water usage in barns, identifying heat stress in swine and evaluating the interaction of manure and cover crops.

Josh Jackson will be one of the new Livestock Systems Extension Specialists joining the Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering Department. His program will focus upon the development and implementation of geospatial tools for disease tracking and management, pasture quality assessments, livestock facility design, and drone use for livestock production.



Jackson completed his undergraduate and Master's degree in Animal Science at the University of Kentucky. His Master's work was performed under Dr. Matthews and analyzed the temporal blood response of steers consuming endophytic fescue.

From there, Jackson transitioned into the Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering (BAE) Department at the University of Kentucky for his Ph. D. work. His research under Dr. Montross was part of BAE's \$7 million BRDI grant. For this project, he evaluated the energy associated with mechanical densification and different preconditioning methods for various biomass materials. This research also focused upon GIS to access, analyze, and process geospatial data for precision agriculture practices. During this time, he also assisted in the georeferencing and visualization of poultry facilities for disease response maps.

After completing his doctoral program in 2015, he was awarded a NIFA post-doctoral grant to develop a rotational grazing tool for beef production within the southeast. This work sought to combine historical weather data, future weather predictions, soil characteristics, and associated grazing animal performance to predict the optimal grazing scheme.

The Veterinary Feed Directive—Changing the way producers obtained medicated feeds

As contract poultry producers medications are provided for your flocks through your integrator and their veterinarians. Many poultry producers also raise other livestock and the following article contains important information as it pertains to those animals. Never provide any medication or additive to your flock without integrator approval.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has issued a Judicious Use Guidance For Industry (GFI #209) regarding the appropriate use of antibiotics in feed. There are essentially two important principles that will change the way all livestock producers will obtain feeds containing antibiotics.

The first principle limits “medically important antimicrobial drugs” to uses in animals that are considered “necessary for assuring animal health”. These uses include the treatment, control, and prevention of disease, but do not include weight gain or feed efficiency.

The second principle states that the use of medically important antimicrobials will have veterinary oversight. This will be accomplished by changing previously labeled over-the counter (OTC) drugs used in feeds to Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) drugs.

VFD drugs are defined by FDA as “drugs intended for use in or on animal feed which are limited to use under the professional supervision of a licensed veterinarian”. This means for a producer to obtain a feed or mineral containing a VFD drug (for example-chlortetracycline in medicated mineral), a veterinarian must write a VFD order (similar to a prescription) for the feed mill to fill according to the drug label.

The rule was finalized on June 3, 2015 and may be found at:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2015/06/03/2015-13393/veterinary-feed-directive>

The Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) final rule requires veterinarians to issue all VFDs within the context of a veterinarian-client-patient-relationship (VCPR).

What does that mean? Basically the veterinarian assumes responsibility for making decisions regarding health problems in the herd; the veterinarian is familiar with the farming operation either by conducting patient

examinations or visits to the facility; and the veterinarian will provide any necessary follow-up evaluation and emergency care. A licensed veterinarian can issue a VFD if the order is for animals under his or her “supervision or oversight” and is in the course of his or her professional practice.

All guidelines are currently planned to take effect approximately December of 2016.

Medically Important Antimicrobials with Current Feed Labels:

- ⇒ Aminoglycosides-Gentamicin, Neomycin
- ⇒ Lincosamides-lincomycin
- ⇒ Macrolides-tylosin, erythromycin, tilmicosin (Pulmotil® already requires a VFD in both swine and cattle)
- ⇒ Penicillin (natural)-Penicillin G included in combination products
- ⇒ Streptogramins-virginiamycin
- ⇒ Sulfonamides-sulfamethazine, sulfaquinoxaline
- ⇒ Tetracyclines-chlortetracycline (aureomycin), oxytetracycline (terramycin), tetracycline
- Phenicol-florfenicol

Antimicrobials Not considered medically important so will not require a VFD:

- ⇒ Ionophores-monensin (Rumensin®), lasolcid (Bovatec®)
- ⇒ Flavophospholipol-bambermycins (Gainpro, Flavomycin)
- ⇒ Bacitracin
- ⇒ Pleuromutilins-Tiamulin (Swine)

What information goes on the VFD form?

- ⇒ Veterinarian’s name, address, and phone number [License number is not required];
- ⇒ Client’s name, address, and phone number;
- ⇒ Premises/Location where animals specified in the VFD are located;
- ⇒ Species and production class of animals to be fed the VFD feed;
- ⇒ The approximate number of animals to be fed the VFD feed by the expiration date of the VFD;
- ⇒ Date the VFD order is issued and expiration date of order;
- ⇒ The final rule allows the veterinarian to issue a VFD order authorizing access to the drug for up to 6 months except when the expiration is specified on the label.

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Veterinary Feed Directive, *continued*

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- ⇒ Name of VFD drug (pioneer or generic) and the indication for which the VFD is issued;
- ⇒ Level of drug in the feed and duration of use;
- ⇒ Withdrawal time;
- ⇒ Any special instructions and caution statements;
- ⇒ Number of refills (reorders) permitted by the drug's approval regulation and only if the label explicitly permits them;

Currently, there are no approved VFD drugs that allow refills or reorders. The following statement must be included: "Use of feed containing this veterinary feed directive (VFD) drug in a manner other than as directed on the labeling (extralabel use) is not permitted."

An affirmation of intent to combine VFD drugs with other drugs (for example, if using Rumensin (monensin) in the VFD feed, must include this information).

- ⇒ Veterinarian's electronic or written signature
- ⇒ The veterinarian may enter more information on the VFD to more specifically identify the animals authorized to be fed the VFD feed if desired.

Once completed, the veterinarian is required to keep the original VFD (in hardcopy or electronically) and the distributor and producer must keep a copy of the VFD (in hardcopy or electronically) for 2 years. Verbal communication of a VFD is not allowed but electronic or hard copies of the order are acceptable.

Why is veterinary oversight necessary?

Developing strategies for reducing antimicrobial resistance is critically important for protecting both public and animal health. Based on the available scientific evidence, FDA believes the use of antimicrobial drugs in feed should involve the scientific and clinical training of a licensed veterinarian. However, it is important to remember that VFD drugs used in any fashion different than stated on the label (drug level, species, or indications for use) is strictly prohibited by law for veterinarians and producers alike.

By Michelle Arnold, DVM (UKVDL)

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS

The Kentucky Poultry Federation is looking for graduating High School seniors (Spring 2016) or enrolled students who are attending a college, university, or technical training program to be recipients of the 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 KPF 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 2016 KPF 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 three 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. If you are not eligible, please do not apply. This application can be found on-line at:

www.kypoultry.org

The award winners will be announced at our 18th Annual Kentucky Poultry Festival Hall of Fame Banquet on Saturday, October 8, 2016 at the Galt House, Louisville, Kentucky.

For consideration in the scholarship competition all Application Packets must electronically submitted by **Thursday, June 30, 2016**. No exceptions will be made.





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STORM PREPAREDNESS

Tuesday, May 10, severe storms rolled into the Ohio Valley. At least 10 people were hurt when a tornado hit Western Kentucky. A number of homes and businesses, including five poultry houses (no chicken in at time), were destroyed near the town of Mayfield. Our thoughts are with the people of Graves County as they are recovering from the storm.

Tornadoes such as the one that hit Mayfield can hit unexpectedly at this time of year. It is important to be prepared for severe weather. Keeping up with general house maintenance will help reduce structural damage to the house. This includes things such as repairs to torn curtains as well as loose metal siding and roofs or fixtures.

Having a generator is a must since power outages can occur during a storm. Have all fuel tanks full with extra fuel for generators, tractors, chainsaws, etc. Have extra batteries and charge the cell phone.

Flying debris can cause damage to the house. Make sure all equipment is stored and secured. Take shelter in a safe building. Have a plan to contact family members and employees after a storm.

Whether you use your company's plan or develop your own, the most important point is to have and use a plan. Be Prepared!

What do you want to read about?

We want to know what you want to read about. Please e-mail topics of interest to Jacquie.jacob@uky.edu

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