

ALABAMA POULTRY

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ALABAMA POULTRY & EGG ASSOCIATION



DANIELLE BRADBERRY
Don't believe me, ask me



MICHAEL RAY
Amos



Your 2019 Evening of Fun Lineup

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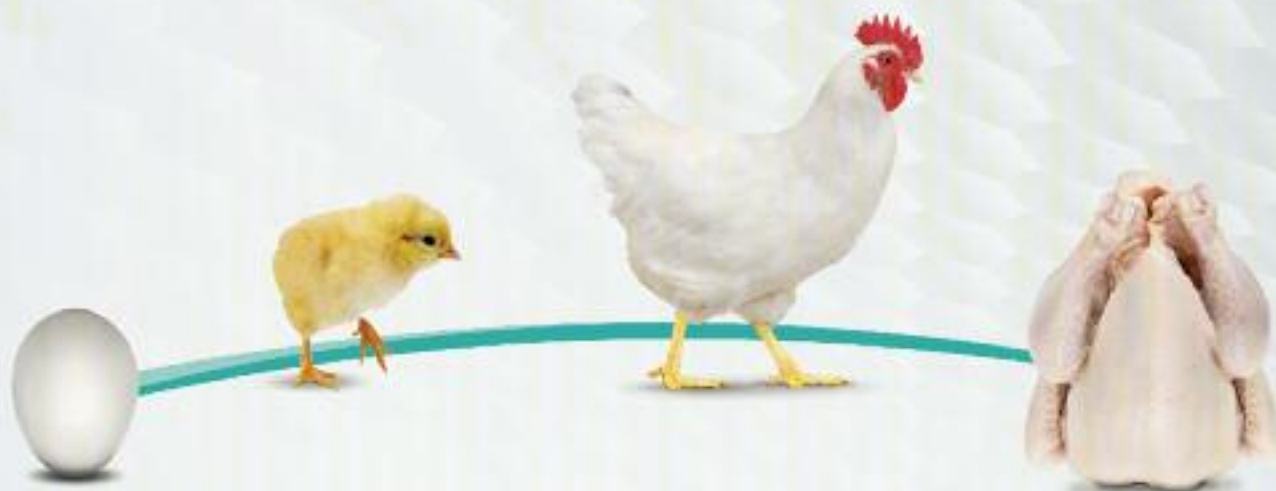
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Fifty-two years ago, on a bitterly cold January 14, Alabama inaugurated its first woman governor, Lurleen Wallace. This January 14, on the same kind of raw cold day, we celebrated the inauguration of our second female governor, Kay Ivey. Congratulations, Governor Ivey!

Gov. Ivey has always been very supportive of Alabama agriculture and the poultry industry, and we look forward to working with her.

Congratulations also to our new Commissioner of Agriculture & Industries Rick Pate. We look forward to working with Commissioner Pate and his staff on the many issues facing Alabama agriculture.

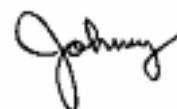
We are pleased to announce our headliners for the 2019 *Evening of Fun* to be held on Saturday, June 15, in the Concert Hall of the Birmingham-Jefferson Convention Complex. Both of our entertainers have been nominated for top new male and female talents by the Academy of Country Music. Michael Ray, has had two number one hits "Kiss You in the Morning" and "Think a Little Less." Our second headliner, Danielle Bradbery, got her start winning Season 4 of NBC's *The Voice*. She has just released her sophomore album *I Don't Believe We've Met*.

A crowd favorite, the fantastic Red Bay High School FFA String Band will also be performing, so start making plans to attend. Tickets will be on sale in the next few weeks.

A hearty congratulations to two true movers and shakers in the Alabama poultry industry, Dan Smalley and Ben Gore, on being inducted into the Alabama Agriculture Hall of Honor.

There is a great deal of excitement in the air with the upcoming dedication of the Charles C. Miller Jr. Poultry Research & Education Center at Auburn University, on April 10. The administration/visitor center will house classrooms, a state-of-the-art conference room and the Alabama Poultry Hall of Fame. A processing facility and additional testing house will also be built. Auburn University trustees recently approved an additional \$22 million to complete the new research facility.

AP&EA President and Poultry Research Unit Director Mitchell Pate has done an outstanding job in working with architects, designers, engineers and builders to ensure that the administration building and research facilities will be a point of pride for the Auburn University department of poultry science and the entire Alabama poultry industry.



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Kay Ivey Becomes 2nd Woman Elected Governor

MONTGOMERY – On a cold and blustery January 14, Gov. Kay Ivey took the oath of office to become only the second female governor in Alabama history.

Congratulations, Gov. Ivey!



Lt. Governor Will Ainsworth



Attorney General Steve Marshall



Auditor Jim Ziegler



Secretary of State John Merrill

Commissioner of Ag & Industries Rick Pate



Treasurer John McMillan

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF ALABAMA POULTRY & EGG ASSOCIATION, INC. (the “Association”)

In accordance with Section 2 (“Notice of Meetings”) of Article III (“Membership Meetings”), and Article XI (“Amendments”), of the Bylaws of the Association, notice is hereby given to all members of the Association of a special meeting of its members called in accordance with Section 1 (“Meetings”) of said Article III, and said Article XI, of the Bylaws of the Association, by order of the President and not less than two-fifths of the directors of the Association to be held at the offices of the Association located at 465 South Bainbridge Street, Montgomery, Alabama 36104 at 11:00 a.m. on April 11, 2019. The purpose of the special meeting of members is to consider, and to vote on, the amendment to Article IV (“Board of Directors”) of the Bylaws of the Association set forth below, which amendment was adopted by the unanimous vote of the directors of the Association at the December 13, 2018 meeting of said Board of Directors. In summary, the proposed amendment to the Bylaws of the Association provides that the directors representing the Grower segment of the Association are to be elected in the same manner as the remaining directors of the Association (other than the director representing the feed and grain industry) are elected as set forth in the second unnumbered paragraph of Section 8 (“Election of Directors”) of said Article IV), i.e., nominations shall be made by the Association’s Nominating Committee, all voting members of the Association shall be allowed an opportunity to make additional nominations, and the resulting nominees shall be voted on by the voting members of the Association at the annual meeting of the Association.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

ARTICLE IV (“BOARD OF DIRECTORS”) of the Bylaws is amended by deleting the first unnumbered paragraph of Section 8 (“Election of Directors”), and substituting the following in lieu thereof:

The director representing the feed and grain industry shall be designated by the board of directors of the association of the feed and grain industry where one exists. Where no such association exists, the director representing the feed and grain industry shall be elected in the manner provided in the following paragraphs of this Section 8 for the election of the remaining directors (other than those serving because of the office they hold) of the Association.



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AP&EA "Big Bass" Open

May 10, 2019

- ♦ Tournament to be held on Lake Guntersville, in Guntersville, Ala.
- ♦ Boats will be launched from the twin boat ramps behind Outlaw Steak Restaurant just off of Highway 431.
- ♦ Registration is \$30 per person. This includes entry fee, prizes and favors.
- ♦ All proceeds will go to the Alabama Poultry Trust.
- ♦ Tournament sponsored by AP&EA's VIP sponsorship members.
- ♦ Controlled Start at 5:30 a.m.
- ♦ All boats must be back by 12:30 p.m. *Boats more than 15 minutes late will not be allowed to weigh their fish.*
- ♦ Please try to keep as many fish alive as possible.
- ♦ Sandwiches will be served immediately after the tournament for fishermen. *Sponsored by American Proteins.*

Prizes: Each prize winner will receive a cash prize.

Big Fish: Largest Fish Weighed – \$1,000 - Sponsored by California Pellet Mills

1st Place: Total Team Weight – \$500 per team	4th Place: Total Team Weight – \$100 per team
2nd Place: Total Team Weight – \$240 per team	5th Place: Total Team Weight – \$ 80 per team
3rd Place: Total Team Weight – \$140 per team	6th Place: Total Team Weight – \$ 60 per team

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2. Must furnish own boat and equipment.
3. Maximum of two (2) people per boat (team).
4. Live wells must be checked before launch.
5. Must abide by all Alabama Boating Safety Laws:
valid boat sticker, life vests, fire extinguisher, etc. | 6. Must abide by all Alabama Game & Fishing
Laws: valid fishing license, etc.
7. All fish weighed must be 15 inches in length or
longer to qualify for weighing.
8. Only bass will count toward weight.
9. Limit 5 fish per boat.
10. Artificial bait only. |
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(Detach and Return)

AP&EA "Big Bass" Open – May 10, 2019

() Please enter me in the AP&EA "Big Bass" Open.

Registration: \$30 per person

Boat Owner _____ Company/Farm _____
 Address _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Team Member _____ Company/Farm _____
 Address _____ Phone _____ Email _____

() Check enclosed \$ _____ () Bill me \$ _____ () Credit Card \$ _____

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Name _____ Company/Farm _____
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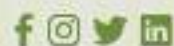
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Michael Starling, Member in Henry County



Once again the AP&EA “Evening of Fun” Golf Tournament will be held at the RTJ Silver Lakes Golf Course in Glencoe on Friday, May 17.

Set on rolling terrain at the edge of Talladega National Forest between Anniston and Gadsden, Silver Lakes is home to some of the most scenic golf you can find. The Heartbreaker nine is dubbed by many as the most challenging nine on the Trail from the championship tees. Consider the eighth hole, a par 3 that plays over 200 yards across water and uphill to the green, or the 450 yard par 4 ninth with water rippling down the entire left side of the hole. The beauty of Silver Lakes is the multiple tee selections (up to 12 on some holes).

The Backbreaker nine is a photog-

rapher’s dream and a golfer’s nightmare, boasting beautiful views of the Appalachian foothills from its elevated tees. The par 5 seventh, a 623 yard thriller (466 from the novice tees), brings water into play not once, but twice.

The Mindbreaker, although a tad easier than the other two, demands shot-making at its finest.

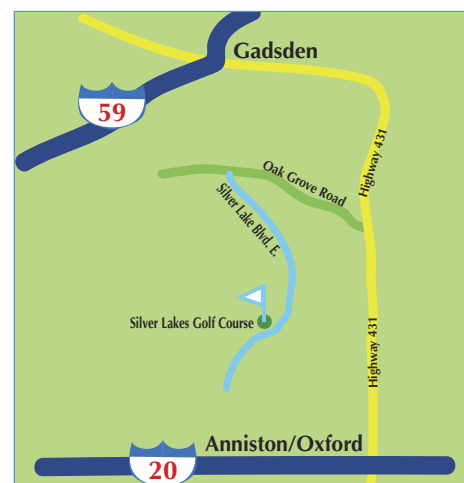
So get your registrations in ASAP, because you definitely don’t want to miss this opportunity.

For questions about the golf tournament, other than registration, call Casey Jones, chairman, at 608-780-5154

COURSE DIRECTIONS

From Gadsden on I-59 take the US Hwy. 431 South exit. Travel 15.5 miles

to Oak Grove Road. Turn right on Oak Grove and travel approximately 1 mile to the Silver Lakes residential entrance on the left. Turn left into residential community and follow entrance road to clubhouse (approximately 1 mile).



List handicap. Only one-half of entry fee is refundable if the tournament is canceled due to an “Act of God” or some other unforeseeable difficulty. This year’s tournament will be a handicap scramble with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. Lunch will be served afterwards. Range balls are included. Entry Fee: \$120 per person, includes two mulligans. No refund if canceled after May 9, 2019.

Name	Company	Address	Handicap
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Invoice To: NAME _____	COMPANY/FARM _____
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More was perking at Aviagen besides the coffee.



These gentlemen have seen a few IPPEs between them.



Boehringer Ingelheim was bustling.

Like the Super Bowl, the International Production and Processing Expo (IPPE) gets bigger and bigger. This year, all three cavernous halls of the Georgia World Congress Center were stuffed with more than 1,400 exhibitors. With the exception of Antarctica, every continent was represented by the more than 30,000 visitors streaming through the gates to walk the 600,000 square feet of displays.

Hall A was for animal feed equipment and ingredients. Hall B was for meat and poultry processing and packing equipment. Hall C was reserved for live production, egg production and genetics. And, if that was not enough, most every corridor was filled with displays. Auburn University department of poultry science and other college poultry programs had booths on the mezzanine between Hall A and Hall B.

In the midst of it all, there were educational events, called TECHTalks, with approximately 70 offered each day. These talks were led by IPPE exhibitors who shared their expertise on the topic of the session.

In addition to the TECHTalks, more than 200 hours of educational programs and workshops were held. They focused on the latest technology in equipment, food safety, consumer trends, animal agriculture sustainability, regulatory compliance, animal welfare, business management, biosecurity and best management practices.

There were also food prep demonstrations, including beef and pork cutting and cooking. Several of the chefs demonstrated their techniques for keeping their knives sharp. On Wednesday, IPPE brought in a number of Atlanta's best chefs for further demonstrations as they prepared some of their favorite recipes.

Many of the younger poultry company employees participated in the IPPE 30 Under 30 Program for young



HAARSLEV once again had the hottest car.

professionals who normally would not have the financial resources or opportunity to attend IPPE. The goal of the program is to invest in young professionals between the ages of 21 and 29 who work for companies actively involved in the processing and production of poultry, meat or feed. It exposes them to the latest in technology and allows them to attend educational programs to assist these young leaders to develop into the future leaders of their industries. There is also a program to bring poultry growers to Atlanta, so they can learn about the new technology.

Not only are the young professionals given special treatment, so too are the college students. The College Student Career Program brings together hundreds of bright and eager college poultry science students and prospective employers in the poultry industry. Whether the students are seeking undergraduate level internships or graduating seniors looking to land their first career building position, the College Student Career Program facilitates mutually beneficial interaction between the students and industry employers.

Walking the halls, one saw commerce everywhere. Primary breeders Aviagen, Cobb and Hubbard were packed. Automation demonstrations were going on at a breakneck speed. Tables with sellers and buyers huddled around laptops were everywhere. Deals in dollars, yen, ryals, Euros, dinars – whatever the currency, deals were being made. On the floor, there was an air of electricity.

That electricity continued into the night hours as vendors and buyers and potential buyers rubbed elbows at the various social gatherings around Atlanta. IPPE held a welcoming gala at the Georgia Aquarium on the opening night. International Paper held a customer appreciation event at the Marriott Marquis that night as well. Cobb hosted a huge event on the second night.

With all that was going on, you might think the Super Bowl had come back to town.



CEVA went all out, even the electronic display changed



ChemStation was working in their new and improved booth.



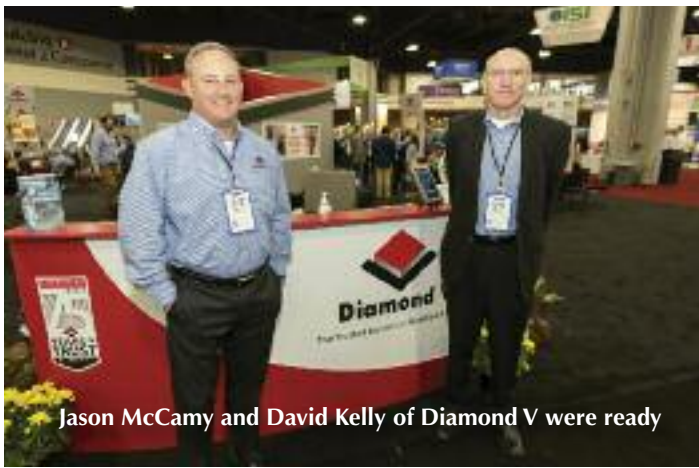
The laptops were out at Cobb. Looks like a deal going down.



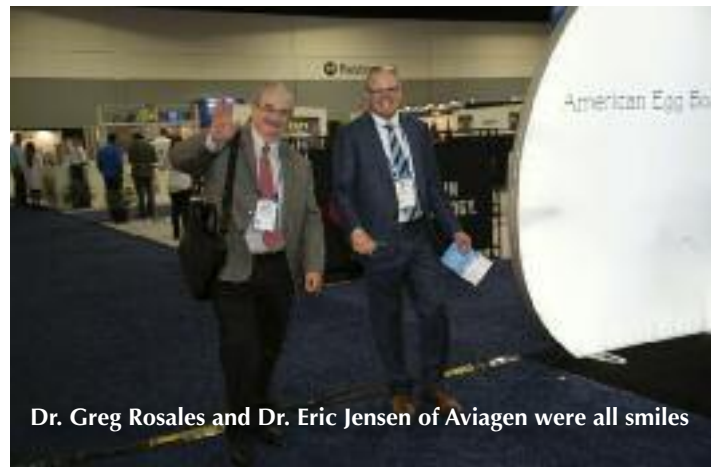
Gene Pledger was out in front of the D&F Equipment Sales booth that he designed.



Cumberland is really high on their Edge Controllers.



Jason McCamy and David Kelly of Diamond V were ready



Dr. Greg Rosales and Dr. Eric Jensen of Aviagen were all smiles



The folks at Ecodrum were stepping up their game



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Students Talk About IPPE and Internships

A couple of weeks after coming back from IPPE, I got the opportunity to sit down with three Auburn poultry science seniors, scheduled to graduate in December 2019, to chat about their experiences at IPPE. Each had interviewed for summer internships, and had served previous internships.

They each began by uploading their resumes to the IPPE website before Thanksgiving in 2018. Tyler Easterwood, of Woodland, says that he got a call from Cobb in early January to schedule an interview. It was the only interview that he wanted. He had served an internship with Pilgrim's in Carrollton, Ga., last summer on the live side, working the full spectrum of live production, but in Atlanta, he got his wish to work with a primary breeder.

In many ways it is a dream internship. He got hooked on genetics his freshman year, he says, working in the micro-biology lab with Dr. Ken Macklin. Should Cobb offer him a job, he would not be disappointed.

Tanner Quick, of Cullman, originally wanted to go into agricultural communications, but decided to go into poultry science instead. She interned last summer with Pilgrim's Enterprise, working in live production. Like Tyler, she got the full experience of working with breeders and broilers. She also did some trouble shooting, creating spread sheets to track eggs and monitor hatches to diagnose some issues in the hatchery. This summer, she'll be interning with ALFA, working with their information department. She will be helping set up for conferences and working on some of ALFA's publications.

She says that the interview process was hectic, with a lot of interviews scheduled. She remembers interviewing with a number of companies that did not offer her internships, but shared wonderful information with her.

In five years she sees herself being involved in a company's social media efforts, directed at consumers. She feels that the biggest push in social media should be directed towards the product's end users in an effort to educate those consumers and to negate the effects of negative social media. One of her ideas is to see poultry companies using QR codes on point-of-sale packaging, so that the buyer can get to know the back story about how the product was grown and processed.

Her advice to women, or anyone, attending IPPE – ***Wear comfortable shoes!***

Seth Delgado, recipient of the Wayne & Nadine McElrath Poultry Scholarship, got his start in the poultry business at an early age, working with his father who works with J&R Lumber in Ashville building poultry houses. Seth started out as your basic "gopher," doing odd jobs and fetching tools. After graduating from high school, he organized a group of his friends into a poultry house clean out crew. He did that full-time for a year and a half and then part-time after entering Snead State Community College. It was there that he decided to major in poultry production at Auburn University.

During his first internship, he worked with Koch Foods in Collinsville. Part of that internship was spent in Dalton, Ga., working with breeder and broiler techs. He also spent time in the hatchery. He has several internship offers pending for this summer. He wants to go into live production management.

The three students all expressed satisfaction with the experience of going to Atlanta. The Auburn Poultry Science Club held a dinner for the 17 undergraduates and one graduate student who made the trip at the Chop House in the Atlanta Braves Stadium. The next night they went to the Cobb event at the Marriott Marquis. Some participated in the educational programs.

Beside the recommendation for comfortable shoes, they stressed the need for each student to thoroughly research the companies that they would interview with. And, not to be afraid of approaching people in the various booths with questions about their companies.



Tanner Quick



Tyler Easterwood



Seth Delgado

ACM “New Male Artist of the Year” and “New Female Artists of the Year” Nominees to Headline 2019 AP&EA *Evening of Fun*

Michael Ray

Michael Ray loves a good story. So, it's only natural that when it came time to tell his own, he gravitated to country music.

“I feel like in music in general, but especially in country music, the story lines have always been the foundation,” he says. “No matter what changes may happen with the sound, I feel like when you listen to a song, no matter what walk of life you come from, you can really lose yourself in that song and put your own story to it.”

Get to You

The small-town Florida native began to tell his tale on his 2015 self-titled debut album and scored two number one hits with “Kiss You in the Morning” and “Think a Little Less.” His dynamic sophomore album, “Amos,” named for his grandfather and produced by the legendary Scott Hendricks (Alan Jackson, Faith Hill, Blake Shelton) picks up where that record left off, combining the vintage sounds he absorbed growing up with a contemporary polish that puts him at the forefront of a class of fresh young voices.

Ray runs the emotional gamut on “Amos,” from vulnerable ballads to boot-stomping rockers, showcasing a musical and vocal dexterity he has long admired in heroes like Tim McGraw and Keith Urban.

First single “Get to You” is a heartfelt plea for making a relationship work that utilizes Ray’s impressive vocal range, moving from a ruminative baritone to a tender falsetto croon. “Her World or Mine,” the album’s emotional centerpiece, breaks down the universal emotions of a break-up in heartbreaking and incisive detail. He turns up the tempo and the temperature with the pithy rocker “You’re On” and offers a slinky slice of wordplay with the whim-



sical “Fan Girl,” giving “Amos” a diverse feel that retains a cohesive whole.

Her World or Mine

Ray can’t remember a time without music. Growing up in Eustis, he was surrounded by several generations of his extended family singing and playing songs. “My grandfather would sit around and teach me and my cousins how to play and sing harmony,” Ray recalls with a smile. “He wanted to put a guitar in everybody’s hand.”

Amos eventually formed a family band with Ray’s dad called the Country Cousins who played festivals and parties all through central Florida. Which is how Ray found himself steeped in the likes of Ray Price, Merle Haggard, George Jones, Loretta Lynn, Dolly Par-

ton, and Jeanie Seely and onstage “when I was literally old enough to just be able to stand.”

At age 10, after beginning to learn guitar, Ray says, “I started playing every Thursday through Sunday with my grandfather in groups he was in. I learned a lot that I didn’t know would help me where I’m at now.”

As he practiced, he began to take in the influence of a disparate group of contemporary artists, including everyone from Garth Brooks to Green Day. He was hooked and knew what he needed to do. “I switched my high school schedule so I could play bars and stuff on the weekends,” he says, and his grandfather backed him every step of the way. “He knew that I wanted to take it further than just playing bars and stuff

in the hometown.”

And he did, beginning a several year stretch of paying his dues playing all around Florida and eventually expanding out to Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama and the Carolinas while picking up work teaching guitar lessons and installing phones. In between covers, from Keith Whitley to Snoop Dogg, Ray would slip in originals, building a name for himself as both a songwriter and performer.

Fortunately, Amos was able to enjoy some of his grandson’s success. “Florida radio was playing some of our stuff, so it was really cool for him to be able to hear that,” he says. “He sadly passed away two months before my Opry debut, but the Opry was kind enough to let me play ‘Green, Green Grass of Home,’ a Porter Wagoner song I used to play with him and I used the guitar that he played for 60 years.”

“I feel like this album is a big reflection of the last two years,” says Michael of the time between his debut and “Amos,” as he’s toured, recorded and enjoyed a taste of success. “I feel like I found my voice. And when I’m asked what made me get to this point, if you peel back all the layers it goes back to my grandfather.”

Fan Girl

Ultimately for Ray, every song on “Amos” was processed through a filter of what it means for his live show, the place where he connects with his fans. Everything he learned from years of playing solo acoustic shows, bar band gigs and packed arenas opening for other acts has been poured into the time that he spends on stage—“That was my college,” he says. He takes a meticulous approach to crafting the night to maximize the connection between himself and the fans.

“A live show is a give and take from both ends. There’s just this big tornado that takes everybody away from whatever’s going on in their life, and just puts them in that moment. I believe when you’re an artist of any sort, it’s your job to make sure that tornado keeps its wind going all the way up to the very end of the show, so everybody goes, ‘What the hell happened? What a great night! We gotta go back and bring more people.’ I say it every night, ‘Tonight’s about making memories. We’ll take this night with us for the rest of our lives. Let’s keep it going and make it something unforgettable.’”

With the songs from “Amos” added to his arsenal, he is in a strong position to make good on that promise.

Danielle Bradbery

Twenty-one-year-old, multi-faceted artist, Danielle Bradbery, has stepped into her own lane with sophomore album *I Don’t Believe We’ve Met*, out now on BLMG Records. As the title suggests, Bradbery re-introduced herself after taking time since her debut LP to focus on the writ-



ing process and, for the first time, infusing her own story into her songs – penning seven of the album’s 10 tracks. Lead single “Swat” perfectly infused her R&B, soul and country influences, while empowering follow-up anthem “Worth It” led to national TV performances of the emotional tune on NBC’s TODAY and *The Voice*. Now, Bradbery returns to radio airwaves with “Goodbye Summer,” a fresh take on album cut “Hello Summer” with Thomas Rhett adding a male perspective to the seasonal story of love and heartbreak. The Texas native has worked on fine-tuning her unique sound since getting her start winning Season 4 of NBC’s *The Voice* and was nominated this year for ACM New Female Vocalist of the Years. She is currently touring fairs and festivals around the country.

You can see them both on Saturday, June 15. Ticket sales just began, so start making plans.

Remember, kids 18 and under get in with a paid adult.



Koch Foods

Ray Hilburn and I recently got the opportunity to see first-hand the new expansion to Koch Foods Montgomery.

We started first at Koch Foods' newly expanded processing plant, located in south Montgomery. They have recently undergone a dramatic expansion, adding 141,868 square feet to the existing plant. This is a new deboning facility, consisting of a process area; support area; box warehouse; dirty/clean tote area; cooler/dock area; box mezzanine; and employee welfare office.

It is also obvious that Koch Foods has made a major commitment to their employee relations. This concern for employee welfare can easily be seen in the new spacious and well lighted break-rooms and easy access lockers for each worker.

Senior Vice President Matthew Herman, Vice President Dennis Gordon, Complex Manager Rod Thomas

and Plant Manager Johnny Gill took us on a tour of the new facilities. We first toured one of the bright comfortable employee break rooms with adjoining locker room, where cleanliness is the order of the day, as it is in the rest of the plant. This attention to employee morale is a real boost for the 1,200 Koch team members at the plant.

Travelling through the plant we first visited one of the boiler rooms where methane gas, a bi-product of the waste water lagoon is used to fuel the boilers.

On the deboning lines big birds are hand deboned for white meat and thigh meat while generating whole wings or wing segments. Small birds are also hand deboned for white meat while generating whole wings and segments. The small birds are also cut for the fast food industry into eight pieces or sized as whole birds.

The plant processes 874,000 small birds and 674,000 big birds a week.



To unload a 3,800 bushel railcar in six minutes, you have to shake things up.

Goes Big – Very Big!



The Koch Foods Montgomery deboning line handles 1,548,000 chickens a week, in a safe and clean environment.

Shipping is handled through the new distribution center, kept to a chilly 28 degrees. There are spaces for 1,140 pallet spaces. The plant ships 130 truck loads weekly to customers.

The new 150,000 square foot deboning lines and distribution center became operational in November 2017. With the new welfare area for the processing plant opening in 2018.

We next visited Koch's new feed mill in Hope Hull, where we were met by Scott Barnes, live production manager and Feed Mill Manager John James. They showed us around, and explained that Koch Foods has made a major commitment in resources to support their operations in central Alabama. Those operations include: six pullet producers, with 33 houses; 20 hatching egg producers, with 68 houses in five counties; and 114 broiler producers with 520 houses in seven counties.

At the feed mill they make five different pullet/breeder formulas and three different broiler formulas.

The expansion began with the opening of the new feed mill in April 2018, the feed mill produces an average of 9,000 tons a week. By truck or rail, each week 175,000 bushels of corn and 2,000 tons of soybean meal come in weekly. The high speed grain unloading system can unload a 90 car unit train of corn in 10 hours or a 3,800 bushel car in six minutes. The feed mill has a 1,000,000 bushel storage capacity, and 3,000 tons of finished feed storage.

The 100 percent pelletized feed is delivered 24 hours a day, five days a week on 11 feed haul trailers. On average, the distance from the mill to the farm and back is 85 miles.

Congratulations to Koch Foods on such an outstanding operation.



Plant Manager Johnny Gill with a methane fueled boiler.



There is pallet space for 1,140 pallets in this 28 degree room.



Everything to the left of the blue facade is the new deboning plant.



Every plant worker gets an individual locker in a clean space.



Every week 130 loaded trucks leave this loading dock

Expo Season Starts Early in Dothan

The season for career expos started early this year as World of Works Wiregrass kicked off on Feb. 20-21, at the National Peanut Festival Grounds in Dothan. Ray and I set up our display in a large tent beside Wayne Farms' display, and along with other agricultural industries and a "Go Build Alabama" display.

The first day we fought the wind and cold, the next day it was heat. Still we were able to talk to eighth graders from all over the Wiregrass. As a part of the presentation, we introduced them to a hand-and-eye coordination test involving putting pegs in a peg board. It is a test employed by several poultry processors to determine who has the skills to work on a processing line.

This is the first in a series of career events that will allow us to get in front of thousands of Alabama students who will very shortly be making career de-



cisions. Our goal is to make sure that they at least get some exposure to the industry that feeds the world. It also gives us an opportunity to reach out to teachers, guidance counselors, and

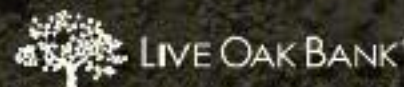
sometimes parents.

Even though we might talk to a thousand students, to see the light come on in a student's eyes about the poultry industry makes it worthwhile.



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Dan Smalley and Ben Gore Inducted Into Alabama Ag Hall of Honor

On Thursday night, Feb. 7, two very special members of the Alabama poultry family were inducted into the Alabama Agriculture Hall of Honor at the annual banquet at the Auburn Marriott Opelika Hotel & Conference Center. Dan Smalley, a retired poultry grower from Marshall County and past president of the Alabama Poultry & Egg Association, and Ben Gore, the retired CEO of Alabama Farm Credit, were both honored for their contribution to the success of Alabama agriculture.

Also honored were with John Jensen, a leader in aquaculture, William I. Etheridge Jr., a leader in the dairy industry and the late Roy N. Hereford Jr., an auctioneer, who won the Pioneer Award 2019.

Dan, after starting Red Hill Farms in Arab, built it into the largest broiler

farm in Alabama at that time, with 16 houses at its peak. He has also been very active with Alabama 4-H, and has perviously been inducted to the 4-H Wall of Fame.

Dan wasn't able to attend, but his nephew, Wes Kitchens, accepted on his behalf. Dan video taped his acceptance speech.

Named CEO of Alabama Ag Credit

in 2009, Ben Gore, upon his retirement after 42 years in the ag finance business, says his career has been rewarding because of the ways in which it enabled him to help farming families and grow the poultry industry in Alabama.

Congratulations, to Dan and to Ben. The industry has been enriched by your service and outstanding leadership. You are both truly worthy of this honor.



Dan's nephew, Rep. Wes Kitchens, accepted his award.

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For more information and details, contact Randall Smith

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Aviagen Sponsors Grain Bin Rescue Wall

Sponsorship furthers company's goal to support local farmers

HUNTSVILLE – At the 2019 Alabama Feed and Grain Association (AFGA) Grain Expo on Jan. 19, Aviagen® joined five local companies in sponsoring grain bin rescue walls, marketed under the name, “the Great Wall of Rescue.” AFGA will present the six walls to a local fire rescue squad to assist in grain bin rescue operations.

According to a 2013 report from researchers at Purdue University in Indiana, more than 900 cases of grain entrapment were reported across the U.S., with a fatality rate of 62 percent in the past 50 years (www.osha.gov/news/newsreleases/region7/06202013-0).

Suffocation from grain entrapment is a risk for people working in and around grain storage facilities. A U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration

(OSHA) fact sheet on grain storage bins states that “flowing grain acts like quicksand and can bury a person in seconds.”

Aviagen's Director of Feed Production Richard Obermeyer, who is a member of the AFGA's board of directors, says that the danger may be most prevalent for smaller, local farmers who lack commercial safety procedures and resources.

“Aviagen is committed to the people in local communities where we do business. We purchase all of our grain from local farmers, and donating a rescue wall presented a chance for us to give back, and maybe in doing so, help to save a life someday,” added Obermeyer.



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Cumberland Launches New Products at IPPE

ASSUMPTION, Ill. – Three new technologies for improved efficiency and performance in poultry production environments were introduced by Cumberland Poultry at the 2019 International Production & Processing Expo in Atlanta.

EDGE Controller with scenario mode

Cumberland's enhanced EDGE controller with new scenario mode makes temporary changes to environmental controls in poultry production facilities easy and efficient. Scenario mode allows a group of functions, such as fans, inlets and lights, to be temporarily reset by operators using a "virtual" switch without having to reprogram the controller. It can also be engaged by other poultry house employees, unfamiliar with the controller, simply by using a physical push button that activates predefined settings for a specific situation. In contrast, most control sys-

tems require employees to manually reset each environmental control individually, using individual buttons or switches, and then manually turn them off to return to standard settings.


"The drawback of manual resetting is that operators can sometimes forget to return to normal mode, which means that poultry production environments may not be optimal until standard settings are restored. And if an operator is away from the farm, without remote access, that entails the inconvenience of having to return to disengage the reset control," Brian Rieck, Cumberland Poultry product manager, said.

He said the EDGE system can be activated and deactivated remotely from any Internet-connected device, providing convenience and peace of mind when operators are away from the farm. In addition, minimum and maximum bird age, time of day and outside temperature can be specified to prevent a scenario from being activated when un-

desirable conditions exist.

The EDGE controller handles all of the operational functions in single or multi-poultry house production environments. Producers can monitor and manage ventilation, cooling, heating, feeding and lighting systems from a single controller using one interface. It can be installed in new construction or as an upgrade to a current facility, integrating a wide variety of components into a single, efficient system.

Cumberland also showcased new ventilation products for poultry houses including rack and pinion tunnel doors and a new continuous air inlet.



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Nutrient Content and Composition of Poultry Litter

► Poultry litter can be a nutritionally rich fertilizer for forages and row crops. But not all litter is created equal. Learn the benefits of litter and the factors that cause variations in nutrient content.

The poultry industry in Alabama is comprised primarily of broiler production. Hence, broiler litter is the number one poultry waste generated in the state. With escalating fertilizer prices, farmers are developing a renewed interest in litter for its nutrient value.

Litter is considered a soil builder because it helps to improve soil organic matter content of highly weathered soils. It also improves soil microbial activity and helps to increase overall soil health. However, the nutrient content of litter can be extremely variable.

What Is Poultry Waste Made Up Of?

Poultry litter coming from broiler houses is typically comprised of chicken feces and urine mixed with bedding materials (figure 1). Some common bedding materials used in broiler houses are sawdust, pine shavings, and peanut hulls. The litter may also contain feathers and spilled feed but usually in very small amounts. The poultry waste coming from layer hen houses consists of chicken feces and urine.



What Nutrients Are Typically Present in Broiler Litter?

Broiler litter contains 11 essential plant nutrients (table 1). The amount of nutrients provided depends on the nutrient content of the litter and the amount applied.

The Auburn University Soil Testing Laboratory can provide a detailed analysis of the nutrient content of poultry litter. It is critical that a representative sample be collected in order to receive the most accurate results. Contact your county Extension office for more information or go to the AU Soil Laboratory website at: www.aces.edu/anr/soillab/forms/index.php.

Table 1: Nutrients Typically Present in Broiler Litter		
Primary Plant Nutrients.	Secondary Plant Nutrients	Micronutrients
Nitrogen (N)	Calcium (Ca)	Copper (Cu)
Phosphorus (P ₂ O ₅)	Magnesium (Mg)	Iron (Fe)
Potassium (K ₂ O)	Sulfur (S)	Manganese (Mn)
		Zinc (Zn)
		Boron (B)



Figure 1. Broiler litter inside a poultry mega-house (left) and caked litter stored in a dry-stack barn (right)

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Boost Performance with Transitional Ventilation

The warm days and cool nights of spring introduce special challenges for poultry house ventilation. Leveraging transitional ventilation can help maintain the temperature and relative humidity levels required for optimal brooding, while also supporting ideal litter and air quality.

The Impact of Temperature

Optimum bird performance cannot be met at any age without adequate temperature. Young chicks are sensitive to cold, while older birds are most sensitive to heat. Low brooding temperature at placement decreases performance so significantly, it cannot be made up. At 35 days, body weight of birds placed at low versus adequate temperatures varied by 0.11 kg (Bruzual and Brake, 2000). To maximize performance, you must maintain the temperature ideal for birds at every stage – from placement through grow-out.

Use Transitional Ventilation to Eliminate Chill Stress

During transitional seasons like spring and fall, you must account for the velocity of air flowing over birds. Cold outside air at high velocity can cause chill stress, which can decrease performance. Transitional ventilation focuses on removing heat without allowing cold air to flow directly on birds.

- Use half of tunnel or sidewall fans to bring air through sidewall vents to allow air exchange without cold stress
- Adjust static pressure controls on inlets to allow for more precise control

What Causes Variations in Broiler Litter Nutrient Composition?

■ **Age of litter/length of storage.** Nitrogen and other nutrient values are lost when poultry litter sits in a storage barn for a long period of time, such as during a disease breakout season.

■ **Number of flocks between cleanouts.** Poultry litter from a house cleaned after two flocks will have fewer nutrients compared to a house cleaned after nine flocks (figure 2a). The nitrogen content generally increases and peaks after five flocks (VanDevender et al., 2000). The phosphorus content increases with the number of flocks since phosphorus excreted by birds remains in the litter; unlike nitrogen, it does not get lost via gaseous pathways (figure 2b). The potassium content also increases with an increase in the number of flocks (figure 2a).

■ **Amount and type of bedding material.** Litter with larger wood shavings will have less nutrient content per unit weight compared to finer shavings. Similarly, if large quantities of peanut hulls are used as a bedding material and houses are cleaned out in shorter time periods (e.g., between two flocks or emergency cleaning of a fresh batch due to a disease breakout), the nutrient content per unit weight will be less.

■ **Moisture content.** The moisture content of litter can change the nutrient content per unit weight. The nutrient content of litter decreases as its moisture percentage increases. Similarly, as the litter dries out or loses moisture, its nutrient content increases. For example, 1 ton of litter at 25 percent moisture will deliver fewer nutrients than 1 ton of the same litter at 15 percent moisture. Figure 3 shows the relationship between nutrient concentrations at different litter moisture percentages. Assuming 1 ton of dry litter (moisture percent close to zero) contains 60 pounds of P_2O_5 , the same amount of litter will contain 54 pounds P_2O_5 at 10 percent moisture and 48 pounds P_2O_5 at 20 percent moisture.

■ **Litter pH.** Litter pH is an important factor that drives ammonia volatilization. If litter pH is greater than 8, the nitrogen value of litter decreases, since a larger proportion of ammonium-N exists as ammonia gas and gets volatilized during or after surface application to the field. Incorporation of litter into soil immediately after application generally reduces ammonia volatilization by greater than 90 percent.

■ **Other factors.** The nutrient content of litter may also vary from one poultry operation to another. The variation may come from the number of birds per Figure 2a. Nutrient content of nine flocks of 6-week birds grown on the same litter. Remember, fertilizer recommendations or grades are given in P_2O_5 (Adapted from Sharpley et al., 2009). Figure 2b. Effect of number of flocks on P_2O_5 content (lb/ton) of litter

(Adapted from Tabler et al., 2018) figure 3. Relationship between litter moisture percentage and nutrient concentration house, the feed ration, the type of housing systems (older houses versus new houses), and whether bedding was pulverized, windrowed, or de-caked between flocks.

The nutrient content of poultry litter is variable and should be sampled regularly and analyzed to determine the exact nutrient concentration before application to fields. Litter testing ensures the most effective use of nutrients in litter that also protects the environment. Regular analysis of litter is an important part of sound nutrient management and an overall good farm practice.

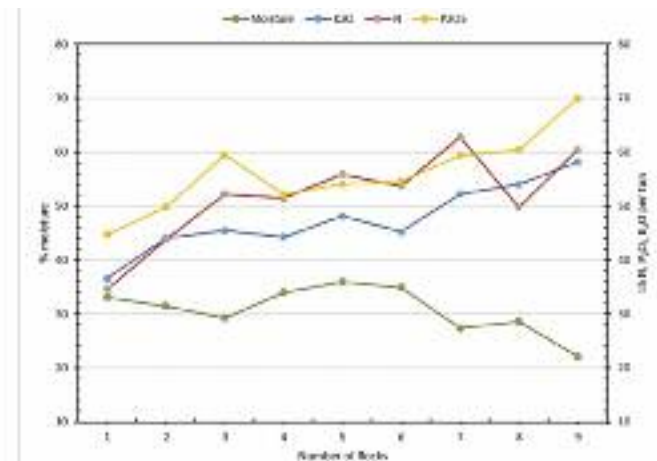


Figure 2a. Nutrient content of nine flocks of 6-week birds grown on the same litter. Remember, fertilizer recommendations or grades are given in P_2O_5 . (Adapted from Sharpley et al., 2009)

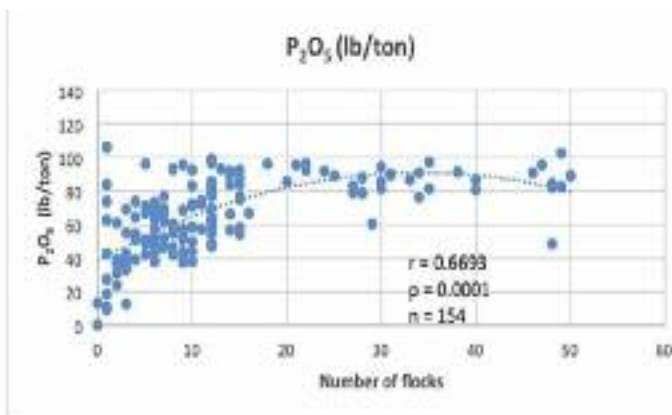


Figure 2b. Effect of number of flocks on P_2O_5 content (lb/ton) of litter (Adapted from Tabler et al., 2018)

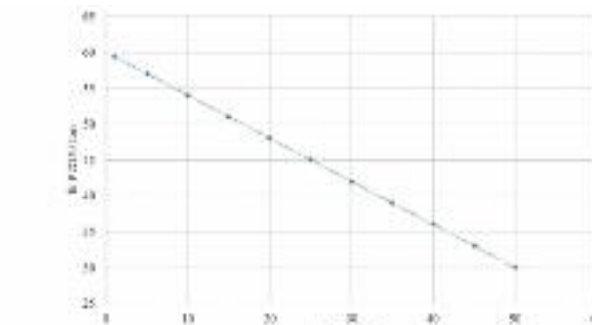


Figure 3. Relationship between litter moisture percentage and nutrient concentration



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be completed between flocks; and e-newsletter subscriptions. There are special app updates, industry alerts, and archives.

The NPTC offers support and resources for poultry farmers on-the-go with this app. The NPTC is always looking for ways to make poultry growers more efficient and more profitable.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AP&EA "Big Bass" Tournament
 May 10, 2019
 Lake Guntersville

Convention Golf Tournament
 May 17, 2019
 Silver Lakes Golf Course
 Glencoe, AL

2019 AP&EA Evening of Fun
 June 15, 2019
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