

ALABAMA POULTRY

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF ALABAMA POULTRY & EGG ASSOCIATION

MARCH/APRIL 2021
VOL. 16 | NO. 2





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Alabama Poultry Magazine is published by
 the Alabama Poultry & Egg Association
 465 South Bainbridge Street
 Montgomery, AL 36104
 Phone: 334-265-2732 | Fax: 334-265-0008

Send editorial & advertising correspondence to:
Alabama Poultry Magazine: Editor
 P.O. Box 240, Montgomery, AL 36101
 Advertising rates and closing dates available
 upon request.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: JASON SHELL

What a year 2020 was for us all! Personally, I am glad to see it go. I am still humbled and excited by the opportunity to be able to serve as president of APEA. I will cherish this opportunity for the rest of my life.

With the U.S. presidential election and inauguration behind us, I hope we continue to focus on strengthening our industry and making it more prosperous than ever before.

The team at APEA is working closely with Gov. Kay Ivey's office and the Alabama Department of Public Health to determine what the plans are for the next phase of COVID-19 vaccine distribution for essential agricultural employees. The poultry industry, as we all know, was deemed essential early on when the pandemic began. Johnny and company are working feverishly to ensure our essential workers receive the vaccine if they desire to take it. The poultry industry is still on the "Priority 1B" list for the vaccine, per

the health department. I hope that by the time this letter has reached you all, the vaccine will be rolling out to our essential workforce.

We are, unfortunately, going to have to yet again postpone our annual Evening of Fun. This comes after a very difficult decision due to continued restrictions from COVID-19. However, when the time comes, we'll be excited to welcome country music singer/songwriter Riley Green, the reigning winner of the Academy of Country Music's New Male Artist of the Year Award. Please stay tuned for all updates.

In closing, I want to thank Johnny Adams, our APEA Executive Board and our Board of Directors for their support this year. You all are amazing, and I have truly enjoyed serving with you.

Jason

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ON THE COVER

Noel and Rachel Welch have overcome many obstacles in their young lives. They now own and operate a two-megahouse poultry operation in Pike County with the help of their golden retriever, Stride, of course.

Photo by Caleb Hicks



2021 EVENING OF FUN

THE
GREEN



04.10.2021

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CONVENTION
COMPLEX CONCERT HALL

TICKETS ON SALE
MID-FEBRUARY 2021



ADEM SUPPORTS CHANGES TO AFO/CAFO REGULATIONS

BY: CALEB HICKS

The Alabama Environmental Management Commission, which oversees the Alabama Department of Environmental Management, or ADEM, met in December and passed changes to the regulations that govern animal feeding operations, or AFOs, and concentrated animal feeding operations, or CAFOs.

The rule changes allow CAFO owners to either continue to obtain permit coverage under the existing National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, or NPDES, permit or to obtain permit coverage under a new non-NPDES state permit.

CAFO owners who choose to obtain permit coverage under the new state permit will be required to have a QCP inspection and register at the local Alabama Soil and Water Conservation office once every five years, while CAFO owners who continue to obtain permit coverage under the existing NPDES permit will continue with their annual QCP inspection and annual registration.

A mandatory five-year review of the existing AFO/CAFO regulations was performed in the early part of 2020 and provided interested parties an

opportunity to submit comments on the effectiveness of the regulations. The proposed changes to the regulations were then the subject of an additional public notice, 45-day comment period and public hearing. The public notice was published in September and ADEM entertained public comments until the public hearing in November.

ADEM Field Operations Division Chief Scott Hughes said the move is positive for environmental aspects.

"We are pleased that these updated rules have been passed and are now going into effect," Hughes said. "We are confident that this change gives our department better control over the inspection process and a better regulatory structure for the protection of water quality throughout Alabama."

The original AFO/CAFO rule went into effect in 1999 after years of development by farmers and agricultural and environmental organizations and agencies in Alabama.

Hughes said approximately 1,000 CAFOs are currently registered in Alabama, and all are required to reregister in 2021. During this transition year, registrants who choose coverage under

the state permit will receive either a two-, three-, four- or five-year permit duration based on a lottery system. After those permits expire, all CAFOs that operate under the new state permit will receive permits with a five-year duration.

ADEM will communicate with CAFO owners to inform them of when they are due for a reregistration.

Alabama Poultry and Egg Association's Ray Hilburn applauded the regulation change and echoed Hughes.

"ADEM has been extremely cooperative to work with throughout the years since the AFO/CAFO rule began in '99," said Hilburn, APEA associate director. "The changes to the regulations will not only be beneficial to poultry farmers, but also to the environment, and will also allow ADEM inspectors to spend more time in the field with growers at their farms educating them on environmental issues."

"We appreciate ADEM recognizing that a majority of our poultry farmers are great stewards of the land."

For more information on the updated rules, visit <http://adem.alabama.gov/programs/water/cafo.cnt>. 🐔

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF A NEW POULTRY FEED MILL IN ALABAMA

JOBS

499 JOBS

*are supported each year from
ongoing operations; 398 during
the construction phase*

VALUE ADDED

\$42.3M

*is supported each year from
ongoing operations; \$25.7 million
during the construction phase*

LABOR INCOME

\$25.2M

*is supported each year from
ongoing operations; \$18.7 million
during the construction phase*

OUTPUT (SALES)

\$207M

*is supported each year from
ongoing operations; \$51.5 million
during the construction phase*

TAXES PAID

\$5.4M

*is supported each year from
ongoing operations; \$8.5 million
during the construction phase*



TOP INDUSTRIES IMPACTED

THE FOLLOWING ARE A FEW OF THE INDUSTRIES WITHIN ALABAMA MOST IMPACTED IN TERMS OF VALUE-ADDED BY THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITY FROM CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONS DURING THE FIRST FULL YEAR:

Construction Top 10 Sectors Impacted—Value Added	
Industry	Total
Construction of other new nonresidential structures	\$14,513,781
Wholesale trade	\$1,116,187
Real estate	\$779,499
Architectural, engineering, and related services	\$408,683
Monetary authorities and depository credit intermediation	\$353,563
Commercial and industrial machinery and equipment rental and leasing	\$313,967
Offices of physicians	\$285,665
Hospitals	\$267,572
Truck transportation	\$243,085
Limited-service restaurants	\$226,700

Operations Top 10 Sectors Impacted—Value Added	
Industry	Total
Other animal food manufacturing	\$11,015,824
Wholesale trade	\$8,566,472
Truck transportation	\$1,826,915
Rail transportation	\$1,663,259
Real estate	\$1,573,181
Support activities for agriculture and forestry	\$830,866
Monetary authorities and depository credit intermediation	\$698,774
Management of companies and enterprises	\$625,601
Grain farming	\$499,180
Water transportation	\$489,111

The entry of a new feed mill producing 10,000 tons per week (520,000 tons annually) causes a measurable increase in economic activity within Alabama, both in terms of construction and annual operations. Common measures of economic activity are employment (jobs), labor income, value-added and output (sales). When a feed mill enters a local economy, it causes a series of new economic activities (impacts) to take place. For this summary, economic impacts are broken into construction (one-time impact) and operations (annual impact). Construction and operations will generate tax revenue through federal taxes as well as state and local taxes. Of the estimated \$13.9 million generated in tax revenue, \$8.5 million is from construction and \$5.4 million is from annual operations. The magnitude of these new economic activities is largely related to the presence of industries which supply the needed inputs for a new feed mill. A feed mill in Alabama sources roughly 29.5 percent of all annual operations inputs locally and roughly 23.5 percent of all construction inputs locally.

The construction of a new feed mill requires purchases such as steel,

concrete and milling equipment, including grinders, mixers, pellet mills and material handling systems. Once construction is completed, the feed mill consistently purchases feed ingredients and packaging materials, utilizes other professional services and purchases many other inputs to produce feed for sale. The direct purchase of supplies and equipment are known as direct effects. The suppliers and vendors used by the feed mill then must purchase inputs to supply the feed mill; these are known as indirect effects. Those who work in the construction of the feed mill and for the suppliers and vendors then use their additional income to make household purchases; these are known as household or induced effects. Taken together, the sum of direct, indirect and induced effects are known as total effects and account for the total multiplier effect present from the construction and annual operations of a new feed mill.

Additional details on methodology can be obtained through communication with the study's author, Decision Innovation Solutions (info@decision-innovation.com). 🐔

Source: Alabama Cooperative Extension System

CONSTRUCTION IMPACTS

A new feed mill in Alabama would generate the following estimated total impact on the local (state) economy.

Construction (Total Effect)	
Employment	398
Value added	\$25.7 million
Labor income	\$18.7 million
Output (sales)	\$51.5 million
Taxes paid (all levels)	\$8.5 million

OPERATIONS IMPACTS

In the first full year of operation, a new feed mill in Alabama would generate the following estimated total impact on the local (state) economy.

Operations (Total Effect)	
Employment	499
Value added	\$42.3 million
Labor income	\$25.2 million
Output (sales)	\$207 million
Taxes paid (all levels)	\$5.4 million

¹To arrive at the total effects of a new feed mill, we used the following basic assumptions: 1) Average annual production was 520,000 tons 2) An average sales price of \$260/ton 3) Cost to construct the feed mill was \$30.2 million 4) All dollars are in 2020 dollars.



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of the Year

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Peggy Vardaro – After an extensive 45 years in the poultry industry, Peggy Vardaro retired from the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries, or ADAI, in December. Throughout her career, Vardaro has held many various roles in the poultry industry. She began in high school working with a crew debeaking, vaccinating and catching pullets to move to breeder farms. During her college days, she worked in the accounting office at ConAgra in Enterprise. She also worked in the hatchery and broiler department with ConAgra before moving to Wayne Farms/Southland as a broiler service tech. She later worked with Sylvest Farms as hatchery manager in



Luverne and Greenville and made her last career move to ADAI in 2006 as poultry supervisor. Her and her husband, Andy, have also been broiler producers for Wayne Farms since 1986. During her retirement, she plans to spend more time with family and hiking with Andy. Vardaro is shown here with APEA Associate Director Ray Hilburn (left photo) and CEO Johnny Adams (right photo).

Ken Edwards – Ken Edwards has worked in the poultry industry for four decades and retired from Tyson Foods in Eufaula as live production manager in December. During a retirement party at Ravenwood Sporting Clays in Newville, many of Edwards' family and friends, including coworkers through the years, spoke of him and what he has meant and still means to their lives and careers. Many stories of the past 40-50 years in the poultry industry were retold by the participants. APEA presented him with a collapsible chair for him to rest in for his retirement. He's pictured with APEA Associate Director Ray Hilburn.



U.S. Rep. Barry Moore (R-District 2, center) and his staff visited with APEA Associate Director Ray Hilburn and CEO Johnny Adams mid-January. As an Auburn University poultry science graduate, Rep. Moore discussed the important role the poultry industry plays in Alabama's economy and key issues the industry faces now and in the future. APEA thanks Rep. Moore for his support.



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FOUR COVID-19 DISINFECTING LESSONS FOR FOOD PROCESSORS

Attention to detail will assure the right disinfectant will be as effective as possible to prevent spread of COVID-19.

Specific care must be taken when choosing which COVID-19 disinfectants are used and how to apply them for use in meat, poultry and food processing plants.

Adel Makdesi, senior corporate microbiologist for AFCO Industries Inc., went over general rules for proper disinfection for COVID-19, also known as SARS-CoV-2, during the 2021 International Production & Processing Expo Marketplace Tech Talk, "Lessons Learned from COVID-19."

Makdesi offered lessons concerning four general areas:

1. Not all disinfectants are EPA approved for COVID-19.

Before selecting a disinfectant, it is important to check if it is listed on the Environmental Protection Agency, or EPA, website under List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2

If the product is not on the EPA List N, it means it has not been approved against SARS-CoV-2. Even if the label mentions human coronavirus, it might not be effective against SARS-CoV-2, he said.

2. Not all disinfecting procedures are EPA approved.

Makdesi said many food processors and other users are using incorrect procedures to apply disinfectants to fight COVID-19.

"Unless you're trying to use it, for example, in a fogger or a mister or atomizer or electrostatic sprayer, unless it's listed on that product label, do not apply it with this procedure," Makdesi said. "Always follow label directions. If it says a spray, it means you have to spray it only. If it says fog it, then you can use it as a fogger or atomizer. If it says use it as an electrostatic in an electrostatic device, you can use it in an electrostatic device."

"Do not use any of the above application procedures if an application procedure is not listed on the product label. It means that the procedure was not tested and approved by the EPA, and it might not be effective against the source coronavirus," he said.

3. Clean a surface before disinfecting it.

Disinfectants are not effective on soiled or dirty surfaces, Makdesi said.

Soil and dirt cover microbes and germs from the killing effect of the disinfectants, and they also diminish the lethal effect of the disinfectants.

After applying the disinfectant, food-contact surfaces should be rinsed or sanitized, he said.

4. Follow use concentration instructions on the label.

It is crucial to follow the recommended concentration levels listed on the disinfectant's label to assure its effectiveness. When possible, verify the concentration levels with a testing kit, Makdesi said.



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KOCH FOODS PLANS GADSDEN EXPANSION

The Gadsden City Council announced on Jan. 19 the approval of incentives to Koch Foods for an expansion to its East Gadsden facility, which will include 135 new jobs.

The Gadsden City Council has unanimously approved an expansion by Koch Foods LLC, at its East Gadsden facility, as well as a 10-year tax abatement. The abatement includes all state and local non-educational property taxes and all noneducational construction-related transaction taxes.

The expansion, approved in January, will be a capital investment of about \$15.9 million and will mean 135 new jobs for the processing facility.

Koch Foods' Harold Hunt said the expansion will prove lucrative for Gadsden as well as jobs in Etowah County.

"When Koch Foods started here in 2007, we had about 350 employees," said Hunt, complex manager for Koch Foods of Gadsden. "Once we complete

this expansion, we'll have nearly 1,200 jobs at our facility. We appreciate our partnership with the City of Gadsden, and we're excited about the opportunities this brings to folks in our area."

Koch Foods currently is the third largest employer in Etowah County, with 1,040 jobs. The expansion and new jobs will push it to second place for employment in the county behind Gadsden Regional Medical Center.

It's the fourth expansion brought to the council in three months by the Gadsden-Etowah Industrial Development Authority, or IDA, and is directly related to Koch's new \$55 million grain storage and distribution facility in Attalla.

"Koch Foods has had an internal competition with the Georgia facility

for a new production line, and the city of Gadsden has won that production line," said David Hooks, Gadsden-Etowah IDA director.

Hooks said the poultry industry in Etowah County is the second largest industry next to health care. Alabama is second only to Georgia in the industry globally, with DeKalb County being the largest distributor of poultry in the country.

Currently, 93 businesses in Etowah County are listed with an Agriculture Standard Industrial Classification Code, with estimates of 2,000 employees directly related to the poultry business.

He said Koch Foods was able to meet this tax incentive through meeting the criteria for the investment thresh-

“I’m excited about the expansion, and I appreciate Koch’s continued environmental and modernization efforts at their facility.”

CYNTHIA TOLES, GADSDEN CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT

old that is set by state statutes. These criteria include more than 20 jobs per year, an hourly pay of \$12 or more and a capital investment minimum of \$2 million.

William Greene, assistant director of the IDA, added that the \$2 million capital investment could be replaced by an investment of 30 percent of the original property value if the other cannot be obtained at that point.

“Typically, we will be notified by a company that they are looking to expand, and we will go sit with that company and go through all the criteria and put together the paperwork with the council and ask for approval,” Hooks told the city council. “We’ve handled every single project, both new and

expanding, the same way.”

Hooks said Etowah County also qualifies as a “jump-start county,” which gives it breaks on some things.

Jump-start counties are part of the Legislature’s 2019 Alabama Incentives Modernization Act, which was designed to enhance development in counties facing difficult economic conditions.

The criteria are a population more than 50,000, negative population growth in the past five years and no more than two federal opportunity zones. IDA estimates of annual tax revenues generated by the expansion indicate Gadsden City Schools will receive \$50,770, Etowah County Schools \$19,000 and the state Board of

Education \$9,500. County schools also will receive a one-time \$16,000 payment because there is a half-cent sales tax for schools that cannot be exempt.

Hooks estimated that about \$83,000 annually will be generated in city occupational taxes from the expansion, and that the overall benefit for Gadsden over a 10-year period will be \$1.25 million.

“We’re really proud to have Koch Foods in Gadsden,” Gadsden Mayor Sherman Guyton said. “I’m pleased that they’re continuing to expand here, bringing new developments and more good-paying jobs for our citizens.”

“I’m excited about the expansion, and I appreciate Koch’s continued environmental and modernization efforts at their facility,” said Cynthia Toles, president of the Gadsden City Council and representative of District 1, where the Koch Foods facility is located.

Koch Foods announced a previous expansion of the facility in 2018. 🐔



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OVERCOMING OBSTACLES

NOEL AND RACHEL WELCH'S JOURNEY THUS FAR

BY CALEB HICKS

In January 2018, Noel Welch was eight credit hours away from completing his master's degree in agronomy from Auburn University. By month's end, he had decided he'd rather be a full-time farmer.

This, from a guy who grew up in a non-farming family from Chelsea, just south of Birmingham.

"I knew I was going to farm one day," Noel, now 27, said. "Most people who farm come from a line of farmers who have history, land and equipment. I started from total scratch."

After a single visit to a friend's poultry operation in Barbour County, Noel knew it was meant to be, so he left the master's program and set his sights on poultry.

"I had never been around chickens or a poultry farm, but when I saw how everything worked — how they're raised and fed and the business structure — I told myself, I'm going to find a way to do this," he said.

First things first: buying land for a farm. He looked at several existing farms that were on the market in Barbour and Pike counties and had more than a few deals fall through, but then, he hit the jackpot when the Barbour County farmer he'd been working for since leaving Auburn offered to sell him acreage in the Pike County town of Banks.

Noel and Rachel Welch have faced their fair share of challenges in their young lives. The couple now owns and operates a poultry farm in Pike County.





The Welches raise nearly 72,000 birds in their two-house operation.



When not helping take care of the chickens on the farm, Rachel spends her time making deliveries for her father's beef jerky business.



Noel and Rachel married in November 2020 and live in Banks.

"I HAD NEVER BEEN AROUND CHICKENS OR A POULTRY FARM, BUT WHEN I SAW HOW EVERYTHING WORKED – HOW THEY'RE RAISED AND FED AND THE BUSINESS STRUCTURE – I TOLD MYSELF, I'M GOING TO FIND A WAY TO DO THIS."

- NOEL WELCH

That was in November 2018. When the growing season of 2019 rolled around, he planted 800 acres and started building two mega poultry houses.

"I had no idea what God had in His plan when I moved down here," Noel said, "but it all fell together in only a way God could make it work."

Meanwhile, about the same time Noel sealed the deal on his land, the young lady who would become his wife was in nursing school at the University of South Alabama in Mobile. Fall semester 2018 was rocking right along for Eufaula native Rachel when life threw her a curveball.

"I first started having some vision problems and a few headaches, and my friends and I would try to self-diagnose me," she said. "I came home to visit in late January (2019), and the pain became debilitating. I knew something was wrong. In less than a week, I had had an MRI and surgery to remove the lime-sized tumor.

"I was very optimistic about the whole situation," she said. "I knew God was on my side. I've been cancer free and done with treatments for almost two years. When Noel came into my

life, I know God had a hand in that, too."

The two met at church, started dating in September 2019 and got married in November 2020. She now helps Noel on the farm, mainly by walking the chicken houses. She also helps market her family's beef jerky business.

"When Noel and I were dating, he asked me how I felt about cotton and chickens," the 29-year-old said. "I told him, well, I like clothes, and I like to eat, so it sounds like a good deal to me."

Both she and Noel have overcome major challenges to get where they are and see farming as not only a privilege, but a lifestyle.

"It means hard work and livelihood to me," Rachel said. "Farming feeds Alabama and the world, and I see it as a way to keep life moving forward. I'm blessed to have been introduced to it."

Noel agrees.

"It's an honor and a God-given desire to be in the ag industry and to want to produce the food we eat," Noel said. "It comes with as many sacrifices as it does rewards. There's a lot of hard and frustrating things to work around and work through if you want it bad enough. It's a lifestyle. It's not for everyone." 🐔

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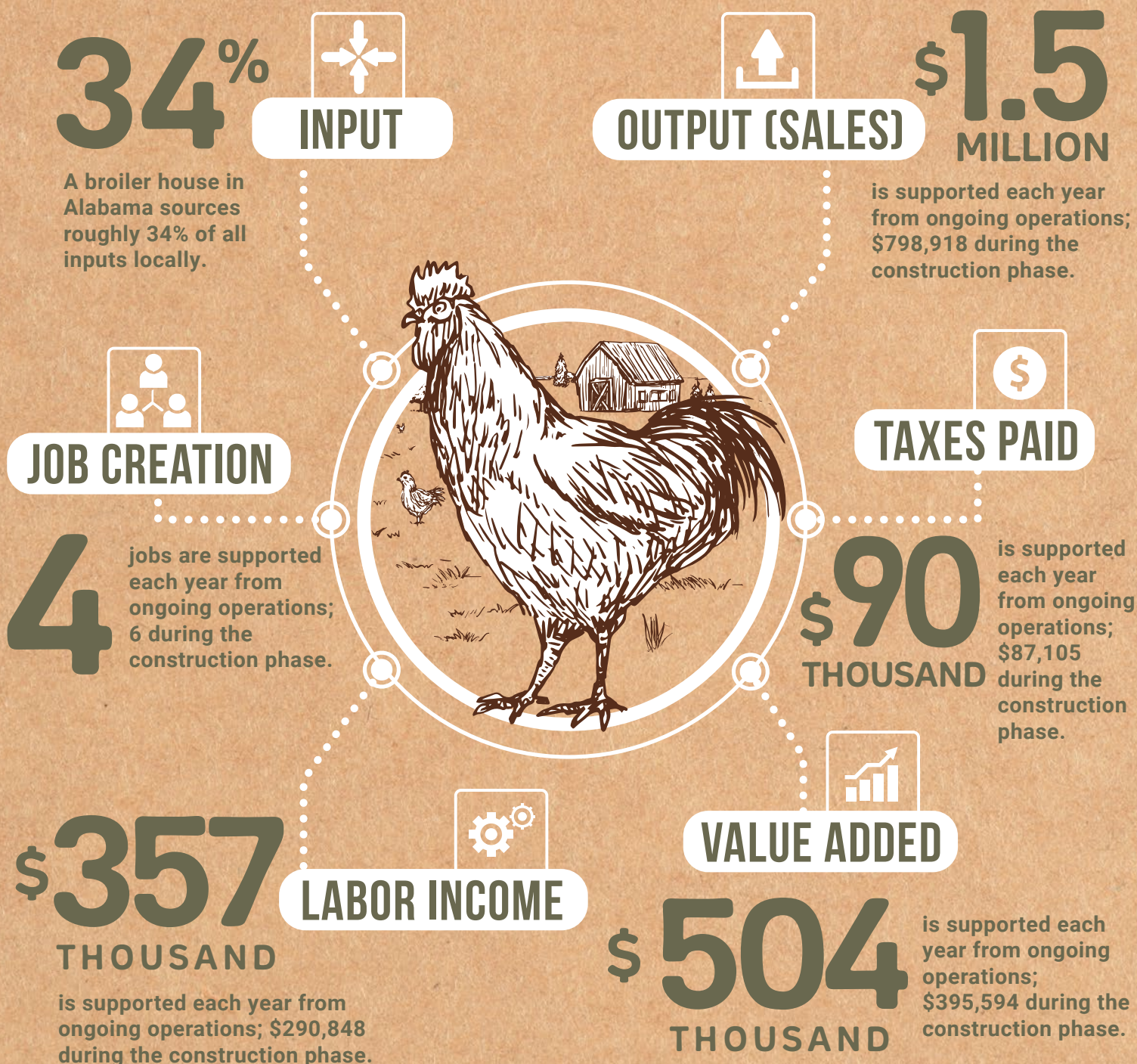
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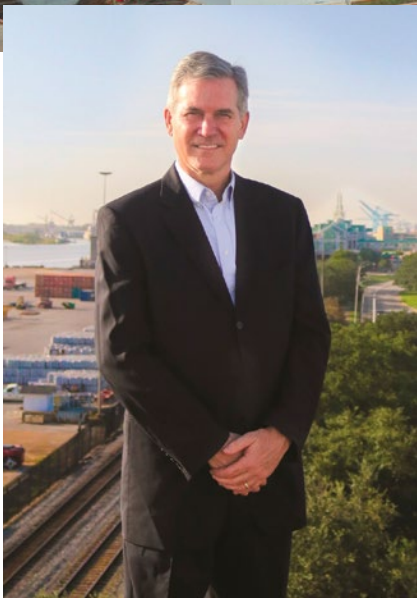

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ECONOMIC IMPACT OF A NEW BROILER HOUSE IN ALABAMA

The entry of a new 39,600-square-foot (66' × 600') broiler house in Alabama causes a measurable increase in economic activity within the state in terms of construction and ongoing annual operations. Consider the following economic activity created during construction and a broiler house's first year of operation.



EXPANSION POSITIONS PORT OF MOBILE AS GLOBAL TRADE CENTER



John Driscoll - ASPA

The Port of Mobile is expanding its channel from 45 to 50 feet, which will allow some of the largest ships in the world to enter. The expansion will also support the addition of a new cold storage facility capable of accommodating 30 truck loads per hour.

The historic Port of Mobile has influenced the culture and economy of Alabama and the Gulf Coast for over 300 years. An expansion set for completion by early 2025 will carve an even wider path of success for the area, including Alabama's poultry industry.

"Taking our channel to 50 feet deep (from its current 45 feet) allows some of the world's largest ships to enter our port," said Alabama State Port Authority's John C. Driscoll. "Larger ships provide capacity and economy of

scale for Alabama businesses and drive down costs."

Dubbed the Alabama Seaport Modernization Program, the \$365.7 million expansion project will deepen and widen the port.

Driscoll, the port authority's director and chief executive officer, said the expansion will transform the port into a globally competitive trade center.

"More than 3 billion people are rising into the consumer class and seeking American products," he said. "Alabama

agriculture and other businesses will be in a position to take advantage of those growing markets through the port's expansion. Investments in construction and technology at the harbor allow more goods to be moved faster and efficiently, increasing the port's opportunity for more customers."

Alabama's deep-water seaport has business connections to all 67 counties in Alabama, Driscoll said. The port authority's terminals handle a variety of commodities including forestry products, grains, feed, cotton and proteins — mostly poultry and peanuts. Private terminals at the port handle fertilizers and chemicals. Alabama's booming coal, aviation, automobile and retail distribution industries also play a pivotal role at the port.

The port received approval of the project to widen and deepen the harbor in September 2019. In February 2020, U.S. Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., a decade-long champion of the project, secured \$377.7 million in federal funding for regional dredge demonstration programs in Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. This program assures the harbor expansion receives its full \$274.3 million to construct the project.

In Alabama, Gov. Kay Ivey and the Legislature secured Alabama's financial

obligation for the project through the Rebuild Alabama Act, which passed in March 2019. The act allocates a portion of state fuel tax proceeds to support approximately \$150 million in bonds to meet the non-federal cost-share requirements for the project.

Alabama Poultry and Egg Association CEO Johnny Adams said the port expansion is a win for the state's poultry industry.

"The growth of the Port of Mobile means growth for the poultry industry," Adams said. "Alabama has a \$15 billion poultry industry and is a top exporter of the protein. These enhancements will only allow our industry to be even more successful."

Deepening the channel was preceded by nearly \$1.3 billion in public seaport infrastructure at Alabama's only deep-water port. Part of that overall investment included \$550 million in container intermodal investments that offered a new gateway for agribusiness shippers and ocean carriers.

The container intermodal complex first opened in 2008 and completed its third expansion in early 2020.

The \$50 million Phase III program extended the dock to accommodate two of the larger Post-Panamax ships and expanded throughput by 25 percent,

bringing the terminal's annual capacity to 650,000 TEUs (20-foot equivalent units).

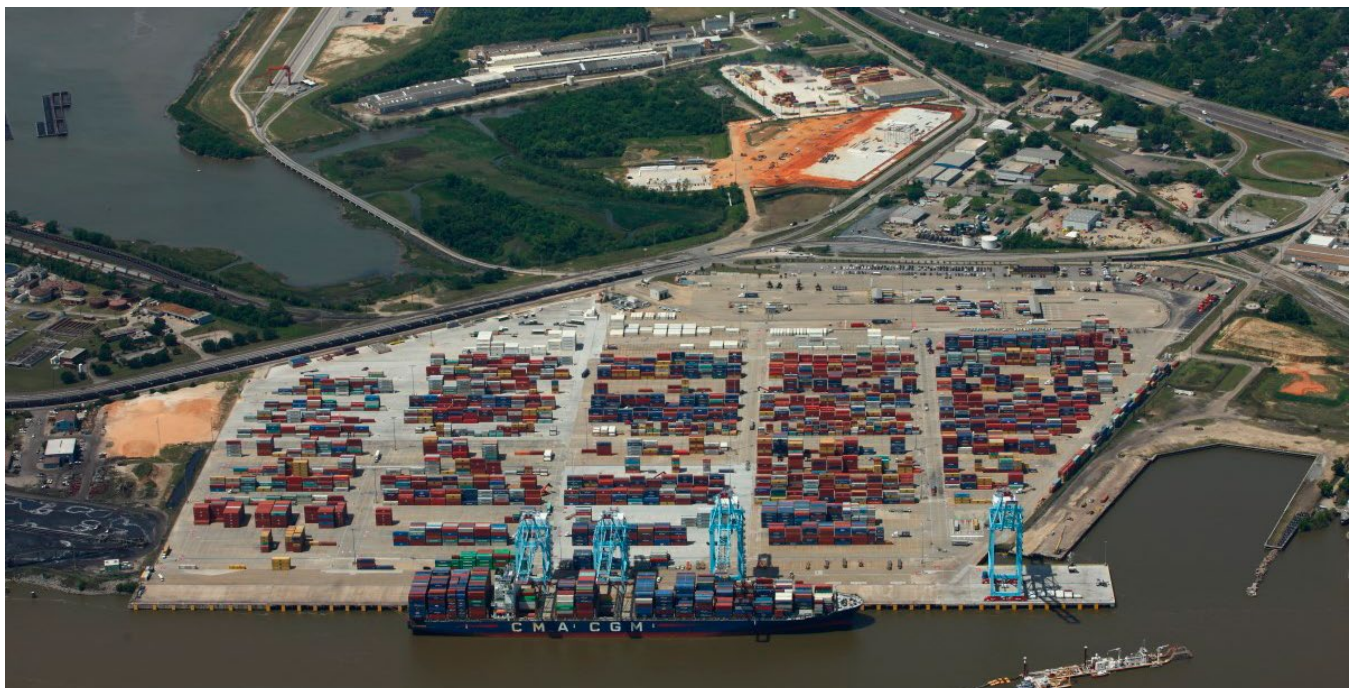
Additional phases are planned that can deliver 1.5 million TEUs annual throughput capacity. The port authority and its partner, APM Terminals, have been successful in delivering investments that meet shipper demand.

Also last year, MTC Logistics announced construction of the largest cold storage facility of its kind in the Southeast. The \$61-million project, when completed in April 2021, will encompass 12 million cubic feet and expand blast freeze capability for poultry exports.

Located outside the container terminal's gates, the facility will accommodate 30 truckloads per day and provide 40,000 racked pallet positions of storage to meet demand for refrigerated cargo shippers.

Additionally, the facility is expected to attract new shippers, which can provide back haul opportunities for carriers. 🐔

The Alabama Farmers Federation contributed to this story.



The port expansion is slated to wrap up by 2025 and will transform Alabama's only deep-water port into a globally competitive trade center.

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Made From Scratch

This time last year, the advent of COVID chaos sent egg prices soaring, to a record \$3.09 a dozen in some parts of the country. Hard to believe the virus hysteria drags on, but at least the cost of eggs in Alabama this spring shouldn't put your Easter family dinner, egg hunt or annual springtime brunch out of reach.

For your special after-church Easter meal, make it a breeze with a specially seasoned oven-roasted turkey breast and simple deviled eggs, both recipes from Katrina Adams of "In the Kitchen with K Marie." Or, if you're looking for easy brunch dishes, try widely known Alabama recipe blogger Stacey Little's quick quiche, and for breakfast — or any time — his fun waffle sandwiches. Little, who creates his dishes in his Prattville kitchen, hosts the blog "Southern Bite," which he said "is my way of helping preserve my family's food for generations to come."



Katrina Adams, better known as K Marie, shares her passion of cooking and entertaining through her blog, In the Kitchen with K Marie. See more of her recipes at kmariekitchen.com.



Stacey Little is a foodie, recipe developer and cookbook author whose Southern Bite blog helps families put simple, down-to-earth food on the table while preserving Southern cooking for future generations. See more recipes at southernbite.com.

BEST DEVILED EGGS

Prep Time: 20 minutes

Cook Time: 15 minutes

Servings: 24 deviled eggs

- 12 large eggs
- ½ cup prepared sandwich spread
- 4 teaspoons sweet pickle relish
- Salt, pepper and sugar

Place eggs in a large saucepan and cover with cold water. Set pan over medium-high heat and bring to a boil. Turn off heat and let sit for 5-10 minutes. Drain, rinse eggs under cold water and peel.

Halve eggs lengthwise and scoop yolks out into a medium bowl. Mash with the back of a fork until smooth and blend in sandwich spread and relish. Season with a dash of salt, pepper and sugar, and spoon mixture into eggs. Garnish with chives or paprika if desired.



HAM, EGG AND CHEESE BISCUIT WAFFLEWICHES

Prep Time: 10 minutes

Cook Time: 5 minutes

Serves: 8

- 1 (16.3-ounce) can large flaky-layer refrigerated biscuits
- 8 slices cheddar cheese
- 8 pieces thinly sliced smoked ham
- 6 eggs, soft scrambled

Preheat a waffle iron to medium heat and lightly spray it with nonstick cooking spray.

Open the biscuits and separate each biscuit into two pieces using the existing layers. Stretch the layers thin, about 5- to 6-inches in diameter. Top half of each biscuit with a piece of cheese, a slice of ham and a generous heaping tablespoon of scrambled eggs. Top with other half of biscuit and pinch to seal edges closed. Place in the waffle iron and close, pressing firmly. Cook 4 to 5 minutes, or until the biscuit is golden brown and cooked through. Store the prepared wafflewiches in a warm oven until the others are finished. Serve warm.

**Stacey uses Pillsbury Grands! Flaky Layers refrigerated biscuits.*

QUICK AND EASY QUICHE

Prep Time: 10 mins

Cook Time: 25 mins

Serves: 6-8

- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 cup chopped cooked ham or bacon
- 1 (9-inch) regular frozen prepared pie crust, thawed
- 4 eggs
- 1/3 cup heavy whipping cream
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon black pepper

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Sprinkle cheese and bacon or ham in the bottom of the pie crust. In a medium bowl, whisk together eggs, cream, salt and pepper. Pour egg mixture into crust. Place pie on a rimmed baking sheet and bake for 20 to 25 minutes or until quiche is just set. Allow to rest for 10 to 15 minutes before slicing. Serve warm.



OVEN ROASTED TURKEY BREAST

Prep Time: 10 minutes

Cook Time: 90 minutes

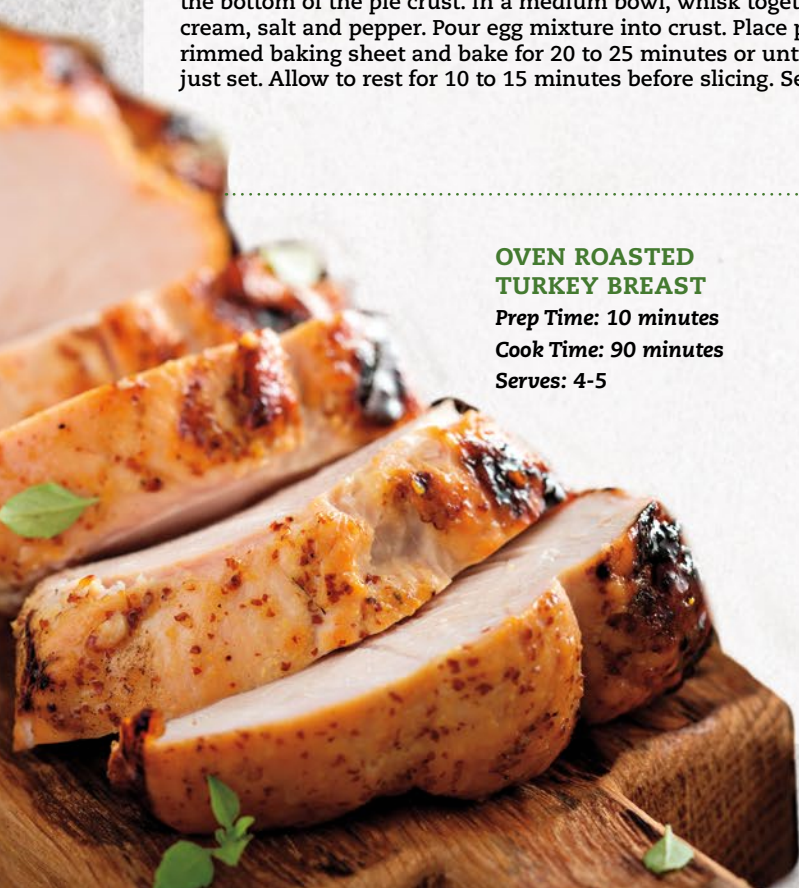
Serves: 4-5

- 1 (2- to 4-pound) split turkey breast
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1-2 teaspoons salt-free seasoning mix*
- 2 teaspoons spice-blend mixture**
- 1-2 teaspoons everything-bagel seasoning blend
- 1 teaspoon brown sugar

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Place turkey in a large glass baking dish. Combine oil, lemon juice and seasoning together. Rub the seasoning mixture all over the turkey well. Bake for 1 hour and 30 minutes or until the turkey reaches an internal temperature of 165 F.

**Katrina uses Mrs. Dash.*

***Katrina uses Badia Complete Seasoning mix.*



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PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

POULTRY HOUSE ELECTRICAL CHECKLIST

Jess Campbell, Jeremiah Davis and Kelly Griggs - National Poultry Technology Center – March/April 2021

Human safety, flock safety and fire prevention are three major reasons why it is important to conduct a yearly electrical inspection on every farm. We suggest hiring a professional to do some of these inspections and repair work. Now might be a good time to contact your local electrician to schedule an inspection. With hot weather just around the corner, here are some items that will help you get pointed in the right direction. **NOTICE: All electrical work must be done with circuits OFF and backup systems OFF!** Hire a professional as needed, as safety comes first.

☐ Ground Rod Connections

- ☐ Check that the grounding rod clamp is tight. We recommend acorn-style clamps.
- ☐ If Ufer ground (concrete-encased electrode) is installed, make sure the wire to rebar clamp is tight and rebar is not corroded.
- ☐ Check that the ground wire connection to panel is tight.

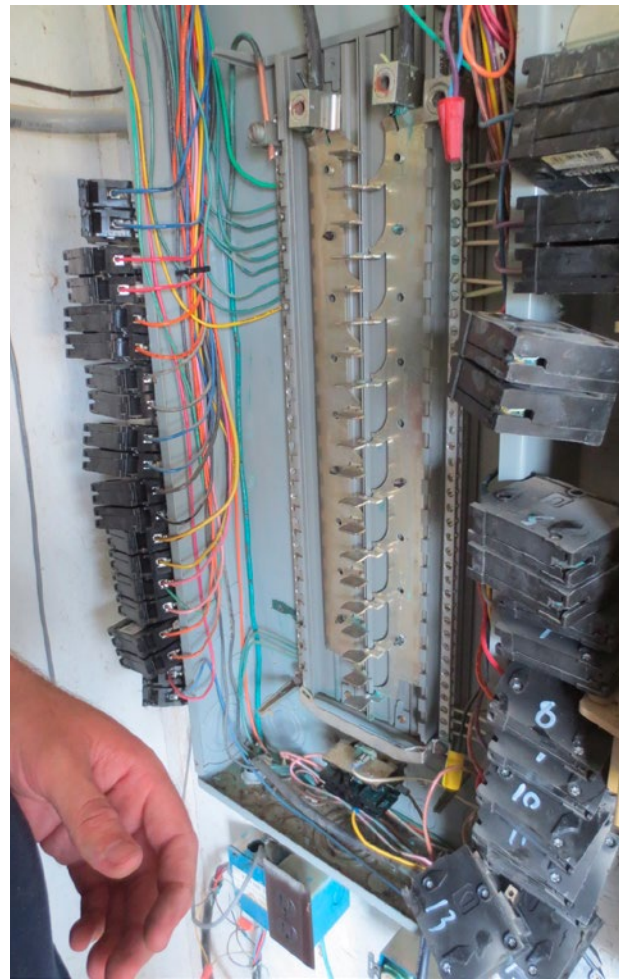


Photo 1: Pipe clamps commonly used as ground clamps are often found loose during inspections. Acorn-type clamps (bottom clamp) tend to maintain a stronger bond and a more reliable ground connection. Photo 2: A professional electrician inspects and cleans breakers and the connections in a main electrical panel. Notice that breakers are numbered to keep them in order.

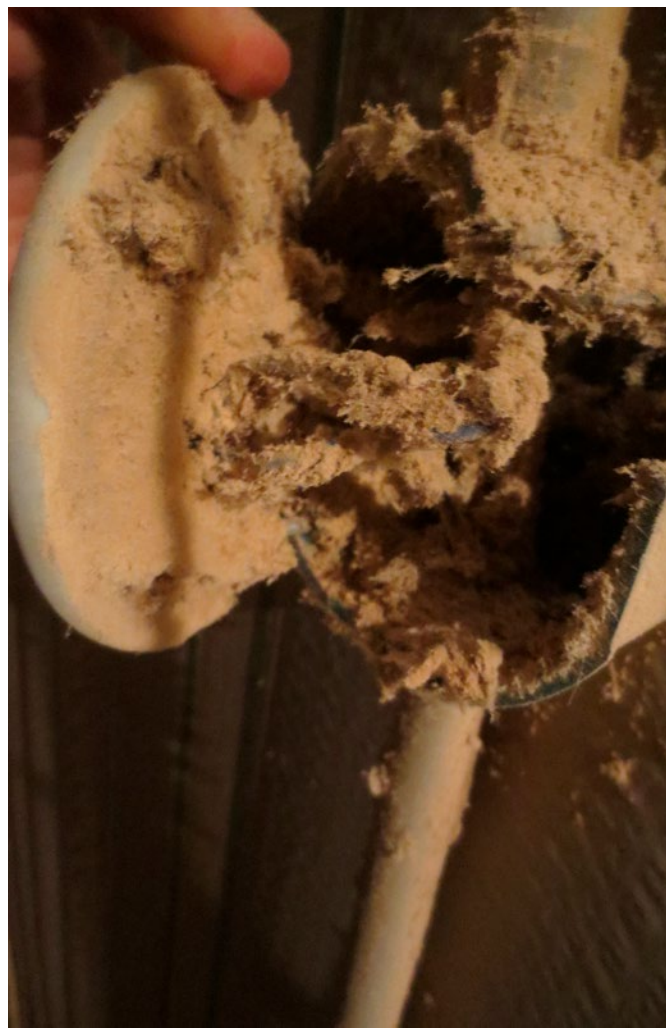
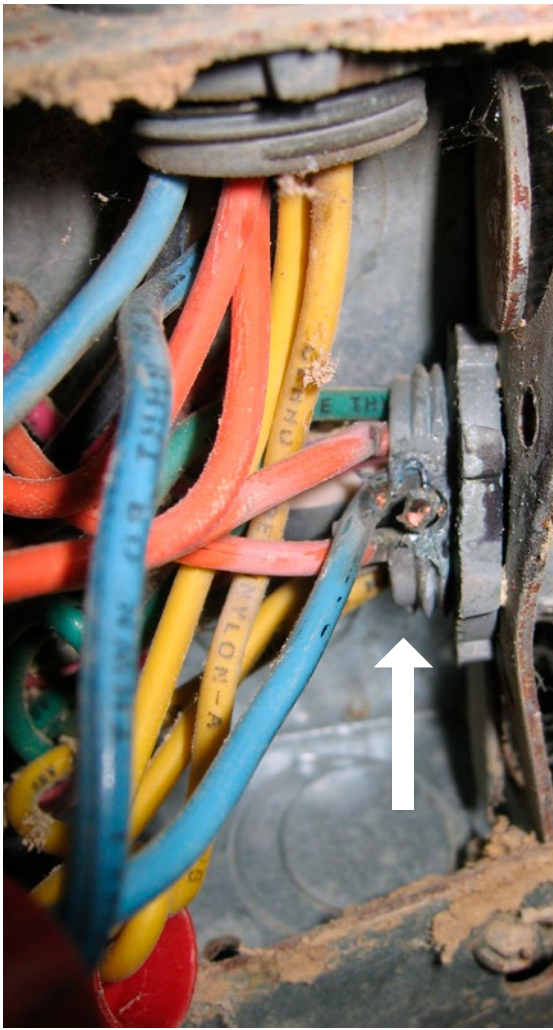


Photo 3: If you look closely at the picture on the left you might see that the blue wire has shorted to the metal junction box. This took hours to find. This installer put too many wires inside the conduit, which eventually caused this short. Photo 4: Thin plastic boxes used for lighting sockets may fail over time due to the expansion and contraction of the PVC conduit in the house. This is difficult to repair.

☐ Main Electrical Panel

- ☐ Ensure that all main lugs on supply wires are tight.
- ☐ Check that all breaker connections are tight and show no signs of overheating.
- ☐ Make sure the panel is clean of debris and spider webs.
- ☐ Check that no open holes are left in the box for rodents or insects to enter.
- ☐ Ensure that no signs of electrical overheating or short circuits or potential for short circuits visible.

☐ Junction Boxes

- ☐ Make sure all junction box connections are terminated with clean connections and show no signs of loose connections or of moisture or dust buildup.
- ☐ Ensure that the box has a protective cover and wires have strain-relief connectors on them to keep them from pulling out of the box if stressed or pulled.

☐ Lighting Boxes and Keyless Sockets

- ☐ Check plastic boxes for any signs of damage or being broken.
- ☐ Ensure excessive dust and moisture are not present in box or on inside surface of socket.
- ☐ Repair any signs of loose connections.
- ☐ If light bulb flickers, replace bulb. If that bulb flickers, replace keyless sockets.

☐ **Motor Connections**

- Check that all motor connections have stress relief connections installed.
- Make sure supply wires are protected from stress and insulation is not compromised.
- Check motor casing to ensure it is grounded and the connection is tight, clean and bonded properly.
- Replace and correct any wires showing cracked insulation, worn spots or damage from rubbing against steel cable, rope or pulleys to prevent any future damage.



Photo 5: This grower allowed an inexperienced helper to install a new fan circuit and, as a result, nearly burned the building down. Thankfully, we noticed the flame and had access to a fire extinguisher. Photo 6: Not the best repair work we have seen, but the fan works now.

☐ **Romex Connections**

- Inspect Romex wires for short-circuit and rodent damage. If all connections are not protected inside a junction box of some type, correct.

☐ **Cord Runs and Connections**

- If a poultry house has runs of flexible power cables throughout the house that are adjacent to moving cables, protect these wires from being damaged by steel cable, pulleys and other moving parts.

☐ **Convenience Outlets and Equipment Outlets**

- The days of allowing open electrical boxes are long over. A lot of water and dust move through a modern poultry house, and a grower must do everything reasonably possible to protect the electrical system from moisture, dirt and damage. It only takes one short circuit to start a fire and one loose connection to electrocute a worker or yourself.

☐ **Main House Disconnect**

- Some houses have an electrical disconnect that may be a simple knife switch, fused connection or breaker inside. Inspect these connections and wires to make sure all are clean and tight and the switch is in good working order. Neutral and ground bars and connections must be landed in the proper place and bonded tightly.

☐ **Generator Shed and Main Electrical Entrance Components** – Please hire a professional to service backup generators, transfer switches, main disconnects and house disconnects.

- Have spare parts on hand and a serious backup plan, and practice it often.
- Document all services and repairs that have been made to this equipment.

Bottom line: Any type of electrical failure can pose a threat to a poultry farmer and his/her livelihood. Springtime preparation may help prevent real problems down the road. Whether the farm is new or old, we find problems are sometimes hidden and unexpected until reality hits.

Example: Grower A spends \$1,500 on an electrical inspection that includes several repairs to some major electrical components on a farm, and he/she has no electrical issues in 2021. Grower B had a run of bad luck due to a blown disconnect fuse going to one house. He does not have spare fuses on the farm. He does get an alarm but loses the entire house of birds at near market age. He loses 19,000 birds at nine pounds on average with a yield of \$0.06/lb. That equals \$10,260 in lost income alone. Do not be like Grower B.

Good luck from the National Poultry Technology Center.

For more information, download our Poultry Toolkit smart-phone app, visit our website at www.poultryhouse.com, or contact any of our team members.

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Photo 7: This generator battery is in serious need of cleaning and testing. Can you identify the problem? Photo 8: Each house disconnect will have a breaker or fuse to protect the wires and equipment on the load side. Inspect and clean all these fuses. Can you identify the problem?



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For more information and details, contact Randall Smith

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