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Editorial

Family poultry and industrial poultry – Cooperation instead of competition

E.F. Guèye

Editor-in-Chief

Poultry farming in most developing countries can be divided into two different types of production: family poultry (FP) which are encountered mainly in the countryside but also in the peri-urban and urban areas, and industrial poultry (IP) in and around towns. In developing countries, the keeping of poultry by local communities has been practiced for many generations. FP provide high-quality protein and additional income to the generally resource-poor small farmers, especially women. Although usually requiring low levels of inputs, FP contribute significantly to food security, poverty alleviation and ecologically sound management of natural resources. FP are also a source of employment for underprivileged groups and less-favoured areas in developing countries. Furthermore, FP are closely linked to the religious and socio-cultural lives of several million generally resource-poor farmers. Poultry ownership ensures varying degrees of sustainable farming and economic stability for these farmers by minimizing risks and strengthening the cohesion within traditional communities. In many developing countries, IP farming started only after countries' independence, i.e. in the 1960s and 1970s in many African countries. The IP sub-sector has become an important protein source mostly for urban and peri-urban consumers, as well as a substantial source of income for poultry keepers whose number is very low, compared to FP-keeping farmers. Typically the IP business is in the hands of high officers, state employees in active life or retired and other wealthy people, who use poultry keeping only for income.

During the [XXII World's Poultry Congress](#), which will take place in Istanbul, Turkey, from 8 to 13 June 2004, the questions to tackle will include the following. Are these two poultry sub-sectors in competition or not? What opportunities (at flock, household, market and national levels) are offered to the IP business within the context of a sustainable development of FP production? Do IP-keeping farmers as well as consumers of the IP products benefit from the development of FP? How providers of technical assistance (training, credit, supply of inputs such as improved breeds, feeds, vaccines and drugs, rearing equipment) as well as local craftsmen manufacturing small equipment (e.g. feeders, drinkers) can take advantage of the development of the FP sub-sector?

FP and IP should be regarded as two poultry sub-sectors that are in cooperation or are complementary to each other. This can be illustrated by a few examples. In the field of poultry health, new avian diseases may be diagnosed in a country following the introduction of hybrid poultry. This was the case for Newcastle disease in family poultry flocks in Lesotho in 1972. Avian encephalomyelitis was also first diagnosed in pullets (future laying hens) in Senegal, in November 1997. Moreover, it is usually assumed that, compared to hybrid poultry kept in IP production, indigenous or local poultry (especially ducks) that are reared in households are more resistant against various avian diseases. They constitute a reservoir of pathogens virulent to IP flocks. Avian diseases can only be successfully controlled if both poultry sub-sectors are taken into account. Furthermore, a development of FP,

with a larger number of individual birds per flock, will attract vaccine producers so that they may deliver doses suitable for use in FP flocks. Technical assistance in the form of training sessions, veterinary assistance, credits/loans, supplies of fertile eggs to hatch and poultry feeds, which with low flock numbers would be less cost-effective in extensive FP produc-

tion systems, would also be attracted. Local craftsmen manufacturing small equipment such as feeders and drinkers may take advantage of a developed FP sub-sector.

Happy and thoughtful reading!

Research Report

Use of wheat bran in rations for layer pullets

E. Wethli

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The rationale behind this experiment was the formulation of rations without using fish meal for rural poultry projects in Mozambique. High levels of wheat bran were tested. Layer pullets were used. The starter and rearing phases of the trial are reported.

In the starter period of the trial (up to four weeks of age), 2000 chicks were used. There were eight treatments with four replications each. The control diet contained 650 g/kg of maize and 7.8 g/kg of fish meal. Four treatment diets containing no fish meal were formulated with graded increases in wheat bran and decreases in maize levels. There were concomitant decreases in metabolizable energy (ME) and increases in fibre and protein contents. An attempt was made to determine the relative effects of protein and energy in these rations by supplementing one of them with synthetic lysine, methionine and maize oil. The prices (especially the foreign exchange component) of the diets without fish meal, and with lower maize contents, were considerably lower than that of the Control. Some of the starter treatments were continued into the rearing phase (up to 20 weeks of age). Seven hundred of the pullets were used in six replications of each of

five treatments.

The main result in the starter phase was that the diet containing the highest level of maize bran (Treatment E) produced the best weight gain, being 66% of that achieved with the Control ration (Treatment A). Additional lysine (Treatment F) improved this to 88% and a further methionine supplement (Treatment G) raised the weight gain relative to the Control's to 96%. No further improvement was observed by additionally increasing the energy level (Treatment H).

During the rearing phase, there was a general increase in body weight relative to the Control over the 14-week period. For example, a treatment (D) that had started as 56% ended up being 86% of the Control.

The age at sexual maturity followed the 20-week weights closely, the treatment with the lowest 20-week weight showing the most delayed maturity. Mortalities were low during both phases of the trial, and there were no statistically significant differences among treatments in either period.

Development Report

Status of poultry farming in Sindh, Pakistan

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INTRODUCTION

While the poultry population in Pakistan was estimated at 63.2 million in 1996, the poultry numbers were 11.5 million in Sindh. In 1997, hen egg production in Pakistan amounted to 311,000 tonnes and chicken meat production to 321,000 tonnes. In 1996,

per capita consumption was estimated at 1.6g for eggs and 2.6g for poultry meat. The proportion of family poultry in the national poultry flock is not available but should be significant.

CONSTRAINTS IN THE POULTRY SECTOR

Constraints identified were:

- High rate of mortality due to infectious diseases and other diseases,
- Lack of disease diagnosis facilities,
- Deficient management and feeding practices,
- Non-availability of better productive stock, and
- Lack of trained staff in poultry husbandry.

REQUIRED INTERVENTIONS

In order to reduce the incidence of infectious diseases, extension workers can play a major role. Objectives of the extension work include:

- a) To raise poultry productivity through the dissemination of useful and practical information relating to the poultry sector;
- b) To raise the standard of living of farmers through the practical applications of such knowledge systems to farm and home situation;
- c) To train farmers in the domains of suitable feeding, proper sanitation and correct vaccination;
- d) To supply poultry-keeping farmers with medicines; and

- e) To organize mass vaccination and treatment of poultry against major diseases.

Further interventions include:

- Development of poultry breeding farms,
- Economical hatchery development,
- Appropriate nutritional and feeding formulas,
- Development of broiler farms,
- Good freezing and cold storage facilities,
- Hygienic packaging conditions, and
- Proper control of infectious diseases and other diseases as well as disease diagnostic facilities.

CONCLUSION

It is needed to improve feeds, to introduce new marketing techniques, to provide better living conditions and better facilities for cold storage of meat, to de-

velop cheap feeding formulas and better planning for poultry sector.

News

First International Course on Family Poultry in Cuba

The First International Course on Family Poultry will run from 14 to 25 November 2004 in the Centro de *INFPD Newsletter Vol. 13, No. 2*

Capacitación Empresa Avícola, La Habana, Cuba. This course will be jointly organised by the *Instituto*

de Investigaciones Avícolas (or Institute of Avian Research), the *Sociedad Cubana de Productores Avícolas* (SOCPA, or Cuban Society of Poultry Producers) and the *Asociación Cubana de Producción Animal* (or Cuban Society of Animal Production). It will bring together staff of NGO and family poultry projects, producers, researchers, teachers, development agents and extension workers. There should be at least 5 participants for this course, which has Spanish as working language. Following topics will be covered: general introduction; basic principles of family poultry and local poultry; Cuban experience; alterna-

tive feeding; genotypes or breeds for rural enterprises; hygiene and control of avian diseases; reproduction and incubation; structures and technologies for the creation of poultry breeds as well as other themes of interest; participatory diagnosis; husbandry systems; sustainability of projects; egg and poultry meat production; principles for marketing systems and utilisations of poultry products; Information and extension management systems; government regulations affecting family poultry projects; general aspects of rural development; practical content of the course and field visits.

Detailed information relating to this course (fee US\$ 500 per participant) can be obtained from:

Dr. Manuel Pampín Balado, Coordinador de la Red Internacional de Avicultura Familiar para América Latina

■ *Sociedad Cubana de Productores Avícolas*

Ave. 7 de Dic. Rotonda del Cacahual. Santiago de las Vegas, Ciudad de la Habana, Cuba

Teléfonos: 53-7-579040/6834129, Fax: 53-7-579080

E-Mail: <viiacan@ceniai.inf.cu> or "Manuel Pampin" <nualles@msn.com>

■ *Asociación Cubana de Producción Animal*

Calle 10 entre 15 y 17. Vedado. Municipio Plaza, Ciudad de la Habana, Cuba

Teléfonos: 53-7-8337802/8301464, Fax: 53-7-335366

E-Mail: <inter@acpa.co.cu> or <acpa@acpa.co.cu>

The avian influenza in the Asian poultry sector: need for a long-term response

[Source: WHO [edited] <http://www.who.int/csr/don/2004_03_02/en/>, slightly modified by ED]

An emergency meeting took place in Bangkok, Thailand, at the end of February 2004. Officials from [Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations](#) (FAO), [Office International des Epizooties](#) (OIE) and [World Health Organization](#) (WHO) drew attention to several unique features of the current outbreaks of H5N1 in poultry in Asia, in particular its geographical distribution, rate of spread and severity of which are unprecedented.

Prospects for rapid control are inconsistent with worldwide experience, over more than four decades, with previous outbreaks, which have all been much smaller in scope and inherently less challenging. Even in countries with good surveillance, adequate re-

sources, and geographically limited outbreaks, control has often taken up to two years. For these reasons and others, WHO has cautioned against assumptions that the outbreaks can be controlled in the immediate future.

WHO has described the serious public health implications of these outbreaks in a [previous update](#). Up to the end of 2003, highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) was considered a rare disease. Since 1959, only 21 [outbreaks](#) had been reported worldwide (Table 1). The majority occurred in Europe and the Americas. Of the total, only six resulted in significant spread to numerous farms, and only one was associated with spread to other countries.

Table 1: Previous outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza worldwide

Year	Country/area	Domestic birds affected	Strain
1959	Scotland	Chicken	H5N1
1963	England	Turkey	H7N3
1966	Ontario (Canada)	Turkey	H5N9
1976	Victoria (Australia)	Chicken	H7N7
1979	Germany	Chicken	H7N7
1979	England	Turkey	H7N7
1983–1985	Pennsylvania (USA)*	Chicken, turkey	H5N2
1983	Ireland	Turkey	H5N8
1985	Victoria (Australia)	Chicken	H7N7
1991	England	Turkey	H5N1
1992	Victoria (Australia)	Chicken	H7N3
1994	Queensland (Australia)	Chicken	H7N3
1994–1995	Mexico*	Chicken	H5N2
1994	Pakistan*	Chicken	H7N3
1997	New South Wales (Australia)	Chicken	H7N4
1997	Hong Kong (China)*	Chicken	H5N1
1997	Italy	Chicken	H5N2
1999–2000	Italy*	Turkey	H7N1
2002	Hong Kong (China)	Chicken	H5N1
2002	Chile	Chicken	H7N3
2003	Netherlands*	Chicken	H7N7

*Outbreaks with significant spread to numerous farms, resulting in great economic losses. Most other outbreaks involved little or no spread from the initially infected farms.

Since mid-December 2003, eight Asian countries have confirmed outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza caused by the H5N1 strain. Most of these countries are experiencing outbreaks of this disease for the first time in their histories. Several outbreaks have been detected in virtually every part of the country. Over the past two months, more than 100 million birds have either died of the disease or been culled in Asia.

This figure is greater than the total number of poultry affected, over years, in the world's previous six largest outbreaks combined. [Worldwide experience](#) since 1959 supports official statements about the unprecedented nature of the present situation and the challenges for control. Unique features in the present situation include:

CONCENTRATION OF POULTRY IN BACKYARD FARMS

In several countries experiencing outbreaks, up to 80% of poultry are produced on small farms and backyard holdings in rural areas, where poultry range freely. In China, 60% of the country's estimated 13.2 billion chickens are raised on small farms in close proximity to humans and domestic animals, including pigs. This situation makes implementation of strict control measures, essential to the control of previous outbreaks,

extremely difficult. These control measures – including bird-proof, ecologically controlled housing, treatment of water supplies, disinfection of all incoming persons, equipment, and vehicles, prevention of contact with insects, rodents, and other mechanical vectors – cannot be applied on small rural farms and backyard holdings.

ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE OF POULTRY PRODUCTION

Poultry production contributes greatly to the economies and food supplies of affected countries. The agricultural sector faces the challenge of minimizing losses to industry and subsistence farmers in ways that

also reduce health risks for humans. Because many people in the region are so dependent on poultry, appropriate culling may be difficult to implement.

LACK OF CONTROL EXPERIENCE

Since the disease is new to most countries in the region, very little experience exists at national and international levels to guide the best country-specific control measures. In some countries, announcements of successful culling in certain areas are being followed

by subsequent eruptions of disease in the same areas, suggesting reintroduction of the virus, continuing presence in the environment, or inadequate verification of outbreak control.

LACK OF RESOURCES

Several countries with very widespread outbreaks lack adequate infrastructure and resources, including resources to compensate farmers and thus encourage compliance with government recommendations. In

some countries that have announced outbreaks, neither surveillance to detect the extent of spread nor culling of animals known to be infected is taking place.

THE SCALE OF INTERNATIONAL SPREAD

With so many adjacent countries affected, a region-wide strategy will be needed to ensure that gains in one country are not compromised by inadequate control in another. These unique features will make rapid control and long-term prevention of recurrence extremely difficult to achieve. Culling remains the first line of action, as recommended by FAO, OIE, and WHO, for bringing the current outbreaks under control. Unlike other economically important domestic animals, poultry raising takes place in a very short

production system. Provided sufficient resources are available to replace culled poultry stock, countries should not postpone aggressive culling because of fears of long-term consequences on poultry production.

Wild birds can play a role in introducing a virus of low pathogenicity into domestic flocks where, if allowed to circulate for several months, it can mutate into a highly pathogenic form. No evidence to date indicates that

wild birds are the source of the present outbreaks of highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza. Wild birds should not be culled.

The conclusions and recommendations of this emergency meeting that aimed at coordinating efforts to control avian influenza can be found at:

http://www.fao.org/ag/aq/info/subjects/fr/health/diseases-cards/special_avian.html

Practice-oriented training on small-scale poultry husbandry at PTC⁺ in the Netherlands

PTC⁺ is an international training centre in the Netherlands which focuses on all the links in the production chain of plant and animal commodities, (agricultural) technology, (food) technology and natural areas. It is fully recognised by the Netherlands' Ministry of Agriculture and consists of 5 separate training centres. PTC⁺ strictly follows a quality control system to guarantee the quality of the services it offers.

PTC⁺ is practice-oriented and mixes theory and practicals. It uses the slogans "learning-by-doing" and "practice makes perfect". The major part of the training staff has ample international working experience in countries with various climatic, social and economic conditions. In this framework, PTC⁺ offers a number of international training programmes on poultry husbandry. Often on request, special programmes are designed for specific target groups; level, duration, period of the year, curriculum etc. are adjusted to the needs of the requesting organisation.

In the Netherlands, special training facilities ("small poultry production units") are available for training on small-scale poultry production. Nevertheless, training may be realised "at location" abroad as well. A combination of training in the Netherlands with training

abroad is possible as well. Many participants from all parts of the world "experienced our knowledge" during training programmes in the Netherlands. For example: many persons from Bangladesh, in particular poultry experts from the [Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee](#) (BRAC), followed a training at PTC⁺.

In order to increase the relevance of its training programmes, PTC⁺ prefers to join forces with local, regional or international expertise. For that purpose, PTC⁺ is interested in "partnerships" and co-operation programmes with institutions elsewhere in the world. In this framework, PTC⁺ was involved in the establishment of international centres for practice-oriented training on poultry husbandry in Indonesia, Colombia, Tunisia, Vietnam and Popular Republic of China.

Besides training and consultancy on poultry production PTC⁺ assists in the design of curricula that are practice-oriented, also in the fields of dairy production and milk processing, horticulture, integrated pest management, farm mechanisation, etc.

Please visit the website: <http://www.ptcplus.com>

or communicate with:

PTC⁺ Head Office, P.O. Box 160, 6710 BD EDE (Gld.), The Netherlands

Tel: +31 318 645700, Fax: +31 318 595869, E-mail: <info@ptcplus.com>

3rd Workshop for Smallholder Poultry Projects in West Africa, Possotomé, Republic of Benin

The 3rd Workshop for Smallholder Poultry Projects in West Africa, with the general theme “Training and Extension Methods”, was held in Possotomé, Republic of Benin, from 8 to 11 September 2003. It was jointly organized by the ‘Programme d’Appui au Développement de l’Aviculture Villageoise’ (PADAV, or Programme for Support to Village Poultry Development), an element of the ‘Programme d’Appui au Développement du Secteur Agricole’ (PADSA, Phase II), and the [Network for Smallholder Poultry Development](#), Denmark. The objectives of this regional workshop was (1) to share recent experiences from smallholder poultry projects in West Africa and abroad, (2) to present new strategies and methods involved in Training of Trainers (extension workers and farmers), and (3) to discuss the sustainability of extension and training systems in relation to smallholder poultry development. Secondly, the objective is to sustain and de-

velop collaboration between various persons and institutions directly involved in the implementation of smallholder poultry projects in West Africa and abroad.

Around 40 persons took part in this workshop. Participants were from the following countries: Republic of Benin, Burkina Faso, Denmark, Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, Togo and Nigeria. They were representatives of the following structures: family poultry development projects, NGOs, research institutions, universities, networks for family poultry development and private sector (consultancy offices, private veterinarians). The proceedings of this gathering, which will contain all presented papers as well as discussions and recommendations, are being finalized and will be published in the near future.

Further information relating to this regional workshop can be obtained from:

■ *Jens Christian Riise* and Lone Frederiksen***

*Network for Smallholder Poultry Development, Dyrlægevej 2, 1870 Frederiksberg C, Copenhagen, Denmark, Tel: +45 3528 3760/3765, Fax: +45 35283762, E-mail: * <riise@kvl.dk> ; ** <lof@kvl.dk>, Website: <http://www.poultry.kvl.dk>*

18th Latin-American Poultry Congress in Santa Cruz, Bolivia

The Congress was held from 7 to 10 October 2003 at the “Los Tajibos” Convention Hotel and Center in Santa Cruz, Bolivia. The general theme of the Congress was “Food Security for Development”. On 7 October 2003, the 2nd Family Poultry Pre-Congress, with the theme “Family Poultry and Food Security for Development”, was organized. The Pre-Congress was jointly organized by the [International Network for Family Poultry Development](#) (INFPD), the FAO [Animal Production and Health Division](#) (AGA) and the [Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University](#). The event was funded by AGA in collaboration with the Danish International Development Assistance *INFPD Newsletter Vol. 13, No. 2*

(DANIDA). Participants included representatives from: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Cuba, Denmark, Ecuador, Guatemala, Italy, Mexico, Nicaragua, The Netherlands, Nigeria, Senegal and United States of America.

Presented papers covered a wide range of issues (general introduction, cases studies from Latin America, feeds and feeding, genetics and genetic resources, health, poultry as a tool for rural development, etc.). On the morning of the Pre-Congress, participants presented papers on the rural

poultry situation in their respective countries. A poultry project implemented in Nicaragua and funded by DANIDA was presented in detail. Each presentation was followed by wide discussions. The afternoon session of the Pre-Congress dealt with operational issues concerning the Latin-American Family Poultry sub-Network. The representative of FAO/AGAP, Dr E.Guerne-Bleich, gave several proposals, and ways of collaboration and cooperation between FAO and the Latin-American Poultry sub-Network were explored. Tackled issues included elections of representatives in Latin America. Dr Manuel Pampin from Cuba was elected General Coordinator of the INFPD for Latin America, and Dr Marco Cisneros was elected Technical Coordinator of the INFPD for Latin America. Their terms of reference were as follows:

- (1) To coordinate the initiation of the INFPD in Latin America,
- (2) To supervise the implementation of all activities,
- (3) To recruit new members and communicate constantly with them, and
- (4) To collect membership dues.

Country representatives for Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Guatemala and Nicaragua were also elected. An annual fee of 15 US\$ was instituted for membership in the INFPD Working Group of the [World's Poultry Science Association](#) (WPSA). The strong commitment

of the Latin-American Representatives to strengthen the sub-Network's activities was demonstrated during this Pre-Congress. In the days following the Family Poultry Pre-Congress, the Bolivian counterparts organized outings to enable participants to meet rural poultry producers near Santa Cruz. It was noticed that these producers are working at a great disadvantage, as a result of poor access to markets, goods and services, weak institutions, lack of skills, knowledge and appropriate technologies. The result is that both production and productivity remain well below potentials, and losses and waste remain high. Discussions held with the Bolivian counterparts suggested that any project to support the family poultry production should include steps to fully utilize adapted breeds, local feed resources and appropriate vaccines. This should improve the situation.

Plans for the participation in the XXII World's Poultry Congress to be held in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2004 were also discussed, and members who have submitted their paper before 30 September 2003 to Prof. Funso Sonaiya, Coordinator of the Family Poultry Session, are potential participants to be sponsored by FAO and/or DANIDA. It is also planned to conduct an electronic conference on family poultry in Spanish. This will be a good opportunity for people from Spanish-speaking countries to develop a dynamic sub-network in Latin America.

Further information relating to the 2nd Family Poultry Pre-Congress can be obtained from:

- *Dr. Emmanuelle Guerne Bleich, Animal Production Officer (Livestock Development), FAO Animal Production and Health Division, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100 Rome, Italy*
E-mail: <Emmanuelle.GuerneBleich@fao.org>

Publications

Farmer Field Schools: the Kenyan experience

The publication, with the title "Farmer Field Schools: INFPD Newsletter Vol. 13, No. 2

the Kenyan experience. Report of the Farmer Field School stakeholders' forum held on the 27th March 2003 at ILRI, Nairobi, Kenya", is a product of an event jointly organised by the [Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations](#) (FAO), the [Kenya Agricultural Research Institute](#) (KARI) and the [International Livestock Research Institute](#) (ILRI) together with Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development (MoALD) of Kenya to share experiences of various Farmer Field Schools (FFS) projects in the country.

The FFS approach is a holistic, participatory and interactive learning approach which aims at building farmers' capacity to analyse their production systems,

identify problems, test possible solutions and eventually adopt the practices most suitable to their farming system. The knowledge acquired during the learning process enables farmers to adapt their existing technologies to be productive, profitable, and responsive to changing conditions, or to test and adopt new technologies or ideas. The FFS approach to extension was first introduced in Kenya in 1996 by FAO and has since been adapted for a large range of contexts and production systems and by various organisations and projects. Currently there are over 1,000 FFSs on-going projects in Kenya under the coordination and funding of different agencies. The FFS approach may be applied in the field of family poultry.

Copies of this publication or an electronic version are available free of charge and may be obtained from:

- *FAO Representation to Kenya*
5th Floor, Utumishi House, Mamlaka Road, P.O. Box 30470, 00100, Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: (+254) 2725128, 2725069, 2725359/69; Fax: (+254) 2727584, E-mail: <FAO-KE@fao.org>
- *International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)*
P.O.Box 30709, Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: (+254) 20 630 743; Fax: (+254) 20 631 499, E-mail: <ILRI-library@cgiar.org>

Your comments on this publication or enquiries regarding the FFS approach are highly welcome! The publication will be also available from the ILRI website (<http://www.ilri.org>).

Training of Trainers Manual for Livestock Farmer Field Schools

The Animal Health Programme of the Department for International Development (DFID-UK) and the [Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations](#) (FAO) decided to support a research and development project lead by the [International Livestock Research Institute](#) (ILRI) to adapt the Farmer Field School methodology for livestock production systems. The present manual is the first output of the project and the product of a participatory workshop on the training of trainers (TOT) for livestock FFS held from 17 to 29 September 2001 in Mabanga FTC, Bungoma, Kenya. This manual is a compilation of notes taken during the workshop, existing FFS TOT reports and participatory *INFPD Newsletter Vol. 13, No. 2*

epidemiology handouts from the Community-based Animal Health and Participatory Epidemiology (CAPE) unit of the Organisation of African Unity/Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (OAU/IBAR).

The manual, compiled by Bruno Minjauw, consists of six sections [Training of trainers organisation; Farmer Field School principles, FFS methodology; Organization and management of Farmer Field Schools; FFS participatory methodology and techniques; and Participatory epidemiology]. This valuable work may be of use to family poultry scientists and workers.

Copies of this manual may be requested from:

- *International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)*
P.O.Box 30709, Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: (+254) 20 630 743; Fax: (+254) 20 631 499, E-mail: <ILRI-library@cgiar.org>
or contact person: Dr. Bruno Minjauw, ILRI Livestock Farmer Field School Project,
E-mail: <b.minjauw@cgiar.org>
- *Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (IBAR)*
Organization of African Unity (OAU), P.O. Box 30786, Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: (+254) 338544, Fax: (+254) 220546, E-mail: <oau-ibar@africaonline.co.ke>

Goose production

This publication, published by the FAO [Animal Production and Health Division](#) (AGA), was edited by Roger Buckland and Gérard Guy. It is a guide to sustainable domestic goose production. Geese have a number of inherent advantages: they can consume and digest large amounts of high-fibre and low-quality feed; they are easy to manage; and their rapid growth renders them one of the most efficient sources for meat production. In addition, feathers/down and fatty liver are valuable by-products, while their strong territorial instinct makes them very effective guards. As selective feeders, geese have been used for weed control in a wide range of crops. All aspects of goose production are discussed in this book, including feeding and nutrition, housing, general husbandry, flock health and breeding. Regional differences in production practices are also described. The book will be of practical value to those planning to keep geese and those who already keep geese, as well as students and development agencies wishing to promote goose production.

The publication consists of two parts:

- (1) "Part I – Goose production systems" has fifteen chapters [Introduction; Origins and breeds of domestic geese; Behaviour; Digestive physiology; Geese identification; Male and female reproductive systems; Breeder flock management; Artificial insemination; Incubation; Geese for meat production; Feather and down production; Fatty liver or foie gras production; Geese as weeders; Killing and processing; and Goose diseases].
- (2) "Part II – Invited papers" presents case studies from Chile and South America, Indonesia and Asia, and Poland and Eastern Europe.

A bibliography and a number of appendixes complete the publication.

This FAO Technical Paper (Animal Production and Health Paper No. 154, 146 pages, 2002), available in English and French, may be obtained from:

- *Sales and Marketing Group, Information Division, FAO, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100, Rome, Italy*
Tel: (+39) 06 57051, Fax: (+39) 06 5705 3360, E-mail: <publications-sales@faor.org>

International Diary

National Symposium on the Potentials of Family Poultry in Lagos State, Nigeria

The symposium, titled “National Symposium on the Potentials of Family Poultry as a Tool in Poverty Reduction, Food Security and Rural Development”, will be held in Lagos State, Nigeria, in August 2004. The primary objective of the symposium is to sensitize governments, corporate organizations, local and foreign development institutions and organizations, multi-lateral donor agencies, policy makers, and technocrats and other stakeholders on the potentials of family poultry as a tool in poverty alleviation, food security and sustainable rural development in Nigeria. This symposium, which is expected to lead to the development of Nigeria’s National Smallholder Family Poultry Programme, is to enable Nigeria to learn from

experiences from various other countries, especially Bangladesh. Resource persons are expected to come from international development organisations like the [International Livestock Research Institute](#) (ILRI), the [Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations](#) (FAO), the [International Network for Family Poultry Development](#) (INFPD) and from countries like Bangladesh, Benin, Denmark, Mozambique, Netherlands, Senegal and South Africa. The symposium is being held as a part of the Poultry Summit organised by the World’s Poultry Science Association Nigeria Branch (WPSA-NB).

For more information about this symposium, please contact any of the following:

- *Adekiitan Adebola Kuyoro,*
Nigeria, E-mail: <sfpmode1@hotmail.com>
- *Prof. Daisy Eruvbetine, General Secretary, WPSA-NB*
Department of Animal Nutrition, University of Agriculture, P.M.B. 2240, Abeokuta, Nigeria
E-mail: <daisy@eruvbetine.com>
- *Prof. E. Babafunso Sonaiya, Co-ordinator, International Network for Family Poultry Development*
Department of Animal Science, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria. Tel: +234 803 719 7378
E-mail: <fsonaiya@oauife.edu.ng>

XXII World’s Poultry Congress in Istanbul, Turkey

The XXII World’s Poultry Congress will take place at the ICEC (Istanbul Convention and Exhibition Center) in Istanbul, Turkey, from 8 to 13 June 2004. The scientific program will include a plenary session jointly organized by the [World’s Poultry Science Association](#) (WPSA), the [Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations](#) (FAO) and the [International Network for Family Poultry Development](#) (INFPD). This plenary session, titled “Global challenges and benefits related to poultry research and development in the Third World”, will be chaired by Dr. Peter Hunton, President of WPSA (<phunton@sympatico.ca>) and

coordinated by Prof. Avigdor Cahaner, member of the Scientific Program Committee (<cahaner@agri.huji.ac.il>). The plenary session will consist of nine invited presentations, covering a wide range of topics. The main objective of this plenary session is to show that poultry research and development activities in developing countries can be beneficial not only to poultry production (at all levels) in these countries, but also to poultry science and sustainable poultry production in developed countries. In addition, there will be a session specifically devoted to family poultry and titled “Objectives and strategies for

improving family poultry production in developing countries.” Five oral presentations will be given during this session that will be chaired by Prof. E. Babafunso Sonaiya, INFPD Coordinator (<fsonaiya@oauife.edu.ng>).

Furthermore, INFPD envisages to mount an exhibition stand for highlighting profit opportunities of the industrial poultry sub-sector in a sustainable development of family poultry. This exhibition will consist of various materiel, such as flip charts, posters, pamphlets and a video programme showing major interventions in

family poultry and their positive implications in the industrial poultry sub-sector. At this exhibition, comprehensive and objective information and data about various aspects of different poultry production systems will be provided. The following four geographical regions will be covered: Africa, Latin America, Asia and Europe. Each geographical region will be dealt with by a working group, namely E. Fallou Guèye and E. Babafunso Sonaiya for Africa, Manuel Pampin, Marco Cisneros and Harm de Vries for Latin America, Robyn Alder and Jonathan Bell for Asia, and Asifo Ajuyah for the South Pacific Region.

More information on scientific matters can be obtained from:

Secretary of WPSA Turkish Branch

Dr. Servet Yalçın, Ege University, Faculty of Agriculture, Department of Animal Science, 35100 Izmir, Turkey

Tel: +90 232 388 4000/1449, Fax: +90 232 388 1867, E-mail: <yalcin@ziraat.ege.edu.tr>

Detailed information about the congress are progressively made also available on its website at:

<http://www.wpc2004.org>

11th International Conference of the Association of Institutions for Tropical Veterinary Medicine & 15th Veterinary Association Malaysia Congress in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia

The 11th International Conference of the Association of Institutions of Tropical Veterinary Medicine (AITVM), in conjunction with the 15th Veterinary Association Malaysia (VAM) Congress, will be held from 23 to 27 August 2004 at Sunway Lagoon Resort Hotel in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia. These events will be jointly organized by the AITVM, the VAM, the Department of Veterinary Services Malaysia and the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Universiti Putra Ma-

laysia. The general theme of the Conference, which is “Animal Health: A Breakpoint in Economic Development?”, reflects the importance of animal health in the sustainable development of the animal industry. The focus will be on the improvement of human health and quality of life by means of increased and safe food production through the enhancement of research, training and education in veterinary medicine and livestock production (including family poultry production).

OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

- To share and exchange knowledge and experience in various aspects of tropical veterinary medicine;
- To provide a forum for exchange and dissemination of information in the various fields of veterinary science and related professions; and
- To establish and strengthen relationship in professional development, education, and research through networking and collaboration of members and participants.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Conference participants will include animal scientists, private practitioners, academicians, feed technologists, agronomists, policy makers, government regulators, livestock producers, students and others from various veterinary-related professions from all parts of the world. The organizing committee invites people to attend and to present oral papers and/or posters in the

above areas. Abstracts of papers for oral or poster presentations should be up to 200 words giving a brief description of the paper objective and results. Abstracts should reach the Scientific Programme Committee no later than 30 October 2003 (you can still try, although this deadline is outdated!). Submissions can be made by air mail or electronic mail (e-mail).

Detailed information relating to submission of abstracts, registration, accommodation, scientific and cultural programmes, exhibitions, etc. can be obtained from the Conference Secretariat at the following addresses:

■ *Prof. Dr Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman*

The Secretariat, 11th AITVM Conference/15th VAM Congress, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Universiti Putra Malaysia, 43400 UPM Serdang, Selangor, Malaysia, Tel: +603 89468314, Fax: +603 89488287, E-mail: <sheikh@vet.upm.edu.my>

■ *Assoc. Prof. Dr Fatimah Iskandar, Chairman Scientific Programme Committee*

11th AITVM Conference/15th VAM Congress, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Universiti Putra Malaysia, 43400 UPM Serdang, Selangor, Malaysia, Tel: +603 89468271, Fax: +603 89468333, E-mail: <fatimah@vet.upm.edu.my>

For more information on the Conference, please visit the AITVM website:

<http://www.vet.upm.edu.my/AITVM-VAMconference> or contact <caitvm@vet.upm.edu.my>

Obituary



Abdul Jalil Ambar

Mr. Abdul Jalil Ambar was born on October 2, 1940, in Comilla, East Bengal in British India. He died on February 26, 2004 in Dhaka, Bangladesh, from heart failure.

Jalil Ambar, as he was generally known, played a pivotal role in research and development of village poultry in a career that spanned forty years. He graduated in Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry from the Agricultural University, Mymensingh (Bangladesh) in 1963. His first posting was on research in poultry breeding at the same University. He then joined the Directorate of Livestock Services, where he had increasing responsibility in the management of poultry farms. Perhaps the greatest of his research achievements was the breeding research that led to the establishment of the 'Sonali' hybrid layer, which combined high egg production under semi-scavenging conditions with an appearance that integrated well under village conditions.

He served as Project Director for a number of projects, including two for the establishment of new duck farms. The best known of these projects was the original Smallholder Livestock Development Project, which led to the development of the integrated village poultry production system known as the Bangladesh poultry model. He was responsible for imparting a finely de-

veloped science of village poultry production to thousands of young people, who in turn passed it on to many fold more people, through training in the Participatory Livestock Development Project, and then in the Smallholder Livestock Development Project in Five Southern Districts, where he was Breeding Farm Consultant. Just two days before his death he was working at the breeding farm; he had said that he was always happy when he was working at the farm.

Jalil Ambar had a phenomenal capacity for mental arithmetic, which put to shame those who grew up in the time of electronic calculators – let alone computers. He had an impeccable integrity throughout his professional life, although he had to work at times in an environment where this was not shared by all. He had an endearing simplicity in some ways. It is said that as a project director he was engaged in a discussion with a contractor over the cost of some works, when the contractor pulled out his mobile phone to consult with his partners. Thinking he was being threatened with a weapon, Jalil Ambar immediately assented to the demands of the contractor!

Jalil Ambar was a man who was always ready to meet his Maker, so although he left suddenly, we may say that he was prepared. He is survived by his wife, daughter and four sons

