

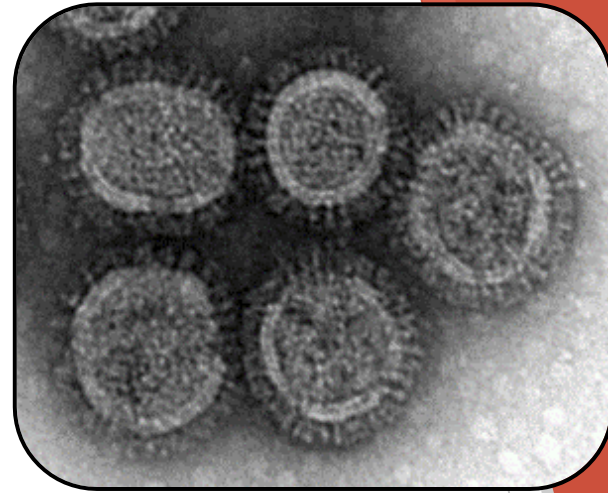
Avian Influenza Update Webinar Agenda January 22, 2016

University of Georgia
Poultry Science Department

Agenda

- ▶ Indiana avian influenza update
 - ▶ Justin Fowler, UGA Poultry Science
- ▶ Report on Georgia AI hotline activity
 - ▶ Bruce Webster, UGA Poultry Science
- ▶ Review of resources on UGA CES Avian Flu page
 - ▶ Bruce Webster, UGA Poultry Science
- ▶ Take home message for county agents
 - ▶ Casey Ritz, UGA Poultry Science
- ▶ Communicating HPAI
 - ▶ Julie McPeake, Chief Communication Officer, GDA

Avian Influenza: Indiana. Justin Fowler



- ▶ January 15th
 - ▶ High-path H7N8
- ▶ Surveyed in a 6 mile radius
 - ▶ 9 turkey flocks total
 - ▶ 8 of them were low-path
- ▶ In total, 400,000 birds will be depopulated
- ▶ Control Zone
 - Expanded additional 6 miles





Report on AI Hotline Activity

“A Reflection Back Over the Last 4
Months of Use ”

770-766-6850 -GPLN

A. Bruce Webster
Poultry Science Dept.
University of Georgia

The Georgia AI Hotline Response Team

UGA Poultry Science

- Dr. Bruce Webster
- Dr. Brian Fairchild
- Dr. Casey Ritz

Any one of these AI Response Team members can be the first to respond to a caller on the AI Hotline

GPLN

- Dr. Doug Anderson
- Dr. Jim Davis
- Dr. Louise Dufour-Zavala
- Dr. Doug Waltman
- Mrs. Jessi Kimbrell
- Mr. Len Chappell

USDA

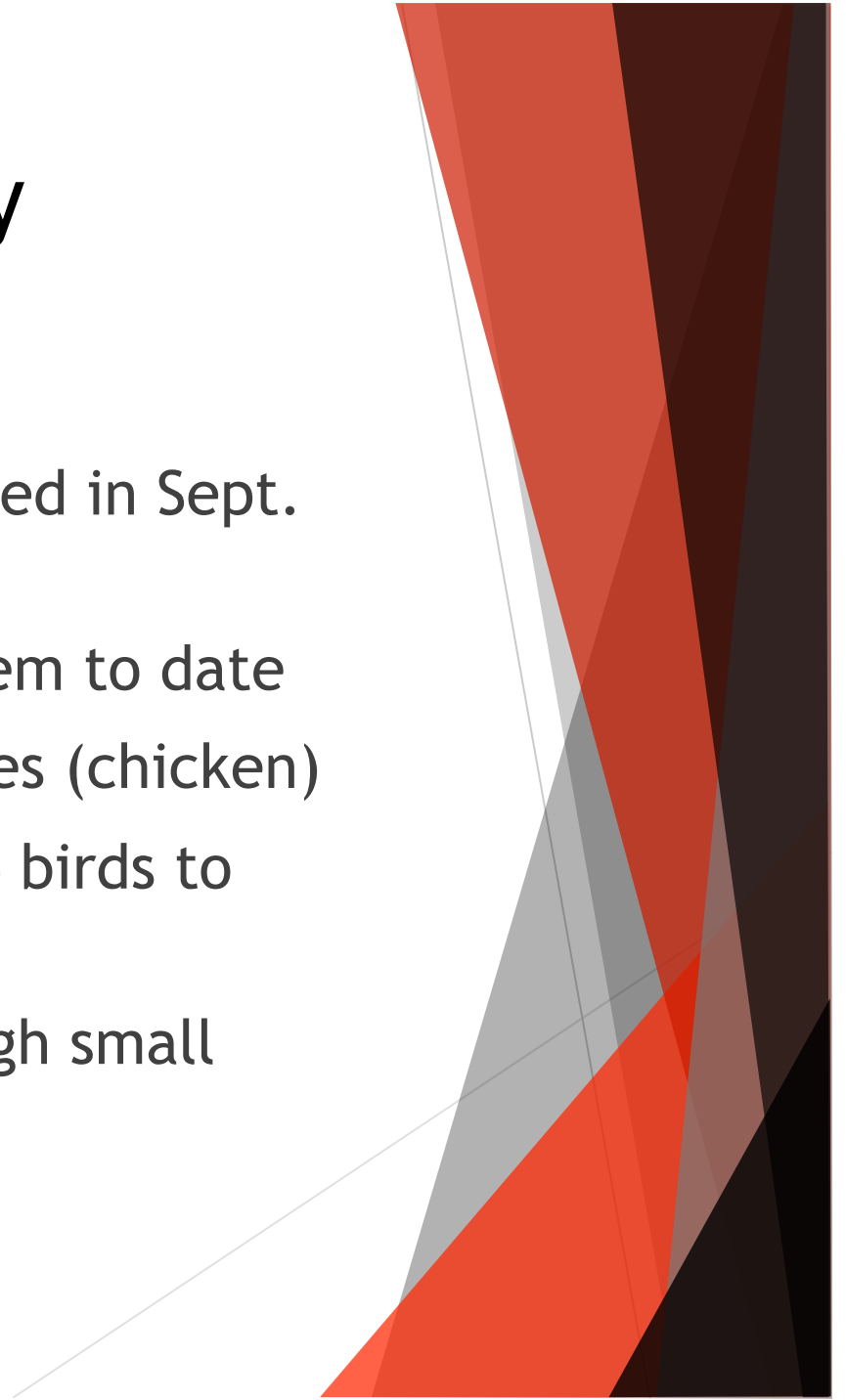
- Dr. Martin Smeltzer
- Dr. Koren Custer (south GA VMO)
- Dr. Keren Rozensher (south GA VMO)

AI Hotline Targets Backyard Flock Owners

- ▶ **USDA Customer Service Centers** provide the number during business and after work hours including weekends
- ▶ **GDA Supervisors and Regional Inspectors** can provide the number to callers into the GDA website
- ▶ **Georgia County Extension Agents** have the AI Hotline number incorporated into the “Small Flock Decision Guide” (AI survey form; fillable pdf).

The AI Hotline History

- ▶ AI Hotline System was initiated in Sept. 2015
- ▶ 19 calls into the Hotline System to date
- ▶ All 19 flocks are single species (chicken)
- ▶ The flock sizes ranged from 4 birds to more than 100 birds
- ▶ 2 of the 19 cases came through small animal veterinarian clinics



AI Hotline History continued...

► The Backyard Flock Case Distributions are as follows:

South of Interstate 20 = 7 cases

North of Interstate 20 = 9 cases

Not sure = 2 case

Alabama = 1 case

- The highest total score on the “Small Flock Decision Guide” (AI survey) was 26.
- The lowest total score was 0.

The Small Flock Decision Guide

Scores Summaries for the 19

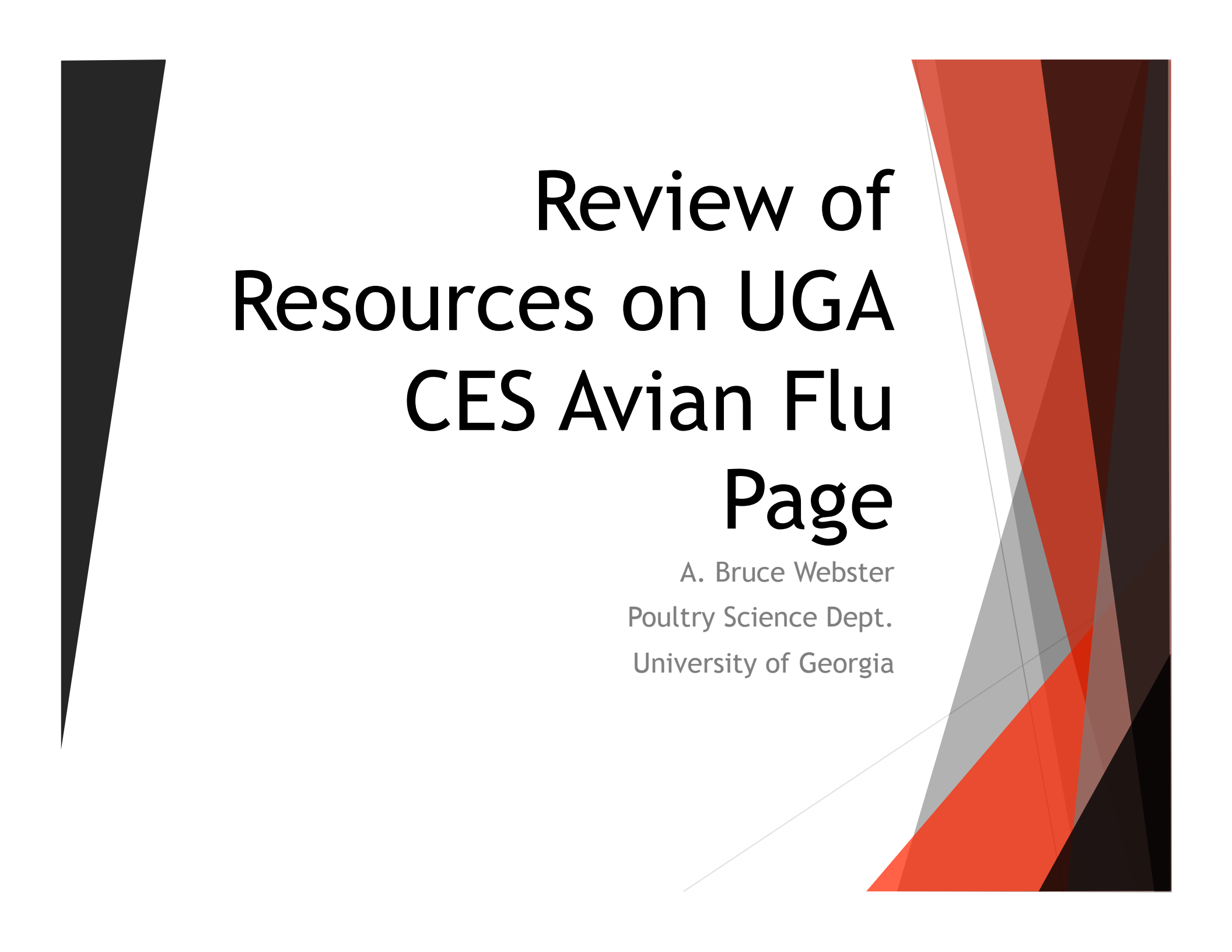
Symptoms	Number of Backyard Flocks with this Symptom
Sudden death without clinical signs	7
Swelling of head, eyelids, combs, wattles, hocks	0
Purple discoloration of wattles, combs, legs	0
Coughing, sneezing	2
Lack of coordination/paralysis	3
Nasal discharge	1
Diarrhea	1
Ruffled feathers	4
Lack of energy and appetite	3
Decreased egg production	5
Soft shelled or misshaped eggs	1

The County Agent's Role in Backyard Flock Assessments

- ▶ 5/19 cases reported through the Hotline system were called in by County Extension Agents
- ▶ Agents from Wilcox, Walton, Cobb, Jasper, and Carroll county have participated in the screening of backyard flocks before calling into the AI Hotline .
- ▶ County Agent participation in the AI Hotline system is vital to ensure the earliest possible detection of AI in backyard flocks

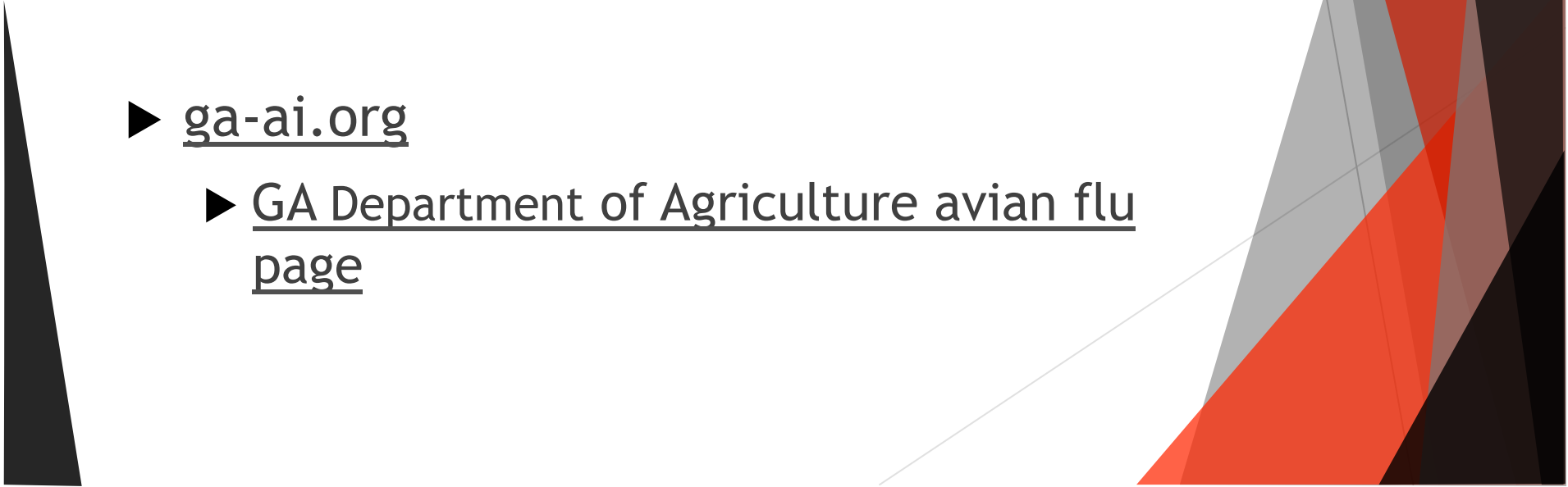
The Diagnosis Summary of the 19 Flocks Handled through the AI Hotline System

- ▶ 8/19 flocks were submitted to the lab for testing
- ▶ 10/19 flocks were dismissed from the AI Hotline because mortality did not increase in 3 consecutive days
- ▶ 2/19 had the diagnosis of *Mycoplasma synoviae*
- ▶ 1/19 diagnosed as renal gout



Review of Resources on UGA CES Avian Flu Page

A. Bruce Webster
Poultry Science Dept.
University of Georgia

- 
- The slide features abstract geometric decorations. On the left, a solid black triangle points upwards. On the right, a complex arrangement of overlapping triangles in shades of red, orange, and dark brown is visible, with some lighter gray and white areas interspersed.
- ▶ <http://extension.uga.edu/topics/poultry/avian-flu/>
 - ▶ [Also preventai.uga.edu](http://preventai.uga.edu)
 - ▶ [UGA avian flu page](#)
 - ▶ ga-ai.org
 - ▶ [GA Department of Agriculture avian flu page](#)

Avian Flu Page

Poultry: Avian Flu

UGA Resources

- [Avian Influenza: Frequently Asked Questions](#) (pdf)
- [AI Update September 2015](#) (pdf)
- [Avian influenza outbreak is concern for poultry industry, not general public, UGA poultry expert says](#)
- [Avian Influenza Preparations & Precautions](#) (pdf)
- [Background of the Current Avian Influenza Outbreak](#) (pdf)
- [Quick Guide to Signs of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza](#) (pdf)
- [Small Flock Decision Guide Fillable](#) (pdf) New 1/8.
- [Small Flock Decision Instructions](#) (pdf) New 1/8.
- [What Happens if Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Hits Poultry in Your County?](#) (pdf)

Avian Flu Page

Additional Online Resources

Federal

- [Biosecurity for Birds](#)
Translation languages:
 - [Hindi](#) (pdf)
 - [Korean](#) (pdf)
 - [Mandarin](#) (pdf)
 - [Spanish](#) (pdf)
 - [Vietnamese](#) (pdf)
- [HPAI Factsheet Wildlife Biosecurity July 2015](#)(pdf)
- [United States Department of Agriculture Avian Influenza](#)

Avian Flu Page

State of Georgia

- [Biosecurity for All Service Providers to Poultry Farms \(pdf\)](#)
- [Georgia Dept of Agriculture](#)
- [GDA Notification and Biosecurity Recommendations 6-10-15 \(pdf\)](#)
- [Georgia Response Plan For Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza In Poultry \(pdf\)](#)
- [Goose Brochure 2008 \(pdf\)](#)
- [How to handle Dead Birds or Dead Bird Inquiries \(pdf\)](#)

Poultry Industry

- [ALL IN or ALL GONE](#)

UGA CES Flyer

Help prevent **AVIAN INFLUENZA** in Georgia

Currently, avian influenza (AI) is **not a threat to human health or food safety in Georgia**. AI poses a risk to all poultry operations from backyard flocks to the state's \$28 billion commercial industry. The key to preventing the spread of the disease is **biosecurity**. All bird owners should take measures to prevent the exposure of flocks to AI.

Watch for the following symptoms in your flock:

- Sudden death without clinical signs
- Coughing
- Nasal discharge
- Watery or green diarrhea
- Swelling around head and neck
- Lethargy
- Purple discoloration of wattles, combs and legs

Call the avian influenza hotline at the Georgia Department of Agriculture with questions and concerns or to report a suspected case:

(855) 491-1432



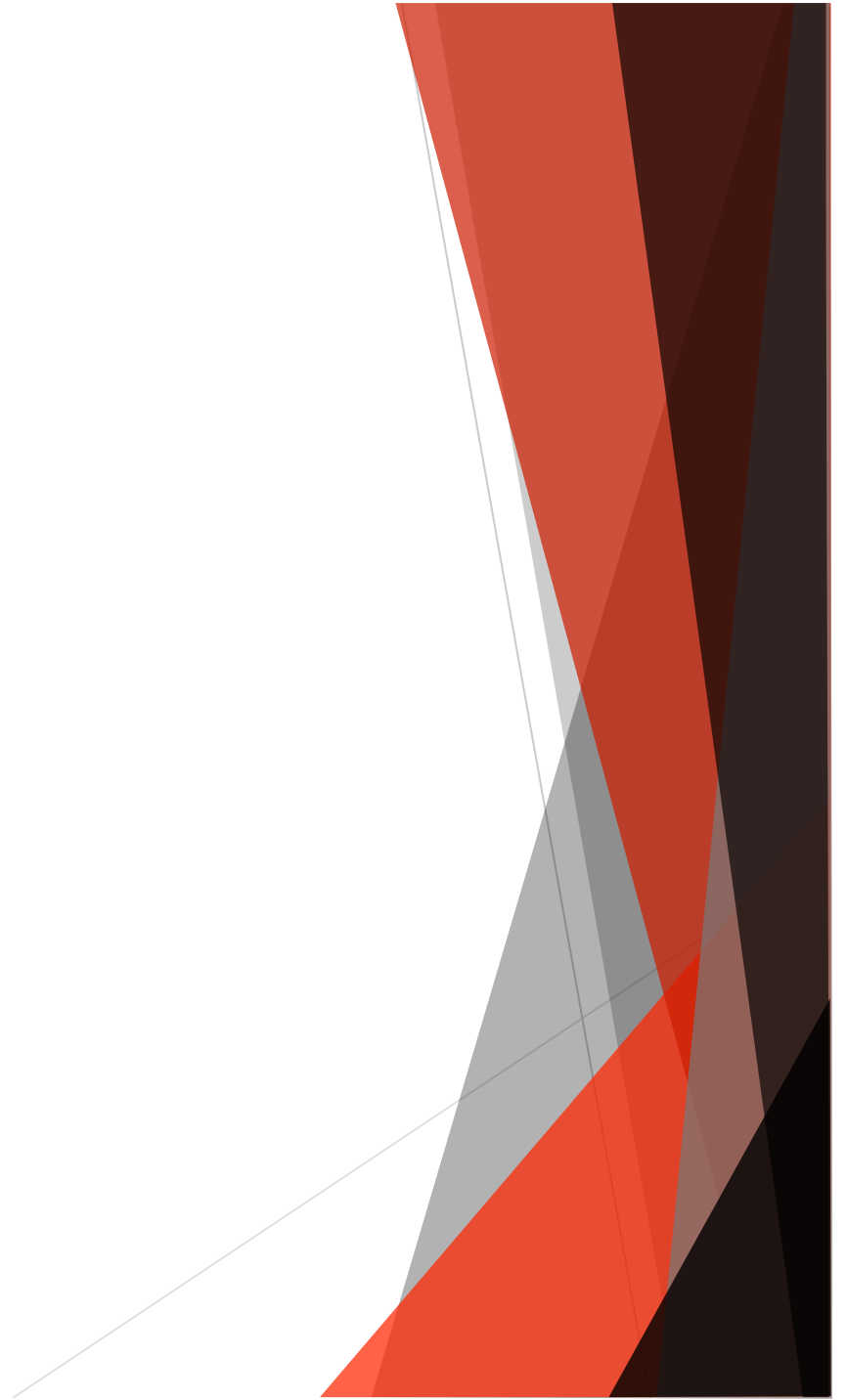
preventai.uga.edu
ga-ai.org



Biosecurity Basics

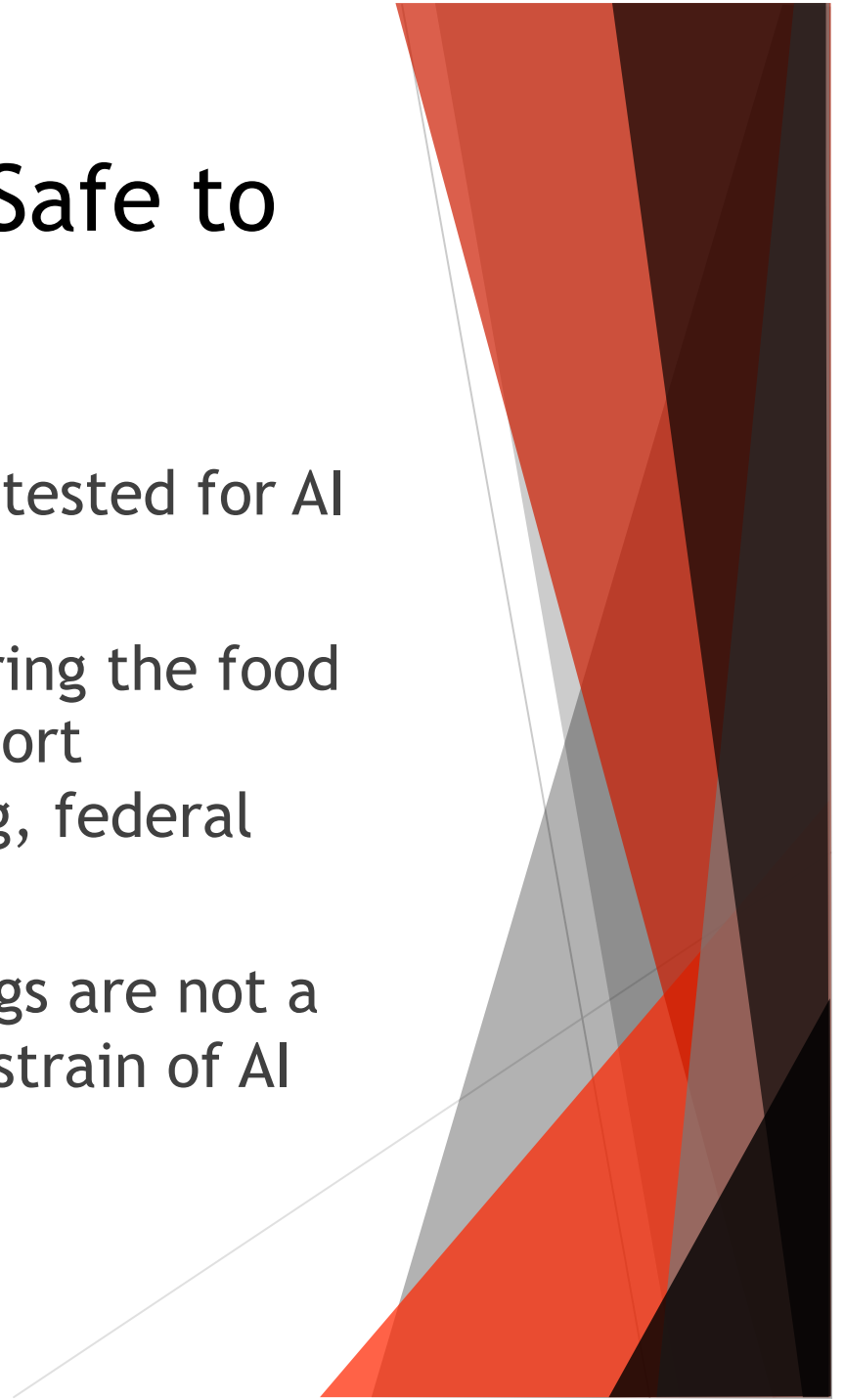
Casey W. Ritz, Ph.D.
Extension Poultry Scientist
University of Georgia

AVIAN INFLUENZA REMINDERS



Poultry Products are Safe to Eat

- ▶ All Georgia broiler flocks are tested for AI prior to slaughter
- ▶ Risk of infected poultry entering the food supply is extremely low - import restrictions, extensive testing, federal inspection programs
- ▶ Properly cooked meat and eggs are not a source of infection from any strain of AI virus

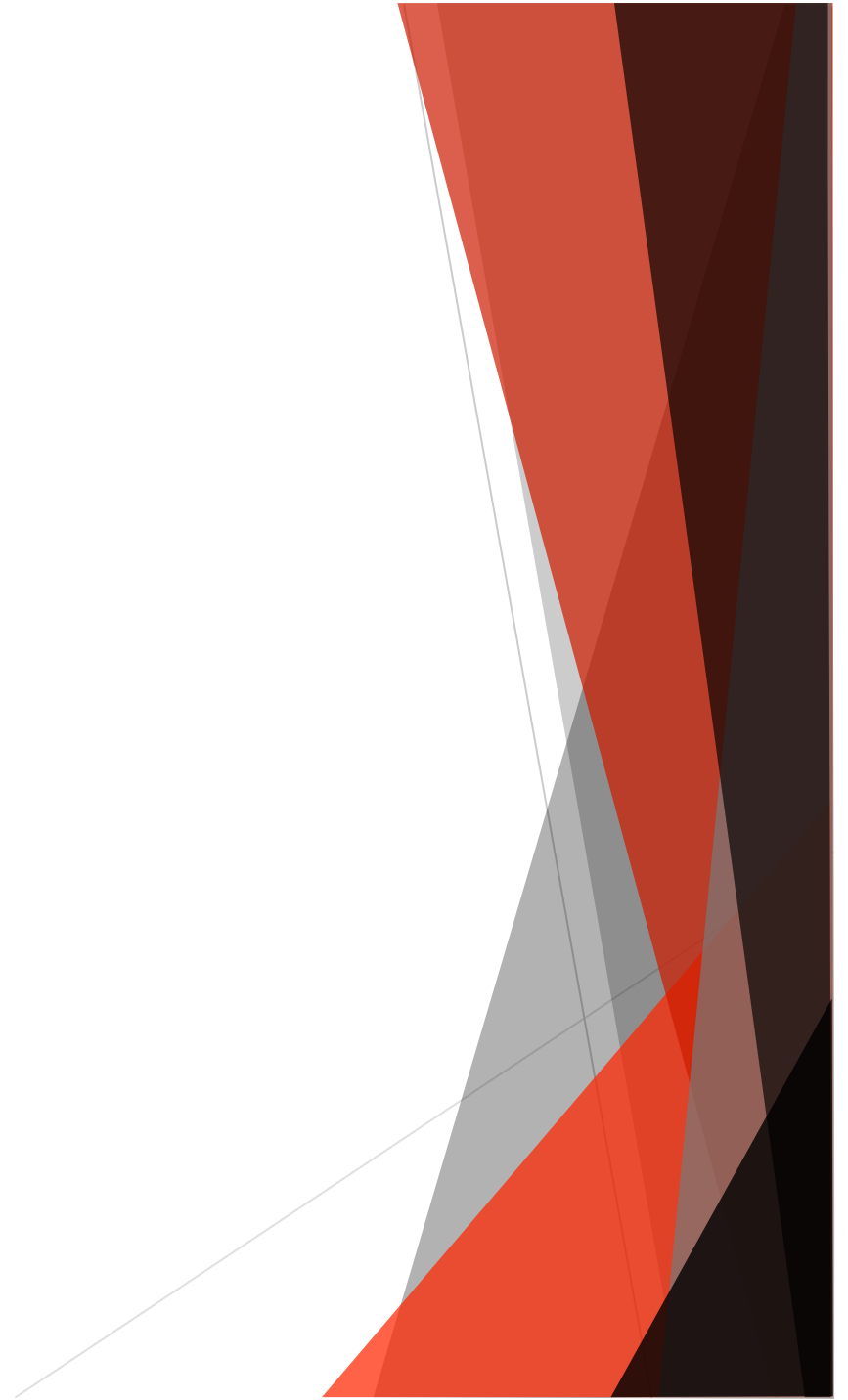


No direct threat to human health

- ▶ Risk of contracting AI from birds is extremely low. AI viruses do not usually affect humans.
- ▶ Rare cases of infection have resulted from close physical contact with infected live birds.
- ▶ There are no known cases of human infection from the current AI viral strains threatening the U.S. poultry populations



Biosecurity Basics



What is Biosecurity?

A set of practices to limit the spread of disease-causing pathogens

Prevention mind-set



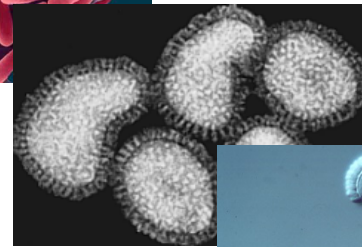
Biosecurity

- ▶ Informed common sense

 - ➡ isolation, traffic control, sanitation

- ▶ Protection

- ▶ Containment



Biosecurity

- ▶ Purchase eggs and chicks from NPIP source
- ▶ Minimize wild bird contact
- ▶ Minimize visitors with other birds
- ▶ Clean and disinfect regularly
- ▶ Confinement rearing preferred
- ▶ Practice all-in all-out management



Biosecurity

- ▶ Avoid mixing age groups
 - ▶ Passed-on experience can be deadly
- ▶ Avoid mixing species
 - ▶ Menagerie can be a menace
- ▶ Neither a borrower nor a lender be
 - ▶ Minimize sharing of equipment
- ▶ Introduce new birds with caution
 - ▶ Isolate at least 3-4 weeks



Biosecurity

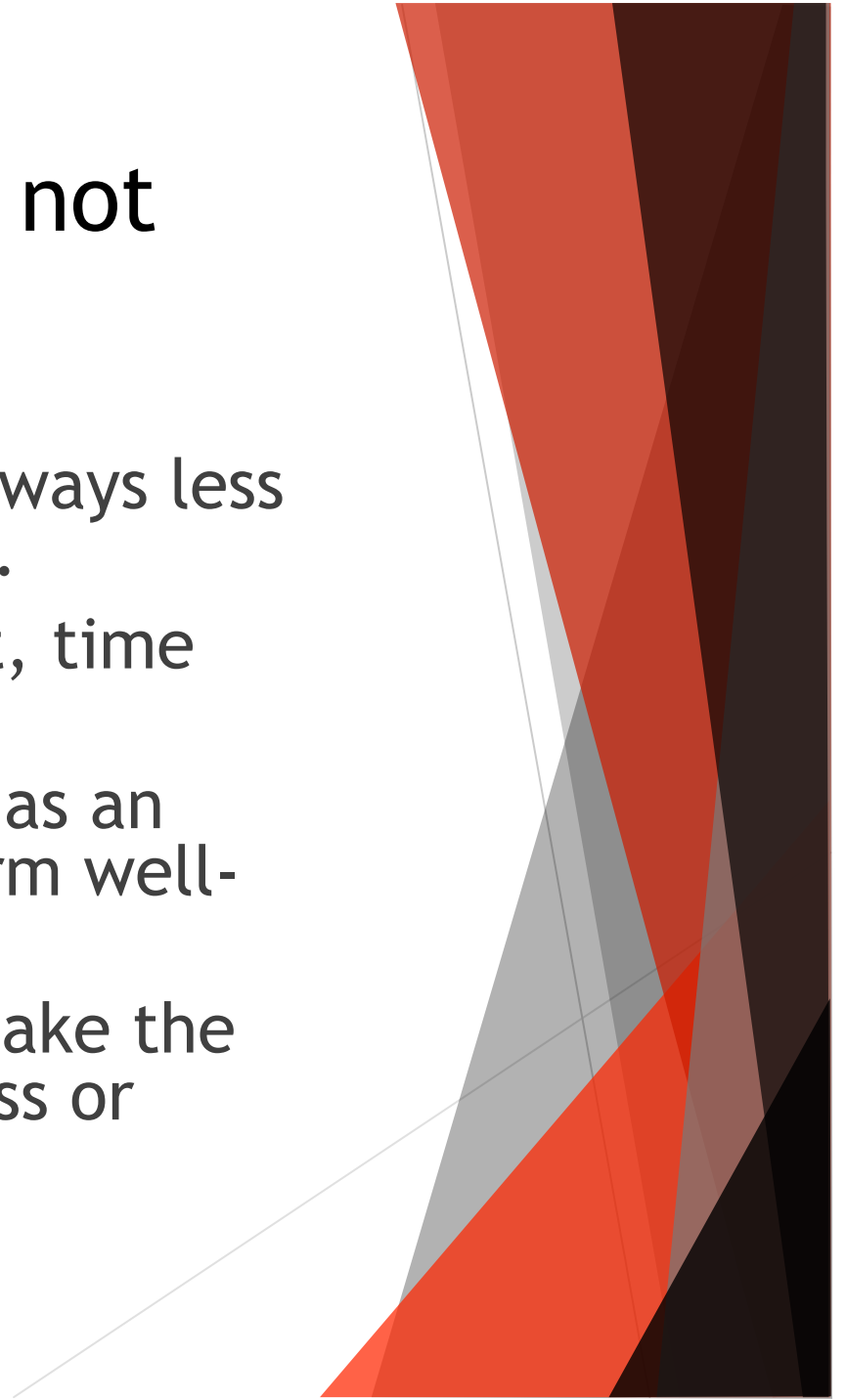
- ▶ Dedicated clothes and shoes when attending to your birds.
- ▶ Sanitizing footbath can help but is not a substitute for dedicated footwear



**Beware of
the Evil
that Lurks on
the Soles
of Men.**

Disease prevention is not always easy

- ▶ Prevention of disease is always less expensive than treatment.
- ▶ At times it is inconvenient, time consuming and expensive.
- ▶ However, must be viewed as an investment in the long-term well-being of the farm.
- ▶ Disease prevention may make the difference between success or failure.





Questions?

Dr. Casey Ritz
critz@uga.edu
www.poultry.uga.edu
706-542-9139



Communicating HPAI

Julie McPeake

Georgia Department of Agriculture

MAC Unified Commanders: Dr. Cris Young, USDA & Dr. Robert Cobb, GDA
MAC Industry Liaisons: Dr. Louise Zavala & Mike Giles; ESF11 Coordinators: Gary Kelley & Venessa Sims

HPAI Org Chart
8-25-15

Incident Commander
Dan Duncan

Liaison
Sydne Smith

Safety Officer
Cora Potter

PIO
Julie McPeake

Planning Section Chief
Brandon Saucedo

Operations Section Chief
Mark Murrah

Logistics Section Chief
Paul Thompson

Finance Section Chief
Alec Asbridge

Key Message

Currently Avian Influenza is not a human health or food safety concern; but a huge economic concern for the Georgia poultry industry and state of Georgia as a whole. However, the department of public health is closely monitoring the situation.



Food Safety

HPAI is purely a production and economic situation for our poultry industry. It is safe to consume properly handled and cooked poultry products, including meat and eggs.



Public Health

No human cases of this strain of avian influenza have been detected in the US, Canada, or internationally, and there is no immediate public health concern. However, this is a virus with the potential to mutate and therefore, the department of public health is closely monitoring the situation.



Economics

The economic impact of the poultry industry in Georgia is \$28 billion dollars. When looked at in reference to our state budget of \$20 billion dollars, it is clear that this would be a devastating blow to not just our chicken farmers, but to the state's economy as a whole.



Response

The goal of Georgia's response efforts will be/is to quickly relieve the pain and suffering of sick birds, minimize the economic impact for producers and get the farm and community back to normal operations as quickly as possible.



Biosecurity

The key to preventing the spread of the disease is biosecurity. Biosecurity is the protection of agricultural animals from any type of infectious agent. Among the many biosecurity procedures that can prevent disease transmission are such measures as use of protective clothing, waiting periods for new animals and visitors, and cleaning. All bird owners should practice biosecurity.

Ventilation Shutdown Response

Rapid depopulation by the most biosecure and expeditious methods available is essential to curtail further spread of the virus, thereby preventing even greater animal suffering and losses.

This strain of avian influenza is extremely virulent and lethal to chickens. Death from this virus is caused by organ failure over a period of days. Rapid depopulation is an important step in reducing animal suffering from this devastating disease.

In compliance with APHIS, the Georgia Department of Agriculture is committed to the goal of depopulating HPAI-affected birds within 24 hours of a preliminary diagnosis. This has been shown to reduce the amount of virus in the environment, helping to protect nearby poultry operations from infection and limit the unnecessary loss of animals.

The Georgia Department of Agriculture has considered additional depopulation methods for circumstances where water-based foam and carbon dioxide (CO2) would not be able to meet this critical 24-hour depopulation timeframe. In these instances, Georgia Department of Agriculture response personnel will weigh relevant factors and may recommend depopulating the birds by shutting off the ventilation fans.

We understand concerns about this method, but we believe that in some cases it may prove more effective and humane than a lengthier depopulation process that can lead to a greater number of birds suffering the terrible effects of the disease.

Ventilation Shutdown also reduces human exposure to the virus due to fewer response workers needed; reduces equipment contamination that could spread the virus to future premises; and reduces the use of limited resources in rural communities, especially water, firefighting resources and personnel needed for surveillance, cleaning and disinfection.