



Poultry Highlights

07/12/2012

Poultry Highlights is written by the NFU Poultry Team on a weekly basis. Please remember to quote the NFU as the source of the information if this email is forwarded on.

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NFU launches Turkeys for Troops campaign

Injured British soldiers will be tucking into a farm-fresh turkey dinner this Christmas thanks to donations from producers up and down the country. The NFU's UK Turkeys website has teamed up with Connect Packaging and has launched its Turkeys for Troops campaign which, with the help of the Ministry of Defence, will feed scores of soldiers, past and present, for their Christmas day meal.

Farmers will be delivering their turkeys to Catterick Garrison in Yorkshire, Headley Court in Surrey, Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham, the Royal Star and Garter in Richmond, the Royal Hospital in Chelsea as well as units in Colchester and Edinburgh. It is expected that up to 1,200 dinners will be served as a result.

Kent-based turkey farmer Clive Wreathall, whose son Scott will be heading to Royal Military Academy Sandhurst for training, is just one farmer who has thrown his support behind the campaign

"We are only too pleased to be supporting Turkeys for Troops, particularly as my eldest son, who is 21-years-old, is about to join the Army. Our Armed Services personnel deserve our full support."

Lt Col Mel Pears, Commanding Officer of the 15x (NE) Personnel Recovery Unit in Catterick, said: "I would like to, on behalf of every soldier under my command, say thank you to the NFU. The wounded, injured and sick of the 15x (NE) PRU are very pleased with this practical demonstration of support, a gift of turkeys this Christmas. To read more on this please [click here](#)

Sainsbury poultry winners announced at their farming conference

Congratulations to NFU poultry members Nick and Clare Bragg, Rob Penty and Mark Gorton of TNP. All were winners of Sainsbury's Farming Awards announced today the Sainsbury's Farming Conference. South West producers Nick and Clare Bragg won best carbon footprint award for chicken, while North East Woodland egg producer Rob Penty landed the egg award. Agriculture supplier of the year went to Traditional Norfolk Poultry for their Norfolk Black chicken.

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Hook 2 Sisters, ADAS and the Sainsbury Development group were also successful in securing a Sainsbury's Agriculture Research and Development grant to look at the global sustainable impact of feeding poultry. Fantastic news and well done to them all.

Autumn Statement: NFU reaction

A tenfold increase in annual investment allowance from £25,000 to £250,000 will be a boost for farming, said the NFU today. The move, announced by Chancellor George Osborne in today's Autumn Statement, will bring forward tax relief on plant and machinery investments from January 2013 for a two-year period.

NFU chief economist Phil Bicknell said: "I am delighted the government has listened to the NFU's call for a significant increase in the annual investment allowance. Immediate spending increases on plant and machinery may be limited for many following the challenges of this year's harvest, but this will undoubtedly boost farm business investment over the next two years. "The relief will benefit farmers, given that farming is a primary industry that has to continually invest in plant and machinery. Advancing tax relief helps with cash flow and funding, ultimately supporting investment across farming sectors.

"This move will pay dividends. We firmly believe that one of the key drivers to help push the economy forward is investment in new technology, which in turn will increase productivity and efficiency. "As ever, the devil is in the detail. We will study all relevant announcements in greater depth as they become available, and assess the full impact of the Chancellor's plans on agriculture. "For the time being, the fact that government has taken this step to increase the annual investment allowance appears to be the key headline from a farming perspective."

Defra release note on the introduction on the Protection of Animals at the Time of Killing in England

Defra have released a note on the introduction of EU Regulation 1099/2009 on the Protection of Animals at the Time of Killing in England. The regulation comes into force on 1 January 2013. Whilst most aspects of the EU Regulation apply immediately, some measures in relation to layout, construction and equipment in existing slaughterhouses do not come into effect until December 2019.

To read the full note please [click here](#) then on the related documents link.

British Poultry Industry Recognises Excellence at BPC Awards

The British poultry industry celebrated outstanding achievements and potential for excellence during the British Poultry Council Annual Awards at the House of Commons. BPC Chairman John Reed presented the awards with David Heath MP and Anne McIntosh MP and highlighted the unique contributions of each winner to the poultry industry. He said:

"This year's winners represent the diversity of the industry. Some are distinguished, dedicated, long serving colleagues and others are newcomers who have demonstrated a willingness and curiosity for training, scientific research and its practical application."The BPC Awards recognize years of distinguished service, contribution to marketing, potential for future excellence and support for the industry (see full list below).

Mr Reed also pointed out the key role of the British poultry industry in career and skill development:

"Our goal as an industry is to attract, recruit, train, develop and retain people. We've already done a lot with the Poultry

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Passport program, the Harper Adams scholarships and the poultry apprenticeships. Now, we need to focus on how we can attract young people in the industry." To read more and to see a picture of all the winners with the minister David Heath please [click here](#)

Rabobank 2013 report: Rocky road for grain and oilseeds

According to a report from Rabobank's Agri Commodity Markets Research department 2013 is to be a volatility year in agri commodity prices. In particular for the grain and oilseeds markets, with a tight supply in the first six months pushing prices higher, before an expected production rebound leading to a weakening in prices in the second half of the year.

The report says soymeal is the commodity likely to show the largest price decline by the end of 2013. In contrast, Rabobank analysts expect palm oil to be the strongest performer, as Chinese imports and biofuel demand drive prices higher after the sell-off in 2012. The soft commodity markets should continue in the same vein as this year, with prices expected to be relatively range bound. To read more please [click here](#)

Important step towards a universal vaccine against avian influenza

Researchers at The Pirbright Institute, which receives strategic funding from BBSRC, in collaboration with colleagues at the University of Oxford working together as the Jenner Institute, have taken an important step towards a universal vaccine against avian influenza. This virus disease threatens the £8 billion poultry industry in the UK and poses a risk of new human strains of flu. The research is published 'In Press' in the journal Vaccine.

Dr Colin Butter led the research, he said "Traditional avian flu vaccines are only effective against one particular type of flu but we want to be able to protect birds, and ultimately people, against different subtypes using just one vaccine. This research suggests that in principle a universal vaccine is possible." To read more please [click here](#)

European Union set to approve imports of Ukrainian poultry

Agra Europe has reported that Ukraine will shortly be given the green light to supply poultrymeat and eggs to the European Union after a draft regulation won unanimous backing in a vote in the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health (SCFCAH) this week. Following a period of rapid development in the Ukrainian poultry industry, the country sought authorisation to start supplying chicken meat and eggs to EU markets.

EU inspectors then carried out several inspections in the country, eventually concluding that the Ukrainian authorities provide 'appropriate guarantees' for poultrymeat exports to get underway.

The Commission said Ukraine also provides the necessary guarantees to meet EU import rules for eggs, noting that it has submitted a national control programme for Salmonella. But as the approval of that programme has not yet been finalised, imports of table eggs will not be authorised for the timebeing.

Oleksandr Bakumenko, head of the Ukrainian Association of Poultry Farmers, said he expects exports of poultry products to the EU to get underway in April of next year. "The technical procedures will be performed over a period of about three to four months, after which we will try to see what to sell and where," he told Ukrainian News.

FWI reports - Poor feed quality hits broiler efficiency

Broiler growers have been raising concerns that poor quality wheat is hitting their bottom lines, by damaging their feed conversion ratios (FCR).

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Charles Simpson, a producer in Shropshire, said that the drops in quality of feed had "really hurt" financially. He said that, though some feed compounders had tried to offset a drop in quality by enriching their mix, others, including his suppliers, had not. To read more please [click here](#)

Save the date - Poultry Forum meeting at Oswestry

Save the date in your diaries for the fourth Poultry forum meeting at Oswestry. The event is taking place on the 12th Feb 2013 at Oswestry Rugby club. The meeting will consist of speakers on the Broiler industry in the morning and will then focus on the egg industry in the afternoon, with a fantastic roast lunch and local cheese board inbetween. All NFU members welcome and more details on the speakers will follow. To find out more information on the event please phone 01691 749147 or email oswestry@nfumutual.co.uk

Events

- Tue 8th Jan** **Anglian Turkey Association post mortem meeting**, Prested Hall, Feering, Essex, Contact Len Goodman Tel 01621 815740
- Thur 17 Jan** **Lancashire Poultry Club meeting**, Wellington Park, Leyland, Lancashire: Contact Jonathan Mason, Tel 07714 429 697, Email thelanchahirepoultryclub@hotmail.co.uk
- Wed 23rd Jan 2013** **Yorkshire Egg Producers Discussion Group** -Tibor Cserep- Merck animal health discussing practical vaccination programs for free range producers - Burn Hall Hotel York, YO61 1JB Contact Harry Atkinson – Tel 07557159341, Email -harry@thompsons-feeds.co.uk
- Wed 17th Apr 2013** **Yorkshire Egg Producers Discussion Group** - Dr Maureen Bain from Glasgow University – composition and factors affecting egg shell quality - Burn Hall Hotel York, YO61 1JB Contact Harry Atkinson – Tel 07557159341, Email - harry@thompsons-feeds.co.uk
- Wed 3rd July** **Yorkshire Egg Producers Discussion Group** - Louis Hurdidge – Probiotic use in poultry Burn Hall Hotel York, YO61 1JB. Contact Harry Atkinson – Tel 07557159341, email harry@thompsons-feeds.co.uk
- Wed 31st Oct** **Pullet Rearing Course** - Workshop looking at the best practice for Pullet Rearing - Colliton Barton Farm, Colliton Barton, Broadhembury, Devon EX14 3LJ contact Rachel Watkins Tel: 07966558386 or Rural Business School 0845 458 7485 Email: rachel.watkins@duchy.ac.uk

National Poultry Board dates

23 January 2013
27 March
22 May
17 July
18 September
20 November
22 January 2014

Egg-celling links:

http://vla.defra.gov.uk/science/sci_salmon.htm - Salmonella guidance and control in poultry flocks information
www.nfuonline.com
www.ukturkeys.co.uk

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www.greatbritishchicken.co.uk

www.farmingdelivers.co.uk/

www.britishpoultry.org.uk/

www.britishpoultry.org.uk/?page_id=2052 – BPC Careers in the Poultry Industry pages

[Link to Local Food Directory & Accreditation Scheme](#)

www.nfuonline.com/x17049.xml (Finding local food producers near you).

www.hgca.com/markets (Up dated cereal prices).

www.worldeggday.com

www.britegg.co.uk

www.theranger.co.uk British Free Range Egg Producers Association

www.fwi.co.uk/poultry

<http://randd.defra.gov.uk/Default.aspx?Menu=Menu&Module=Detail&Completed=0&FOSID=3>

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