

INSIGHT



Tommy Porter Jr. Wins Southeastern Farmer of the Year Award

October 2011 – Tommy Porter Jr. of Concord, NC was named the **2011 Swisher Sweets/Sunbelt Ag Expo Southeastern Farmer of the Year** during the Willie B. Withers Luncheon in Moultrie, GA on October 18, 2011.

Upon accepting the award, Porter thanked God “for letting me use a small portion of His land” and his wife, Vicky. He commented, “I’m very humbled to be here, thank you all.”

Tommy is a two-time winner of the *Farm of the Year Award* in North Carolina. The Porter farm also received the *2006 Grower Environmental Award* from the North Carolina Poultry Federation. His livestock operations include 2,200 sows, 300 Hereford-Angus cows, and eight poultry houses. Porter competed against winners representing eight other southern states. Steve Patterson, Vice President of Marketing for Southern States stated, “Being named state farmer of the year shows your commitment to excellence in what you do. I really appreciate what you do for your communities and agriculture in general.”

As the Southeastern Farmer of the Year, Porter will take home a \$15,000 check from Swisher International in addition to numerous other prizes and donations from various companies.

Tommy Porter Jr. is a member of the NC Poultry Federation Board of Directors.

He and his wife, Vicky, have three grown children who are all involved with the family farm.



L to R: Chip Blalock (Sunbelt Ag Expo Executive Director), Vicky Porter (Tommy’s wife), Tommy Porter Jr. (Southeastern Farmer of the Year), and J. Thomas Ryan (Swisher International Pres.).

Congratulations Tommy & Vicky!

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Ooops.....We Goofed!

Dear Readers,

In our last newsletter, we made a mistake. Under our re-cap of the Annual Golf Tournament, we thanked South East Sales, Inc. for donating a \$500 gift certificate from Bass Pro Shops to the raffle winner. This is incorrect. It was South West Sales that donated the gift certificate. We would like to apologize for this oversight and for any inconveniences this may have caused. Many thanks to Ricky Gaines of South West Sales for his generous donation and understanding in this matter!

Special Thanks to Ricky Gaines with South West Sales!!

Tyson Donates 30,000 lbs. of Protein to Elizabeth City, NC

Tyson Foods, Inc. (Springdale, AR), one of the world's largest chicken processors, donated 30,000 pounds of protein to the Food Bank of the Albemarle in Elizabeth City, NC as the result of a Facebook poll.

Tyson initiated an online hunger awareness poll where voters were given the choice of 10 counties that had high levels of food insecurity. The Food Bank of the Albemarle came in first place. Elizabeth City was hit hard this past April when a series of tornadoes swept through the state and left thousands devastated.

The Yuma Community Food Bank in Yuma, AZ came in second place and the Mississippi Food Network in Jackson, MI came in third place.

All three food banks will receive 30,000 pound donations from Tyson. Combined, these donations will provide roughly 360,000 meals. The seven other food banks in the poll also received donations.

Many Thanks to Tyson for Their Generosity!

First NCC President Passes Away

October 2011—The first president of the National Chicken Council (NCC), Russell Franklin “Frank” Frazier, passed away on October 20, 2011 at the age of 91.

Frazier, a Kentucky native and former poultry and egg marketing specialist at USDA, met with industry leaders in Atlanta in 1954 to discuss the broiler industry. That meeting resulted in the creation of the National Broiler Council, which is today known as the National Chicken Council.

During his career, Frazier received numerous awards including being inducted into the American Poultry Historical Society's Poultry Hall of Fame (1988) and being honored as a “broiler industry pioneer” by the NCC (2004). After leaving the National Broiler Council in 1972, he founded the American Agribusiness Associates.

Frazier was preceded by his wife Elizabeth, of 49 years, and is survived by two daughters and four grandsons.

Poultry Disease Study Could Shed Light on Human Cancers

November 2011 – New research about Marek's disease suggests it could be possible to breed birds with greater resistance to the disease and improve our understanding of certain types of cancer affecting people.

Marek's disease is a viral infection that costs the global poultry industry more than \$2 billion a year. Researchers from the Roslin Institute, University of Edinburgh and the Institute for Animal Health have identified a gene that makes chickens more susceptible to the disease, called IRG1. This gene is believed to cause cells to die and lead to diseases including cancer and tumors.

Chickens and humans produce anti-tumor mechanisms. Essentially, the Marek's disease virus switches off these genes that normally work to block tumors. This study could potentially lead to research that would help in the prevention of certain types of cancer in people, which like Marek's disease, are caused by viruses.

Professor Pete Kaiser of the Roslin Institute who led the research said, “Learning about how chickens affected by Marek's disease fail to combat the onset of tumors, will help us learn more about how certain viruses can trigger cancer in humans”.

This research is published in the Journal of Virology.

Butterball Donates Turkeys for Holiday Season

Butterball, LLC (Garner, NC), the largest turkey product producer in the U.S., joined together with “The Pitmaster” Ed Mitchell and North Carolina officials to donate over 750 turkey to non-profit organizations for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Distributions were made at 11 recipient 501(c)3 organizations in the Triangle area including:

- Inter-Faith Food Shuttle (Raleigh)
- Wake Interfaith Hospitality Network, Inc. (Raleigh)
- Hayes Barton United Methodist Church (Raleigh)
 - Helping Hands United Mission (Raleigh)
 - Community of Hope Ministries (Garner)
 - Garner Area Ministries (Garner)
 - Hope Ministries (Garner)
 - Urban Ministries (Durham)
 - UDI-CDC (Durham)
 - Durham Housing Authority (Durham)
 - Housing for New Hope (Durham)

Many Thanks to Butterball for Their Generosity!

International Poultry Exposition

January 23-27, 2012

Georgia World Congress Center

Atlanta, GA

For event details, click the link below:

www.internationalpoultryexposition.com

NC State University Receives USPOULTRY Foundation Grant

November 2011 – North Carolina State University recently received a student recruiting grant from the USPOULTRY Foundation for over \$20,000. The check was presented to Dr. Sam Pardue, Head of the Poultry Science Department at NC State by Tim Davis, Director of Commercial Operations for Pfizer Animal Health.

Dr. Pardue commented, “The USPOULTRY Foundation’s support is vital to the NC State Poultry Science Department’s recruiting efforts. Their commitment to assisting us in identifying the next generation of leadership for the poultry industry is another example of the vision they possess. We are grateful for all that they do”.

The USPOULTRY Foundation provides annual recruiting funds to universities and colleges with poultry programs. The board recently approved recruiting grants totaling more than \$180,000 to the six universities and 14 other institutions with poultry science departments.



L to R: Tim Davis (Pfizer Animal Health), Dr. Sam Pardue (NC State University), Bob Ford (NC Poultry Federation)

Save the Date!

**NCPF 45th Annual Meeting
August 9-10, 2012**

Butterball Recognized by Governor Perdue

November 2011 – Butterball, LLC was recently presented the *2011 Governor's Award for Excellence* for an innovative partnership during a ceremony held on October 13, 2011 at the Sheraton Koury in Greensboro, NC.

As part of the NC Workforce Development Partnership Conference, Butterball was honored for their involvement in the establishment of an ammonia refrigeration program at Sampson Community College in Clinton, NC. Other partners in this program included the Triangle South Workforce Development Board, Golden Leaf Foundation, Prestage Farms, and Smithfield Foods.

President and CEO of Butterball, Rod Brenneman, commented “We strive to be innovators in our industry, and it is an honor to be recognized by the governor of North Carolina for our efforts toward bringing a new ammonia refrigeration training program to North Carolina.”

Since operations began in July 2010, the ammonia refrigeration program at Sampson Community College has provided training for approximately 120 students from across the country.

2012 NCPF Membership Drive is Underway!

Current Members

If you are a current member of the NC Poultry Federation, you should be receiving your membership renewal materials shortly via mail and/or email.

Interested in Joining?

If you are interested in joining NCPF, you can download our informational membership packet by visiting our website at www.ncpoultry.org or email our Membership Coordinator, Julia Turner, at jturner@ncpoultry.org.

For more information, please contact:

Julia Turner
Membership & Communications Coordinator
919-783-8218
jturner@ncpoultry.org

Solar Shines This Holiday Season for Prestage

November 2011 – FLS Energy, one of the nation's leading solar thermal developers, is constructing a 260,000 square foot solar thermal turkey processing farm for Prestage Farms in St. Pauls, NC. The system is estimated to provide 100,000 gallons of hot water per day for operational use. The solar thermal system will also include a custom designed pump house and a solar storage system. This farm will be one of the most significant solar projects in the nation utilizing on-site solar thermal energy. FLS Energy specifically developed this technology for Prestage Foods in an effort to provide hot water to the farm 24 hours per day. This projected completion date is March 2012.

FLS Energy will own the solar thermal system and sell Prestage Foods the energy it needs to heat water at a lower rate than propane. Prestage Foods has made no capital investment in this project.

Brownie Newman, Vice President and Director of Project Finance at FLS Energy, commented, “We are pleased to partner with Prestage Foods as they reduce their dependence on propane and reap the rewards of lower energy costs. It's a win-win for everyone.”

NCPF Holds 4th Quarter Board Meeting

The NCPF Board of Directors held their fourth and final board meeting for the 2011 year on November 30, 2011. Highlights from the meeting include the following:

NC State Poultry Science Department: So far, 34 applicants have applied this year which is up from 27 last year.

NCSU ASPIRE Program: NCPF has agreed to help support the ASPIRE Program at NC State University. This program will provide specialized ACT exam preparation for rural high school students who are applying to NC State's agriculture programs. The NC Farm Bureau, NC Pork Council, and the NC Soybean Association are also helping support this program.

Animal Agriculture Coalition: NCPF is now a founding member of the North Carolina Animal Agriculture Coalition (NCAAC). This group brings together commodity groups, agricultural organizations, and farmers representing the NC livestock community. NCAAC's mission is to increase public awareness and support for livestock and poultry farmers and responsible animal agriculture in NC through public education, media outreach, stakeholder engagement, and collaborative, positive communication efforts. For more information, visit the NCAAC website at www.ncanimalag.com.

The NCPF board will hold their 1st Quarter Board Meeting for 2012 in March.

2011-2012 NCPF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Wayne Farms

Scott Prestage, 1st Vice President
Prestage Farms, Inc.

Dan Peugh, 2nd Vice President
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*Happy Holidays
and
Best Wishes for 2012!*



POSITIVELY POULTRY.

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THANKS TO ALL OF OUR 2011 SPONSORS FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT !!