NCPF Annual Meeting Next Month

The North Carolina Poultry Federation will hold their Annual Meeting next month on August 11th & 12th at the Grandover Resort in Greensboro, NC. The Federation’s Annual Meeting is an excellent networking opportunity for various industry professionals. Attendees will have an opportunity to participate in the annual golf tournament or the sporting clays tournament on Thursday, August 11th. An awards banquet will be held Thursday night to recognize some of the top achievements in the poultry industry. The NCPF Board of Directors will meet Friday morning.

The Grandover Resort
August 11-12, 2011
Greensboro, NC

If you would like more information or if you wish to register, please contact:
Julia Turner, NCPF
(919) 783-8218 or jturner@ncpoultry.org

NCPF Executive Director Invited to Serve on Maritime Strategy Advisory Council

May 2011—Robert Ford, Executive Director for NCPF was officially invited to serve as a member of the Maritime Strategy Advisory Team. The NC Dept. of Transportation was asked by the Governor’s Logistics Task Force leadership to manage a study of NC’s Maritime Industry. As a member of this committee, Mr. Ford will be called upon for guidance and feedback. The advisory council recently met in Greensboro, NC at the Volvo Trucks North America office.

Mountaire Farms Expands In Delaware

June 9, 2011—Mountaire Farms of Delaware, Inc. and its newly formed affiliate Seafood Milling Company have announced the expansion of their processing facilities in Selbyville and Millsboro, Delaware. This expansion will require local poultry growers to support an additional 4000,000 birds per week. Dave Pogge, CEO of Mountaire, said they are optimistic about growth opportunities despite continuing challenges facing the poultry industry.
South Korean Ambassador
visits North Carolina
to promote Trade Agreement

April 27, 2010 – South Korean Ambassador to the United States, Han, Duk-soo visited North Carolina in late April to promote the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement. During his visit, the Ambassador visited local farms, met with business leaders, and attended a meeting sponsored by the North Carolina Chamber of Commerce where he met with agricultural and business leaders from across the state. Robert Ford, Executive Director for the North Carolina Poultry Federation, attended the NC Chamber Meeting and had the opportunity to meet Ambassador Han and learn about the agricultural benefits the U.S.-Korea Trade Agreement (KORUS) would provide. South Korea is the fifth largest market for U.S. agriculture, importing nearly $5 billion worth of products last year. The Korus agreement would eliminate duties on almost two-thirds of agricultural exports to Korea and give U.S. exporters improved access to the Korean market.

For more information about the KORUS and its impact on North Carolina agriculture, click here:


Extreme Heat Causes Poultry Fatalities

July 2011 – This summer has seen some record high temperatures over 100 degrees and the poultry industry is feeling the effects. The extreme heat has caused poultry flock fatalities from North Carolina to Kansas, according to recent reports. In North Carolina, Gary Rhodes, spokesman for Pilgrim’s Pride, confirmed they lost nearly 50,000 broiler chickens after a 45-minute power outage during a heat wave. A family turkey farm in Kansas lost nearly 4,300 birds as temperatures soared, reaching 110 degrees. A Spokesman for the National Chicken Council said air-tunnel ventilation systems in poultry facilities has helped to minimize heat-related losses in recent years. Bob Ford, NCPF Executive Director further commented on these ventilation systems by saying, “With the new ventilation systems in the houses, the birds can handle heat pretty well”.

Upcoming Events

NCPF ANNUAL MEETING
Greensboro, NC • August 11-12, 2011
NCPF Meeting Contact: Julia Turner (919-783-8218)

National Turkey Federation Leadership Conference
Washington, DC • July 24-26, 2011
Click Here for Conference Information
NTF Conference Contact: Jen Zukowski (202-730-9642)

Women’s Leadership Conference
Atlantic Beach, FL • August 18-19, 2011
www.poultryegginstitute.org/educationprograms

Poultry Production & Health Seminar
Charlotte, NC • September 20-21, 2011
www.poultryegginstitute.org/educationprograms

Poultry Protein & Fat Seminar
Nashville, TN • October 6-7, 2011
www.poultryegginstitute.org/educationprograms

Read the archives Back issues of the NCPF news and other mentions can be found on our website at

http://ncpoultry.org/news/index.cfm
April 16, 2011—Devastation hit the state of North Carolina on Saturday, April 16, 2011 as a series of more than 20 tornadoes ran their destructive paths through 33 counties. State officials estimated nearly 24 people were killed in the storms, over 130 people were injured, hundreds of homes were destroyed, thousands of homes were damaged, and 84,000 people were without power. The NC tornadoes were part of a storm system that first hit Oklahoma on Thursday, April 14, and then ran through Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia before hitting North Carolina and finishing its’ destruction in Virginia.

Bertie, a small county of 21,000 people, 130 miles east of Raleigh, experienced the worst hit. This farmland county, where numerous agricultural products are grown, reported 12 deaths and over 50 reported cases of serious injuries after Saturday’s storms. With counties devastated by the storm’s destruction and millions of dollars in damages, Governor Beverly Perdue declared a state of emergency. The last time NC was hit with multiple tornadoes was in 1984, and that was only two storms creating damage.

Butterball, LLC, the country’s largest turkey producer has donated 145,000 pounds of turkey products and additional supplies to food banks throughout regions in eastern North Carolina, western Alabama, and southwest Missouri to aid storm victims of the April tornadoes that devastated the southeast. The company has also established a Butterball Disaster Relief Fund to provide immediate assistance to their affected employees.

“On behalf of Butterball, our thoughts and sympathies go out to all of those impacted by the storms. We know the damage is extensive, just within our company 92 associates and their families were severely affected. We are hopeful that our efforts are helping to eliminate at least one of the uncertainties these families are facing by providing wholesome meals,” commented current Butterball President, Walter Pelletier.

House of Raeford donated roughly 3,000 lbs of food products to the Eastern-Central NC Food Bank (located in Raleigh, NC) in an effort to help victims of the April tornadoes. Dave Witter, with House of Raeford, and Rep. Jimmy Dixon (R-Duplin) presented the donation. Rep. Becky Carney (D-Mecklenburg), Chair of the Women’s Caucus, accepted the donation on behalf of the Food Bank.
April Tornado Stories Cont’d….

Perdue Comes to the Rescue of Bertie County, NC Victims

Perdue, through the Arthur W. Perdue Foundation, donated $10,000 to the American Red Cross, Pitt County Chapter to aid victims of the deadly tornado that demolished northeast Bertie county on Saturday, April 16, killing 12 people, including one Perdue associate.

Ricky Freeman, Emergency Management Coordinator for Bertie County, commented, “We appreciate Perdue's consideration of the victims of Bertie County and the American Red Cross to receive such a generous donation to assist in the relief effort. These funds will help meet the needs of the victims that may have not been met by other assistance."

Peggy Leary, 60, employee of the Perdue Lewiston processing plant for nearly 28 years, lost her life to the tornado. A dozen more associates lost their homes and suffered serious property damage. Perdue associates at the Lewiston plant organized fund-raisers to help aid the victims of these storms. Donations totaled more than $8,000 from associates and were evenly distributed among the victims. Associates from other Perdue facilities across the country raised nearly $5,000 to help aid the Lewiston storm victims.

"The compassion shown by our associates in Lewiston and throughout Perdue operations is truly inspiring," said Jeff Stalls, Director of Operations at Perdue’s Lewiston processing operation. "This was a grass-roots effort by them to help ease the suffering of some of their co-workers. It was a heart-warming gesture and reflects the integrity of our associates."

Alabama Poultry Industry Hit Hard by April Tornadoes

April 29, 2011 – According to the Wall Street Journal, Alabama officials estimated that nearly 25% of the state’s poultry houses were destroyed by the devastating tornadoes that swept through Alabama in mid April. Preliminary reports indicated that roughly 200 poultry houses were destroyed and around 180 were severely damaged. Alabama is the 3rd largest chicken-producing state and a multi-billion dollar industry. The Alabama Poultry and Egg Association estimated nearly 5 million chicken deaths due to the tornadoes, which swept over the northern part of the state where the poultry industry is centered. Tyson Foods, the nation’s largest chicken processor, and Pilgrim’s Pride Corporation, the nation’s second largest chicken processor both have processing plants in Alabama, but these plants did not suffer any damage, other than power losses. Tyson Foods planned to distribute water and food to north Alabama employees and poultry farmers. “Our plan is to assist our growers as much as possible with clean up efforts and ensure the affected birds are properly handled”, said Gary Mickelson, spokesman for Tyson Foods.

Tyson Donates 270,000 lbs. of Food to U.S. Tornado Disaster Relief

May 3, 2011 – Tyson Foods, Inc. donated more than 270,000 pounds of poultry, meat, and tortillas in early May as part of disaster relief efforts in the southeastern states affected by the April tornadoes.

Tyson has set up six cooking teams that are stationed in northern Alabama to help feed relief workers, employees, poultry growers, and residents who have been affected by the tornadoes. In addition to providing food, Tyson has also brought in over 27,000 bottles of water and ice.

In central North Carolina, Tyson donated chicken and tortillas to various relief efforts. A truckload of chicken and a truckload of tortillas were each donated to the American Red Cross, The Salvation Army, and the Christian United Outreach Center.
The North Carolina General Assembly adjourned their recent long session in late June after only 87 days, marking the quickest adjournment in a long session since 1973. They are scheduled to reconvene on July 13th to discuss redistricting and other limited subjects specified in the Adjournment Resolution. The 2012 session will be short and will begin in mid May. Below is a list of the bills affecting the poultry industry that were up for debate this past session.

### Legislative News

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<td>Amends Weight Limits for Live Haul Trucks</td>
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<td>H36</td>
<td>Requires Employers &amp; Local Governments to use E-Verify</td>
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<td>S484</td>
<td>REPS Credits at Cleanfields Parks (helped clean up last year’s S886 bill)</td>
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<td>Domestic Fowl Stray/Commercial Poultry Lands</td>
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<td>Study Insurance for Catastrophic Losses for Contract Growers</td>
<td>Still In Omnibus Studies Commission Bill, Not Ratified</td>
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**Live Haul Weight Limit Amendment Passes**

June 8, 2011 – House Bill 468, amending the weight limits for transporting live haul passed its last hurdle in early June by passing out of the Senate Transportation Committee and eventually went on to be signed by Governor Beverly Perdue. This amendment will exempt live haul trucks traveling from the farm to the plant within 150 miles of the farm. In addition, it will now allow a gross weight of 90,000 lbs, compared to the previously allowed 80,000 pounds. This law will become a new intrastate law and trucks traveling on the interstate will be restricted to the federal limit of 80,000 lbs. This act will become effective after December 1, 2011. NCPF would like to thank Rep. Craig Horn (R-Union) and Sen. Tommy Tucker (R-Union) for their sponsorship and support of this bill.
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