

Commercial Poultry News

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The University of Maryland is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Equal Access Program

CAFO Notice of Intent Assistance Workshops

The University of Maryland Extension, will be available to help poultry growers fill out their Notice of Intent to renew their CAFO permit at two workshops.

When: Tuesday, August 18, 2020

Time: 9am to 2pm

Where: Queen Anne's County Extension Office

Address: 505 Railroad Avenue, Centreville, MD 21617-1138

When: Friday, August 21, 2020

Time: 9am to 2pm

Where: Lower Eastern Shore Research and Education Center

Address: 27664 Nanticoke Road, Salisbury, MD 21801-1648



Bring your NOI with you and fill out as much as you can prior to arriving. Also, please have your CNMP and Nutrient Management Plan.

Because of COVID-19, this event will take place outside, face masks must be worn and social distancing rules must be observed. We will have tables set up outside the office to help you complete your form. Additionally, we request that participants wait in their vehicle until there is a space available for them at one of the tables.

The deadline to submit an NOI for coverage under the New AFO Permit is September 6, 2020

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This workshop is open to all. ****If you need special assistance, please let us know two weeks before the date.**

The University of Maryland Extension programs are open to all and will not discriminate against anyone because of race age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry, or national origin, marital status, genetic information, or political affiliation, or gender identity and expression.

Council on Environmental Quality Finalizes First Update to the National Environmental Policy Act Since 1978

By Paul Goeringer, Extension Legal Specialist

NEPA Changes Loan Guarantees

On July 9, 2020, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) announced the final rule to update the regulations for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The update marks the first comprehensive update of the regulations since 1978. This change will remove federal loan guarantees from the NEPA process. The difference would include federal loan guarantees granted by the USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) that many producers, including poultry growers looking to expand houses or new growers looking to get started. This final rule will go into effect on September 14, 2020.

What is NEPA?

NEPA requires federal agencies to prevent damage to the environment, directing agencies to assess the environmental impacts of all proposed actions. Agencies must prepare a detailed statement called an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) when the actions would have a significant impact on the environment. An agency completes an EA to determine if the project will require an EIS.

Prior to this final rule, federal agencies were required to complete an EA on all actions involving loan guarantees granted by FSA. An EA must show the need for the proposed action, such as proposed poultry house, alternatives to the project, environmental impacts of the proposed action and the other options, and a list of all agencies and persons consulted. The agency would need to complete this process, determine if an EIS is required, or explain why only an EA is appropriate. A few animal feeding operations (AFOs) have had loan guarantees challenged by groups for FSA not following the proper procedures, including one in Maryland.

Final Rule Changes

As mentioned earlier, the final rule from CEQ will exclude loans, loan guarantees, and other forms of financial assistance. An agency (such as FSA) would not exercise sufficient control and responsibilities over the effects of the action. This would include farm ownership and operating loan guarantees from FSA and business loan guarantees offered by the Small Business Administration (SBA). With FSA's loan guarantees, CEQ highlights that FSA's role is limited to providing the guarantee to a private lender with no Federal funds spent unless the borrower defaults on the private loan. If a default happens, the funds are paid to the lender, not the borrower. FSA does not possess control of any actual decision making authority over the lender or the borrower. In prior court decisions, courts have highlighted that when an agency has no control NEPA is not triggered. For this reason, FSA's loan guarantees will now be excluded from NEPA review.

What Does This Mean?

For a grower looking to expand, building new houses, or a grower looking to get into poultry, this change does not change any of the state review processes that would ordinarily need to be done. The move will be if a grower's lender requires a loan guarantee with FSA. FSA would no longer have to do an environmental review before granting that loan guarantee. This change would also take away potential challenges that exist to environmental review that was being completed by FSA by environmental groups. This final rule will go into effect on September 14, 2020.

Nuffield Scholarship

Nuffield International Farming Scholars-USA is happy to announce we will have a Nuffield Scholarship for 2021 dedicated to a farmer, rancher or agricultural professional from geographic footprint of MidAtlantic Farm Credit, which includes the Delmarva Peninsula, Maryland, and certain counties in Southeastern Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia. The scholarship is open to those between the ages of 25 to 45. Applications open now and will remain open until October 15. Interviews are scheduled for November, with the final decision made in December.



In addition, there is a nationally-based scholarship sponsored by TIAA for farmers only that is open across the United States, Brazil and Chile. The information for that scholarship is included on the link below. In short, there are two scholarship positions open for qualified applicants from this region. Applicants may apply for both scholarships.

I ask you to think of potential applicants who may be qualified and interested in the Nuffield experience. Please pass on the attached press release or refer them to the website: <http://www.nuffieldinternational.org/scholarship.html>. If the attached press release is appropriate for any newsletters or electronic media associated with your organization, please feel free to share it with your constituencies or memberships. I have also attached the Nuffield USA Informational brochure which further describes the Nuffield program. Please feel free to share that as well.

As you might imagine, Covid-19 has impacted plans for the 2021 Nuffield year. The Contemporary Scholars Conference will be held in the UK either in March or June of 2021. That is the week-long experience that all scholars from 12 member countries attend. The second component, the Global Focus Program, traditionally has been 6 weeks of small group travel to as many as seven different components. That will be held in June/July, 2021 and will be reduced to 4 weeks. However, US Scholars will be offered the opportunity to do an additional week of domestic travel to visit agricultural enterprises across the United States. Those scholars will have input on the itinerary and timing for that domestic group travel. The final component of as much as 6 weeks of independent travel in pursuit of the scholar's study topic will include, for the first time, as much as two weeks dedicated to domestic travel.

Finally, I want to thank each of you for your interest and support in developing the Nuffield Scholars program. We have had two great Nuffield scholars to date, **Georgie Cartanza** and Susan Truehart Garey. I look forward, with your help, in identifying a scholar for 2021. Please feel free to email or call (302-222-0283) if you have any questions and again, thank you! - Ed Kee

For more information, click on these links:

[Nuffield application](#)

[Nuffield Scholars Information](http://www.nuffieldinternational.org/scholarship.html) <http://www.nuffieldinternational.org/scholarship.html>

University of Georgia Poultry Housing Tips: **High Humidity Improves Fan Performance**

Michael Czarick, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences



Does high humidity affect the performance of exhaust fans? Yes, but probably not as much as you think and not in the way you may believe. Most people believe that humid air is heavier than dry air. After all, humid air has more moisture in it and therefore should weigh more than air that contains less moisture. But, in actuality, humid air weighs less than dry air. This is because moist air contains more water molecules which tend to displace oxygen and nitrogen molecules. Since a water molecule (H₂O) weighs approximately 36% and 44% less than those of Nitrogen (N₂) or Oxygen (O₂) respectively, the air becomes lighter as the percentage of water molecules contained in the air increases.

For instance, at a temperature of 85°F and a relative humidity of 20%, 1,000 cubic feet of air at sea level weighs 71.63 lbs. If the humidity were to increase to 90%, the weight of the air would **decrease** to 70.85 lbs., a difference of 0.78 lbs or 1% (Figure 1). What effect would this decrease in density have on the air-moving capacity of an exhaust fan? None. This is because a fan will move the same amount of air regardless of the density of the air. That being said, air density will affect both the power usage of a fan and house static pressure, slightly. Fan power usage and house static pressure decrease in direct proportion to a decrease in air density. So, if a fan were using 1,000 watts of power when the relative humidity was 20%, the power usage of the fan would decrease 1% to 990 watts if the relative humidity were to increase to 90%. Likewise, if the house static pressure were 0.10" when the relative humidity was 20%, it would decrease 1% to 0.099" if the relative humidity increased to 90%. So though a 70% increase in relative humidity would technically decrease a fan's power usage and house static pressure, the reduction would be nearly impossible to measure.

Now it is important to note that fewer oxygen molecules in humid air doesn't necessarily mean the birds are in danger of suffocation when it gets very humid. The fact is, the reduction in oxygen concentration as humidity increases is quite small. As a general rule, for every 10% increase in relative humidity, atmospheric oxygen levels decrease by just 0.05%. So a relatively dramatic increase of humidity of 50% would only decrease house oxygen levels by 0.25%. To put this in perspective, moving a poultry house from sea level to an altitude of just a 1,000 feet would reduce atmospheric oxygen concentration three times as much (0.8%). The simple truth is that there is essentially the same amount of oxygen in the air on a very humid day as there is on very dry day.

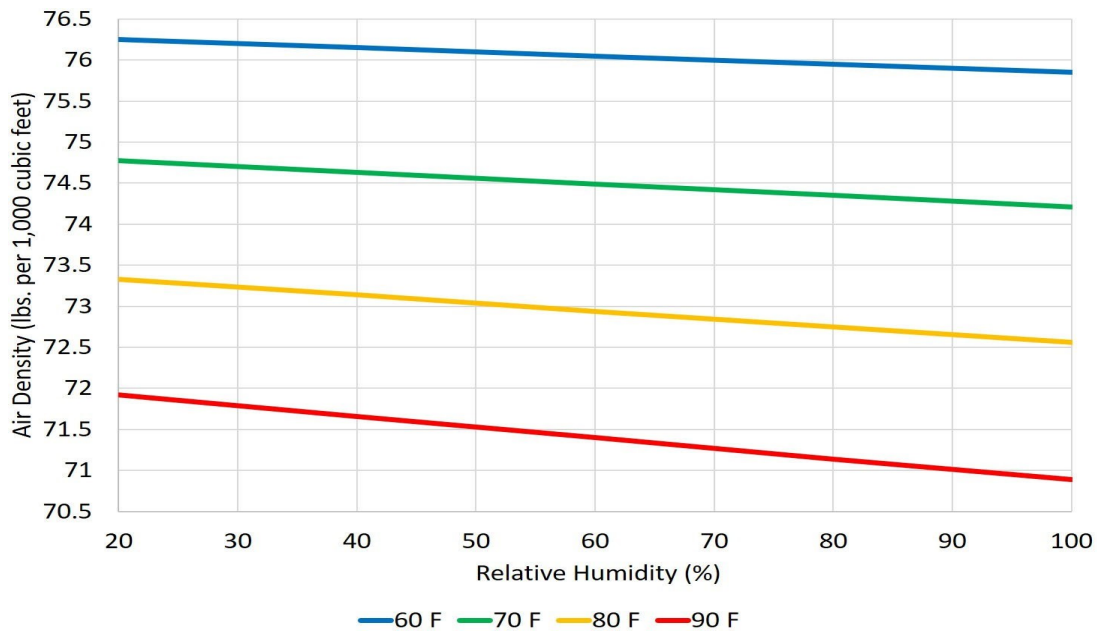
High Humidity Improves Fan Performance...continued

Figure 1. Air density Vs. Relative Humidity (sea level)

Does air temperature affect the air moving capacity of a fan? No. But again, since temperature affects the density of air, it can theoretically affect the power usage of an exhaust fan as well as static pressure. For example, 60°F (50% Rh) air weighs 76.1 lbs. per 1,000 cubic feet while 1,000 cubic feet of 95°F (50% Rh) air weighs 70.1 lbs., an 8% difference (Figure 1). So if a fan were using 1,000 watts of power at a house temperature of 60°F with market age birds, the power usage of the same fan would decrease to 920 watts during brooding if the house temperature is 95°F. If the static pressure were 0.10" at 65°F with four side-wall fans operating and the inlets opened a couple of inches, it would be 8% lower (0.092") during brooding with the same number of fans operating and the inlets open the same amount. But, this is a relatively extreme example. During hot weather when house temperatures typically range from 75°F (85% Rh) at night to 85°F (85% Rh) during the day, fan power usage and static pressure would decrease roughly 2%, again essentially unmeasurable. Most importantly, the air moving capacity of the fan would remain unchanged regardless of any change in house temperature.

The fact is that technically it is "easier", not "harder" for the fans to move humid air than dry air. Does this mean that a high relative humidity is beneficial? No, because the overall effect that humidity has on our exhaust fans is essentially insignificant. What we need to concern ourselves with when it comes to maximizing fan performance is something that will always make the biggest difference, fan maintenance. Simply making sure fan belts are not worn, are tight, and fans and pads are cleaned on a regular basis will help assure that environmental conditions and fan efficiency are optimized.

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Maryland State Bar's Ag Law Directory of Members

Paul Goeringer, Extension Legal Specialist



The MD State Bar's Ag Law section has updated the directory of members in the state who have an interest in ag law. You can find an online version of the directory [here](#).

https://www.issu.com/marylandstatebarassociation/docs/directory_agriculture_law_section_msba_2020

Outstanding Growers Recognized in May

Delmarva Poultry Industry

Selected by their chicken companies, based upon their performance and a list of criteria, including environmental stewardship, cooperation, attitude, and achievement, our communications manager, James Fisher, was in the middle of visiting this year's 10 chosen growers to take photos, videos, and hear their stories when the COVID-19 crisis put a quick halt to that travel. And with the DPI banquet on ice, we missed an opportunity for DPI's members to acknowledge and congratulate these hardworking farmers. But an outstanding grower doesn't need a silver bowl and a long walk across the stage of the Wicomico Youth & Civic Center to be an inspiration to us all. Please join DPI in congratulating these **outstanding growers!**

Steve Brittingham, Millsboro, Delaware - Mountaire Farms
 Craig Davidson, Frankford, Delaware - Amick Farms
 Donald Howard, Crisfield, Maryland - Tyson Foods
 John & Patrick Kelley, Pocomoke City, Maryland - Mountaire Farms
 Vickie Lambden, Bridgeville, Delaware - Perdue Farms
 Jim Marvel, Ellendale, Delaware - Allen Harim
 Far & Val Nasir, Pocomoke City, Maryland - Perdue Farms
 Joel Peterman, Milford, Delaware - Mountaire Farms
 Blair Shockley, Laurel, Delaware - Perdue Farms
 Susan Steen, Laurel, Delaware - Amick Farms



In the May 2020 issue of [Timely Topics](#), published by DPI, they share the stories and 'lessons learned' that four of these chicken growers said made them better farmers.

Language of a Pandemic: A Glossary of Commonly Used Words and Phrases Related to COVID-19

Confused about some of the words floating around in the midst of this health crisis? Can't tell a coronavirus from a Miley Cyrus? This glossary of selected terms might help you understand things a little better. These definitions come from government sites and other reliable scientific sources. However, if you have any additions or clarifications to offer, please email peter.jackson@thetelegram.com

Asymptomatic vs. Symptomatic

This means not exhibiting symptoms as opposed to exhibiting symptoms. The symptoms of COVID-19 are typically fever, dry cough and difficulty breathing. A person can have COVID-19 and be asymptomatic, at least initially.

Asymptomatic Transmission

This has become a flashpoint of debate among researchers and health officials. Can you catch COVID-19 from someone who has no symptoms? The answer appears to be yes, and a growing body of research suggests it's more likely than we think. For now, local health authorities accept there's a pre-symptomatic period where symptoms are too mild to be noticed but the person is contagious.

Case cluster

This is a large number of positive cases stemming from a certain location or a certain period of time. The Caul's Funeral Home cluster in St. John's is considered the largest in Canada. About 170 people who caught COVID-19 can trace it either directly or indirectly to a single person who was at the home in mid-March.

Community transmission

This technically just means the spread of a disease in the community, which accounts for most cases of COVID-19. But the term is often evoked when a case of COVID-19 cannot be traced to any previously known carrier of the disease. This is problematic for health authorities because it leaves a gap in contact tracing when they don't know where it originated.

Contact tracing

When a person tests positive for COVID-19, public health workers immediately track down all recent contacts of that person. This could be other passengers on a plane, family, co-workers and acquaintances. At first, only those in proximity while the person had symptoms were traced. In April, they also started tracing anyone who was in contact up to 48 hours before symptoms appeared.

Confirmed positive vs. presumptive positive

Until late March, provincial health authorities had to send positive test results to the National Microbiology Laboratory in Winnipeg to confirm the result. Pending that confirmation, cases here were considered presumptive positive. Once the local laboratory tested enough cases with no conflicting results, it no longer had to confirm them in Winnipeg. So now, all local tests are considered confirmed.

Coronavirus

Coronavirus (from Latin "corona" meaning crown, describing the curious spikes on its surface) is a family of respiratory viruses that can cause a range of symptoms. Four strains of it are responsible for the common cold. Others can produce more serious symptoms. Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) was caused by a deadly form of coronavirus that spread around the world in 2003.

COVID-19

COVID-19 is the disease caused by a novel (new) coronavirus that originated in December 2019 (hence the name, from COronaVirus Disease-19). Scientists consider it a new form of SARS, thus the scientific names for both viruses are SARS-CoV-1 and SARS-CoV-2. COVID-19 seems to have a lower death rate than SARS but has spread around the world much more rapidly.

Entry screening

These are measures taken by a government to monitor people coming into its jurisdiction, whether by foot, boat, motor vehicle or plane. At first, that just meant answering a question or two on a questionnaire. Now it means being met at the entry point by a health official and instructed to self-quarantine for 14 days.

*Language of Pandemic....continued***Epidemic vs. pandemic**

The difference here is fuzzy, but basically an epidemic is the rapid and usually unexpected spread of something (in this case, a virus) in a specific region, while pandemic means it has spread around the globe. The World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic on March 11 after it had already spread to more than 100 countries, which some say was a little late in the game.

Exponential growth

In common usage, when the rate of growth increases over time, this is called exponential growth. The simplest example would be growth that doubles at each time interval, represented by the numbers 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, etc. When plotted on a graph, this looks like a curve that arcs up more steeply over time.

Flatten the curve

When the number of positive cases of COVID-19 is plotted on a graph, the recovered cases aren't subtracted, so the curve never goes down. But if fewer and fewer cases occur each day, the line stops going up and starts going horizontal. This is called flattening the curve.

Host cell

A host cell is a cell in the body that becomes invaded by a virus and then acts as a host to produce more virus particles.

Incubation period

This is the period of time between when a person is infected with a disease and when symptoms first appear. On average, this is about five days for COVID-19.

Index case

The index case, sometimes nicknamed Patient Zero, is the first known person with a disease from whom all other cases stem. An example locally would be the carrier of COVID-19 who attended Caul's Funeral Home in mid-March. A true index case would be the very first person in the world to have been identified with the disease.

Intensive care

Intensive care is the section of a hospital in which patients are given extra attention because of the seriousness of their condition. It usually has extra medical equipment and, more importantly, extra staff such as nurses who keep a close 24-hour watch on patients.

N95 mask/respirator

This is the gold standard of medical and industrial protection that is currently in great demand around the globe because of COVID-19. N95 respirators filter out 95 per cent of particles in the air when worn properly. The edges of the mask form a seal around the nose and mouth.



Various N95 respiration masks at a laboratory of 3M. Picture - REUTERS/Nicholas Pfosi

Physical distancing vs. social distancing

These two terms mean the same thing, Social distancing was the original term, but some felt it sounded too negative since there are many technological ways for people to socialize without physical contact. To avoid COVID-19 spread, health officials recommend staying home except for essentials and keeping a distance of 2 metres (6 feet) from anyone outside your family or household members.

Personal protective equipment

Often just called **PPE**, this refers to any gear worn by frontline workers to protect them and patients from disease. It can refer to masks, goggles, gloves and gowns.

*Language of Pandemic....continued***Self-quarantine vs. self-isolate**

This distinction is hardly ever made anymore. When you stay home for 14 days because you have flu-like symptoms, you are self-isolating. To self-quarantine means to stay home as a precaution, such as when you arrive from travel outside the province. Lately, even many health officials just say “self-isolate” for both.

Self-assessment tool

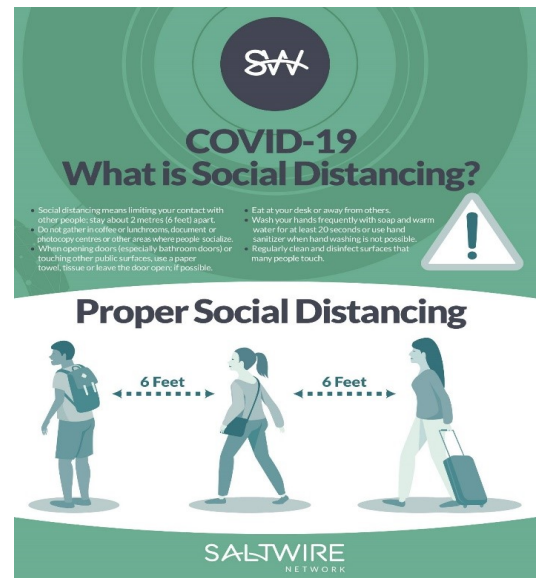
This is an online questionnaire found at gov.nl.ca/covid-19. Answer all the questions honestly and the tool will advise you whether you need to stay home or get tested. It’s recommended as an alternative to the over-burdened 811 health line.

Virus

Viruses are the most abundant organisms on Earth. They are microscopic bits of genetic material coated in a protective layer of protein. They can infect plants, animals and even other tiny organisms like bacteria. They cannot reproduce without host cells, so when a cold virus, say, gets into your mouth or nose it invades vulnerable respiratory tissue and has a field day reproducing itself. Your body reacts and symptoms begin.

WHO

The World Health Organization (WHO) was founded on April 7, 1948, a date that is now celebrated as World Health Day each year. Based in Geneva, Switzerland, the agency helps inform and co-ordinate international health efforts and has offices in 150 countries around the globe.



Poultry Farmers: How to Take Care of Your Mental Health

By Ryan Johnson, Editor of The Poultry Site

In this time of COVID 19, we want to stress the need for managing mental health. This 2018 article by Ryan Johnson is a good read with lots of information you may find helpful.

As anyone who’s ever done it knows all too well, running a poultry farm can be a stressful endeavor. But how can you tell when the strain is having serious repercussions for your mental health? And what can you do to help yourself? Dr. Nicola Davies, health psychologist, offers some professional advice:

Words

Poultry farming can be a stressful business that can take its toll on your mental health. “Poultry farming is incredibly labor intensive, involves long hours and a lot of administration and paperwork, all of which means that poultry farmers are susceptible to poor mental health, much like the rest of the farming community,” says Glyn Evans, of the [Farming Community Network](http://FarmingCommunityNetwork.com) (FCN).

Other stresses poultry farmers face are the physical challenges of the job, financial hardships, environmental disasters, and isolation in their rural communities. According to Evans, “It is difficult to generalize the factors impacting farmers’ mental health as each individual’s well-being is a combination of external factors, working context and individual experiences. The pressures of constant change in farming policy, price volatility, the weather and animal diseases are part of the everyday life of the farmer. Some will cope with those swinging factors sometimes, but at times of depression, loneliness and family problems, may find those things stressful. Like everyone in society, farmers experience times of sadness, dislocation, and fearfulness. Physical changes as farmers

How to Take Care of Your Mental Health.... continued

age in mind and body can take their toll as well, such as the onset of dementia, diabetes and loss of physical strength. Marginalization from the rest of society as urbanization changes perceptions about the role of farmers or their place in the community can also take their toll.”

Experiencing all of these stressors, many of which are outside of the farmers’ control, can lead to anxiety and depression. More alarming is the estimation that one farmer is lost to suicide every week. It’s time to take the demands of farming – and its impact on mental health – seriously.

Knowing it’s OK to ask for help

“Farming has traditionally been perceived as a ‘macho’ industry, with a ‘stiff upper lip’ and ‘keep calm and carry on’ mentality,” explains Evans. “Seeking help is wrongly seen as a sign of weakness. Those who struggle with their mental health in the farming community need to know that there is no shame in seeking help and that bottling up your emotions is the worst thing you can do.”

When experiencing depression, it can feel as if no one else will understand, or that opening up to someone will cause you to be a burden to that person. However, it is necessary to remember that these negative thoughts do not reflect how others are likely to react and are a symptom of your mental distress. Depression is an illness that needs treatment and speaking openly about it is the first stage of getting treatment. There is nothing wrong with admitting you need support to protect your mental health. Many individuals with depression and other mental health issues can get treatment, continue to work and live happy, fulfilling lives.

Signs of depression

More than simply going through a rough patch or feeling “the blues”, depression can include the following symptoms:

Change in appetite (either a loss or increase)	Inability to sleep or changing sleep patterns
Obsessive worrying or blowing problems out of proportion	Constant tiredness
Low mood, feeling sad or tearful, or being unable to cry	Acting out of character
Unhealthy consumption of alcohol	Isolation from loved ones, family and friends
Decreased interest in activities or hobbies previously enjoyed	Loss of sex drive
Difficulty concentrating and making decisions	Persistent negative thoughts

Making changes

In addition to asking for help, **you can also modify your daily habits to help your mental well-being.** Evans says, “Changes can include building resilience in mental well-being, an understanding of change management, financial support to get more help on the farm, learning greater self-awareness and developing more work-life balance.”

Evans also advocates the NHS’s **five steps to improve mental well-being:**

- **Connect** with the people in your life. Farming can be isolating.
- **Be active.** Choose a physical activity (other than farming) that you enjoy and do it regularly.
- **Keep learning new skills.** Picking up a new instrument or practicing a new sport can help develop a sense of achievement and increase self-confidence outside of the farming world.
- **Give to others.** You may wish to start volunteering, or simply take some of your eggs to your elderly neighbors.
- **Live fully in the present.** Be mindful . **Be more aware of your body, thoughts, feelings and your surroundings.**

Where and how to find help

If you think you or anyone you know may be struggling with their mental health, there are many ways to reach out. Arrange a visit to the doctor. Depression and other mental health issues are best diagnosed by a professional. Talking honestly to your GP, whether in the clinic or on the phone, about what you are going through, is one of the first steps to diagnosis and treatment.

How to Take Care of Your Mental Health continued

Communicate with loved ones, family, friends and co-workers. Being open about depression helps erase the stigma around it. Remember, most people in your life are willing to help. Resist the urge to bottle up your feelings. Sharing your thoughts and feelings with those closest to you helps them understand what you are going through. You don't have to go through this alone.

Talk to a counsellor. Your GP may be able to refer you to a counsellor experienced in providing support for mental health in rural communities. In addition, there are many organizations providing help.

Healthy Farmers Run Healthy Farms

Ann Reus WATT Global Media

Mental illness can feel like a downward spiral, but there is help available; mental illness can be treated and/or managed, just like any other illness. Treat your mental health as part of your overall wellness. Just as farmers need to keep their bodies strong, they also need to keep their minds strong.

If you or someone you know is struggling, please seek help from one of the resources below, or from your state or local farm bureau or ag extension office:

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/> +1.800.273.8255

Farm Crisis Center <https://farmcrisis.nfu.org/>

American Farm Bureau Federation <https://www.fb.org/programs/farm-state-of-mind>

The Do More Agriculture Foundation <https://www.domore.ag/>

HealthyPlace <https://www.healthyplace.com/>

If you don't take care of yourself first, you can't take care of your farm, your family or your community.

Contacts:

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Tips for Chicken Farmers To Get Through the COVID-19 Pandemic

In Case You Missed It Last Month....

1. COVID-19 is caused by a coronavirus that [does not affect chickens](#). This virus is different from the ones that cause IBV in birds.
2. Practice heightened levels of Biosecurity, as well as teaching others. University of Maryland Extension has [videos on biosecurity in different languages](#). In addition:
 - a. Limit visits to town
 - b. Encourage regular hand washing.
 - c. Limit close contact with others; practice social distancing.
 - d. If you have employees that need to travel to and from work, here are some links for forms to fill out to show that they are essential workers:
 - I. For [Maryland farm workers](#)
 - II. For [Delaware farm workers](#)
3. Have a plan for sickness. Who will take care of your chickens/farm if you get sick: your family, children, employees, neighbors?
4. Make sure your farm insurance is up to date and that your policy covers loss of income.
 - a. Loss of income is only covered by damage to property, i.e. buildings from lightning, fire, wind collapse, and/or equipment. A poultry company deciding to take action is not covered.
5. Check to make sure your generator is operational and running correctly.
 - a. Do you have enough fuel to run for an extended period of time? (Fuel costs are down, so now is a good time to buy, making sure to add the appropriate fuel preservative.)
 - b. Who will you call if there is a problem?
 - c. Do you have spare oil, oil filters and air filters on hand?
 - d. In case of an emergency, do you have step-by-step instructions on how to start the generator manually and transfer power?
6. Keep a close eye on feed inventory and order feed ahead so if there is any disruption in deliveries, you are covered.
7. With the shortage of PPEs, consider using homemade dust masks or cloth face coverings as an alternative. The CDC has provided [instructions for making them](#).
8. If you are having financial problems, contact your lender at once and work with them now before things become worse. USDA has also made changes to its farm loan practices and taken other measures to provide financial assistance to farmers: [see information about those changes here](#).
9. For educational assistance, the University Extension Systems are still open, but working from home, so give them a call. Additionally, there are lots of educational opportunities online and by webinar.
 - a. For the University of Maryland look here <https://extension.umd.edu/poultry>
 - b. For the University of Delaware look here <https://sites.udel.edu/poultryextension/>

Who's Tired of Corona Virus News?

We are too! But, being ever vigilant is what we need to continue to do. Because of this, we are working together to offer poultry growers virtual meetings to inform, help unite and lift each other up, making sure we are doing well.

'Grower Lunch Breaks'

Your cooperative poultry extension team from UMD, UMES, UD, and DPI are joining together at noon on Wednesdays to join you in Grower Lunch Breaks.

Register one time at:

<https://umd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0kfuyhqjispGNzp8wlhemiV6PeHRsJpxntO>

August 5 - Topic: [Poultry House Generators with Tim Norman of Barnes Electric](#)



Starting **August 5**, Grower Lunch Breaks will be held the **1st** and **3rd Wednesdays** of each month with format being:

- **1st Wednesday - Sponsor/Host related.** As a team, we are now making Lunch & Learns part of the **Grower Lunch Breaks** and offering talks from experts
- **3rd Wednesday - Open Discussion with general topics.** Open discussions with an interesting topic, just to get us started. This is your time to ask questions or discuss concerns, or tell us how well you are doing!

If you would like to **Sponsor/Host** a Grower Lunch Break, or if anyone has a **Topic** you would like to see covered, please contact one of our cooperative poultry team members:

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The team member can give you date options, discuss press releases, and advertising.

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