News Release
2002 National 4-H Poultry & Egg Conference

The 2002 National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference was held on November 21 at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center in Louisville, KY. The annual conference allowed 4-H'ers from all over the country to compete in educational events that help them learn to make and defend decisions, speak publicly, and gain skills in poultry-related subject matter.

The 2002 conference included five separate events. In the poultry and egg judging contest, 4-H'ers judged ready-to-cook poultry, live production hens, and market eggs. In the chicken and turkey barbecuing contests, the 4-H'ers prepared barbecued chicken or turkey and gave oral presentations on the broiler or turkey industries. The egg preparation demonstrations involved preparing an egg dish and giving an oral presentation on the nutritional value of eggs. In addition to these events, an avian bowl was conducted. The avian bowl is a round robin tournament in which the contestants are required to answer questions regarding poultry science, poultry production, meat duck, gamebird, and waterfowl production, and information about the poultry industries.

A Poultry Careers Workshop was also held during the Conference. 4-Hers were exposed to hands–on information from poultry food industry personnel and the participants were given pertinent information about the career and educational opportunities in the poultry food sciences and industries. The Conference Committee greatly appreciates the time, dedication, and efforts of the industry representatives. The Workshop was sponsored by Maple Leaf Farms, The State Executive Poultry Association, the Southeastern Game Breeders and Hunting Preserve Association, and the North American Gamebird Association.

The 150 senior 4-H'ers, representing 25 states, participated as teams or individuals. Team competition was held in the poultry and egg judging contest and the avian bowl. Individuals competed in the egg preparation and the turkey and chicken barbecuing contests. Eighteen teams judged poultry and eggs, and twelve teams competed in the avian bowl. Thirteen individuals participated in the turkey barbecuing contest, ten in chicken barbecue, and sixteen in the egg preparation demonstration. John Starkey of the U. S. Poultry & Egg Association, Dave Clem of Perdue Farms, and Dr. Helen Brown of Tyson Foods attended the Conference and participated at the awards banquet. Along with the 4-H'ers, about 280 people, including county extension agents, 4-H leaders, chaperons, coaches, and poultry specialists, helped make the conference a success.

The conference was funded through contributions of goods, finances, and services from many individuals, companies, and commodity organizations. A total of 42 organizations provided financial support for awards. The U. S. Poultry & Egg Association sponsored the awards banquet and provided funding for awards for the judging contest. The chicken barbecue awards were sponsored by Tyson Foods and

GoldKist. The turkey barbecuing contest awards were sponsored by the Minnesota Turkey Council, Goldsboro Milling Co., the Texas Turkey Federation, and the Wisconsin Turkey Federation. Awards for the egg cookery demonstrations were sponsored by funding from the American Egg Board, Georgia Egg Commission, Louisiana Egg Commission, North Carolina Egg Association, Texas Egg Council, and the Pacific Egg and Poultry Association, and the United Egg Board. Contributions from Hubbard ISA LLC, Inc., Hy–Line International Co., Chilson's Management Controls, California Poultry Industry Federation, and Southern States Cooperative sponsored the awards for the avian bowl. Additional thanks are extended to The Poultry Association (AR, MO, & OK), USA Branch of WPSA, the Indiana State Poultry Assoc., Virginia Poultry Federation, the PENNAG Poultry Council, the Texas Poultry Federation, the Ohio Poultry Federation, Tennessee Poultry Federation, South Carolina Poultry Federation, Kentucky Poultry Federation, American Poultry Historical Society, Wisconsin Poultry Improvement Assoc., Dr. Francine Bradley, and the Midwest Poultry Federation for their donations this year to the National Conference. It is difficult to mention all the sponsors in this format, however, special appreciation goes out to all of the supporting organizations and individuals. The National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference could not exist without their contributions.

The California team won the avian bowl contest. Each team member won a plaque, gold pin, and a $100 savings bond. The winning team members were Rachel Teagle, Katrina Castaneda, and Rebecca King. Other top ranking teams were, Ohio (2nd), Virginia (3rd), Wisconsin (4th), Kentucky (5th place tie), Georgia (5th place tie), Maryland (7th place tie), Pennsylvania (7th place tie), Alabama (9th place tie), and Kansas (9th place tie).

In the cooking contests, Jessica Carnahan from Louisiana took first place in the chicken barbecue demonstration. Stephanie Hughes from Utah took first place in the turkey barbecue competition. Maria Sanner from Pennsylvania won the egg preparation demonstration contest. Each contestant won a plaque, $500 savings bond, and gold pin.

In poultry judging, the individual winning the Production Hen division was Marta Kroger from California and the Indiana team won the team competition for that division. In the Market Poultry division, Whitney Smith from Arkansas won the individual competition, and the Arkansas team won the team competition. The individual winning the Market Egg division was Darcy Hume from Florida and the team competition for Market Eggs was won by Louisiana. Each contestant was awarded a trophy and gold pin.

The overall individual champion in the poultry and egg judging contest, winning a plaque, gold pin, and $500 savings bond, was Jeramy Bienz from Indiana. Indiana was the overall team champion in poultry and egg judging. The Indiana team consisted of Diana Berning, Jennifer Riley, Jordan Bienz, and Jeramy Bienz. Each team member won a trophy and gold pin. Other top ranking teams were Louisiana, 2nd; Arkansas, 3rd; California, 4th; Georgia, 5th; Florida, 6th; Maryland, 7th; Tennessee, 8th; Minnesota, 9th; and Ohio, 10th.

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Donors and Sponsors

Many business firms, associations, and individuals provide funds and resources for the National4–H Poultry and Egg Conference. Listed below are the Donors and Sponsors who help make this Conference possible.

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