

News Release
2015 National 4-H Poultry & Egg Conference

The 2015 National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference was held November 18-19 at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center in Louisville. This annual conference allows 4-Hers from all over the country to compete in educational events that help them learn to make and defend decisions, speak publicly, and gain poultry-related skills.

This annual 4-H conference includes five separate competitive events. In the Poultry Judging contest, participants are required to judge ready-to-cook chicken and turkey carcasses, live production hens, and market eggs. In the Chicken and Turkey Barbecuing contests participants barbecue three chicken halves or two turkey fillets and give an oral presentation on the corresponding poultry industry. In the Egg Preparation demonstration contest participants demonstrate preparation an egg dish while giving an oral presentation on the nutritional value and versatility of eggs. In addition to these events, the conference includes an Avian Bowl contest which is a double-elimination tournament in which the contestants are required to answer questions regarding poultry science, poultry meat and egg production, and information about the poultry industries.

A Poultry Careers workshop is also held at the conference, exposing the 4-Hers to hands-on information from poultry food industry personnel and the participants are given pertinent information about career and educational opportunities in poultry industries. This year there were three speakers at the workshop. Steve Bliesner spoke about his job as Director of Operations at Daybreak Foods and Tracy McKenney spoke about working at Perdue. Blake Van Denburgh spoke of his career path to Pullet Manager of Daybreak Foods.

At the 2015 National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference, 120 senior 4-Hers, representing 19 states, participated as teams or individuals in the various events. Sixteen teams and three independent individuals participated in the Poultry Judging contest and nine teams competed in the Avian Bowl contest. Twelve individuals participated in the Chicken Barbecue contest, eight in the Turkey Barbecue, and nine in the Egg Preparation Demonstration.

Ms. Beverly Hampton of the USPOULTRY Foundation, along with Jon Cole of Poultry Science Association, attended the conference and participated at the awards banquet. Along with the 4-Hers, an additional 133 people, including poultry specialists, county extension agents, 4-H leaders, coaches, chaperones, and other family members, 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 36 donors provided financial support for awards.

The Avian Bowl contest was won by the team from California. Each team member was awarded a plaque, gold pin and \$100. The winning team members were Ellie Milanese, Keaton Kelm and Tea Rice. They were coached by Mrs. Shar Rice. The remaining top teams were Minnesota (2nd – each member received a plaque, gold pin and \$75); Ohio (3rd – each member received a plaque, silver pin and \$60), Kentucky (4th – each member received a silver pin and \$50); New York (5th – each member received a bronze pin and \$25); and New Jersey (6th – each member received a bronze pin and \$25). Other participating teams, receiving bronze pins, include Louisiana, Georgia and Illinois.



Avian Bowl winners – from California
Coached by Mrs. Shar Rice
Presented by Jon Cole, Poultry Science Association

In the cooking contests, Camille Ledoux from New York took first place in the Chicken Barbecue contest; Hannah Moseley from Georgia took first place in the Turkey Barbecue contest; and Mauri Collins from Kentucky placed first in the Egg Preparation Demonstration. Each contestant received a plaque, gold pin and \$250. The plaque awarded the winner of the turkey barbecue contest is the Robert Hogue Memorial award. The coach for the top individual in each contest also receives a plaque.



Turkey Barbecue Contestants



Chicken Barbecue Contestants



Chicken BBQ winner – Camille Ledoux from New York
Coach: Michele Ledoux
Presented by Jesse Lyons, University of Missouri



Turkey BBQ winner – Hannah Moseley from Georgia
(Received the Robert Hogue Memorial award)
Presented by Jesse Lyons, University of Missouri



Egg Preparation Demonstration winner – Mauri Collins from Kentucky
 Coach: Stewart Collins
 Presented by Steve Bliesner of Daybreak foods.

In the Poultry Judging contest, Justin Harper from Georgia placed first in the Production Hen division. Georgia (Caroline Dunn, Justin Harper, Karen Ouano and Nicole Taylor) was the top team in this division. Brenyln Hoover from Indiana placed first in the Market Poultry division. Georgia was again the top team in this division. Irene Hintze from Maryland placed first in the Market Egg division and Pennsylvania (Karen Warner, Taylor Mauk, Tyler Poorman, and Clayton Giedroc) was the top team. Each individual winner received a plaque and gold pin. Each team member was awarded a trophy and gold pin.

The overall individual champion in the Poultry Judging contest, receiving a plaque, gold pin and \$250, was Dakota Horlocker from Florida, with Georgia finishing as the overall team champions (Caroline Dunn, Justin Harper, Karen Ouano and Nicole Taylor). Each team member received trophy and gold pin. The top team also receives the Dr. Charles Wabeck Memorial Award. Other top ranking teams were Pennsylvania (2nd) and Kentucky (3rd).



Production Hen division, top individual
 Justin Harper from Georgia

Presented by Ms. Beverly Hampton, USPOULTRY Foundation



Production Hen division, top team
 Georgia Poultry Judging Team



Market Poultry division, top individual
Brenlyn Hoover from Indiana
Presented by Ms. Beverly Hampton, USPOULTRY Foundation



Market Poultry Division, top team
Georgia Poultry Judging team
Presented by Ms. Beverly Hampton, USPOULTRY Foundation



Market egg division, top individual
Irene Hintze from Maryland
Presented by Ms. Beverly Hampton, USPOULTRY Foundation



Market egg division, top team
Pennsylvania Poultry Judging team
Presented by Ms. Beverly Hampton, USPOULTRY Foundation



Top individual overall
Dakota Horlockner from Florida
Presented by Ms. Beverly Hampton, USPOULTRY Foundation



Top team overall, Georgia
Coach: Ashley Davis
Presented by Ms. Beverly Hampton, USPOULTRY Foundation

The National 4-H Poultry and Egg conference is where competition and fellowship develop the next generation of leaders.

- The poultry judging contest teaches participants to make decisions in an orderly manner, use reasoning skills, and to accurately communicate decisions. Participants are required to evaluate ready-to-cook chicken and turkey carcasses, live production hens, and market eggs.
- The avian bowl is a double elimination contest for state teams patterned after other knowledge bowls. Contestants must have a comprehensive knowledge of subject matter for several species of poultry, food safety, physiology, nutrition, eggs, and other subjects.
- In the egg preparation demonstration contest participants are required to prepare an egg dish, demonstrate presentation skills, and incorporate knowledge of the egg industry, egg quality and nutrition.
- In the chicken and turkey barbecue contest participants barbecue three chicken halves or two turkey fillets and give an oral presentation on the corresponding poultry industry. Participants develop skills in barbecuing, preparation of a product, and a presentation that demonstrates knowledge of the subject industry, food safety, and product attributes.

For more information on the National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference

Checkout our website at www.National4HPoultry.com

Donors and Sponsors

Many business firms, associations and individuals provide funds and resources for the National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference. Listed below are the donors who help make this conference possible.

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