

Chickens 101

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Train the trainers in Poultry
June 22-23 Davis, CA
June 25-26 L.A. CA

Chickens

- Gallus gallus domesticus
- Domesticated fowl
- Subspecies of the red junglefowl
- Most common and widespread domestic animal
- 24 Bill in 2003
- Humans keep them primarily as food source (meat and eggs)



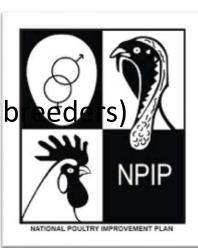
Why keeping poultry?

- They are ornamental
- They are fun pets
- Fast return of the investment
- Can be handled by kids and grown ups
- Small area is required
- Easy to run a pilot flock and decide if you want to make it a business
- Can provide food for the family or revenues due to eggs or meat sales



What to know before acquiring poultry

- Objective of raising poultry
- Space determination
- Investment
- City or county ordinances
- Equipment needed
- Reliable information and veterinary services
- Eggs, chicks, pullets or adults
- Reliable sources (Hatcheries, feed stores, neighbors,
- Health or vaccination status (MDV)





Different flocks, different risks and management

- Breeders (maternal antibodies)
- Multiple ages (higher risk of diseases)
- Flock size (the bigger the riskier)
- Take birds to poultry shows (risk)
- Birds are bought from different sources (auctions, hatcheries) and added to an existing flock (Quarantine area)









Flock size recommendations

- Urban flocks: follow city ordinances
- Family flock project (eggs/meat at home): 15 chicks or 6 layers
- Income producing flock: 25 pullets or 20 layers
- Broilers for home supply and sale: start with 50 to be processed at 7 to 9 weeks





- Hobby flocks: One pair of adults or below 10 chicks
- Bantams garden project: One pair of adults or below 10 chicks (Good possibility if you cannot keep large poultry)
- The key is not getting more than what you can handle so you have to have your own magic number

• This numbers are debatable depending on the realities of the flocks in terms of feed, time, space, breed of chickens, etc.



Poultry uses

- Food source (eggs/meat)
- Vet science (exploring science specially for kids)
- Fancy breed keeper (400 different breeds)
- Garden fertilization
- Ornament
- Small/mid-size commercial flock



Most common breeds

- Cornish: (Cornwald, England)
 - White and dark
 - Sex differentiation by body conformation
 - Heavy meat producer
 - Yellow skin and brown eggs





White leghorns

- Single combs
- Foundation for commercial egg laying hens
- Great activity
- Good egg producer
- Very resistant
- Yellow skin and white egg shells







New Hampshire

- Obtained in 1915 from a Rhode Island Red foundation
- Double purpose (meat and eggs)
- Yellow skin and brown eggs





Plymouth Rock

- White and barred varieties
- Dual purpose
- Yellow skin and brown egg shell





Rhode Island Red

- Horizontal / oblong body
- Dual purpose
- Yellow skin brown to dark brown egg shells





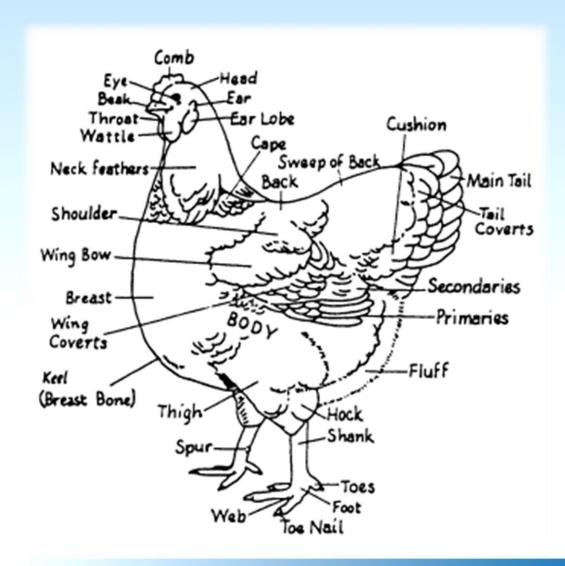
Buff Orpington

- Dual purpose breed
- White eggs and yellow skin



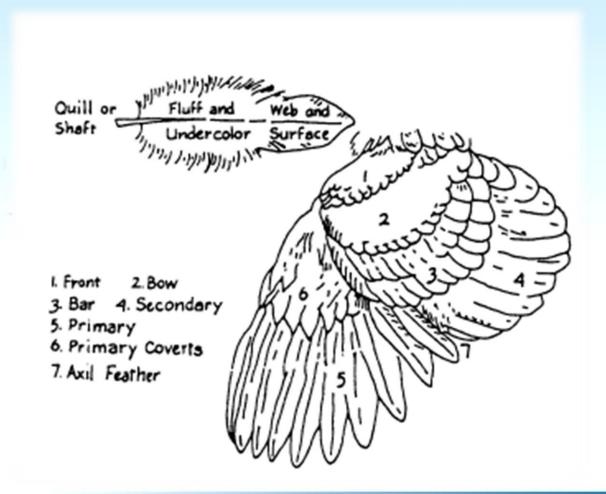


Anatomy: Chicken body parts



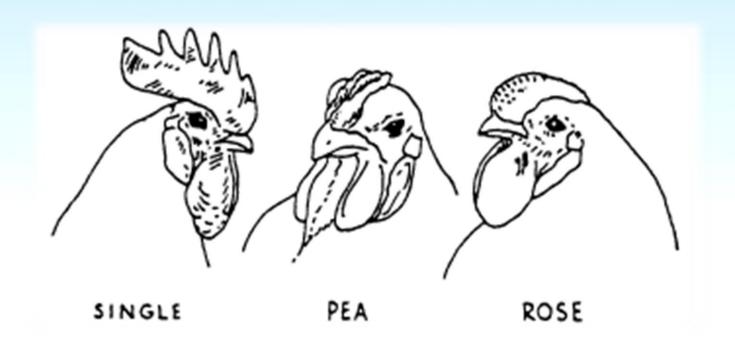


Chicken feathers



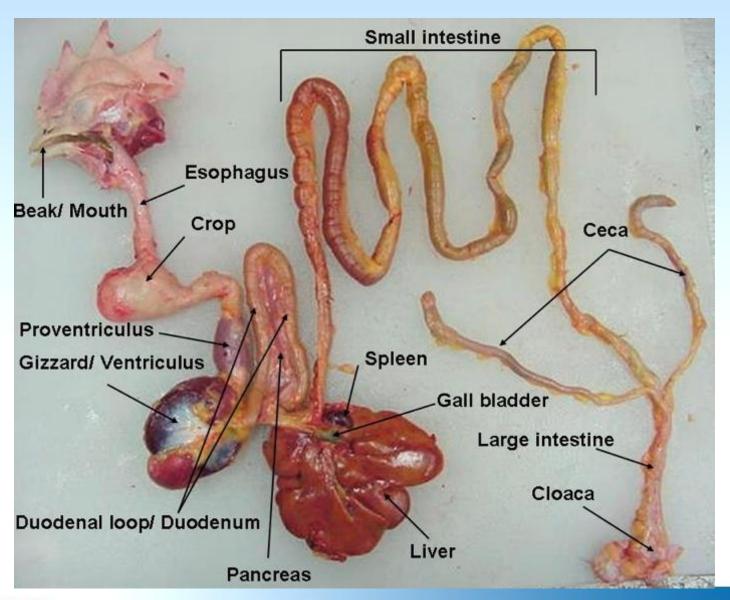


Types of combs





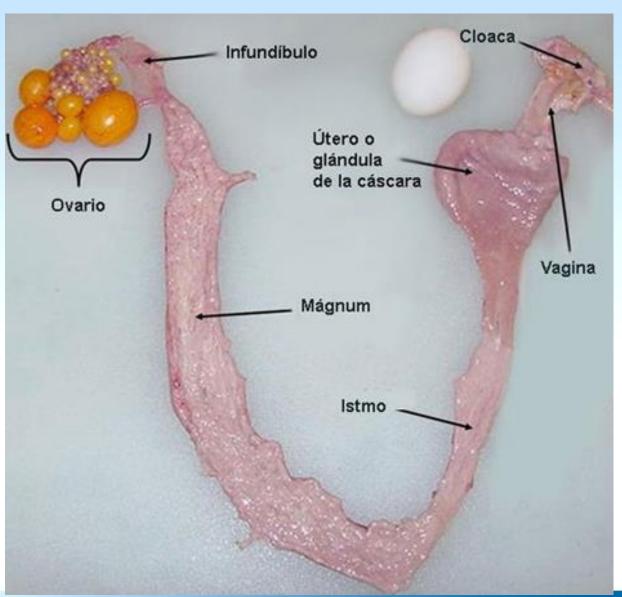
Gastrointestinal tract





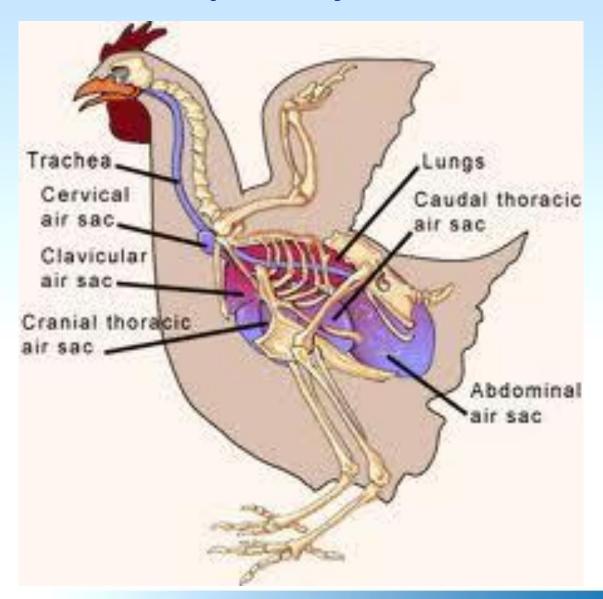
Reproductive tract

- Infundibulum
- Magnum
- Isthmus
- Uterus or shell gland
- Vagina





Respiratory tract





Biosecurity

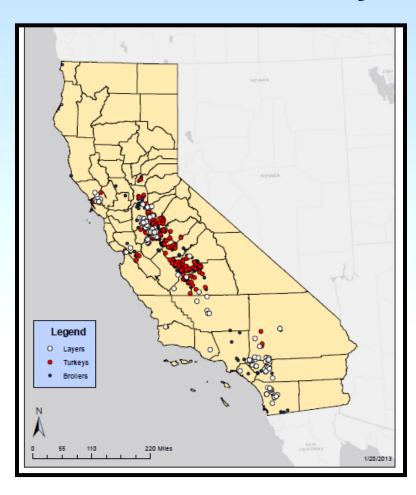
Characteristics:

- Realistic
- Applicable to all the system
- Preventive
- Is essential

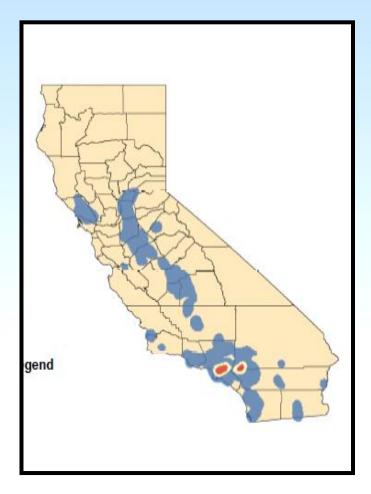




Poultry in California



Commercial producers in CA

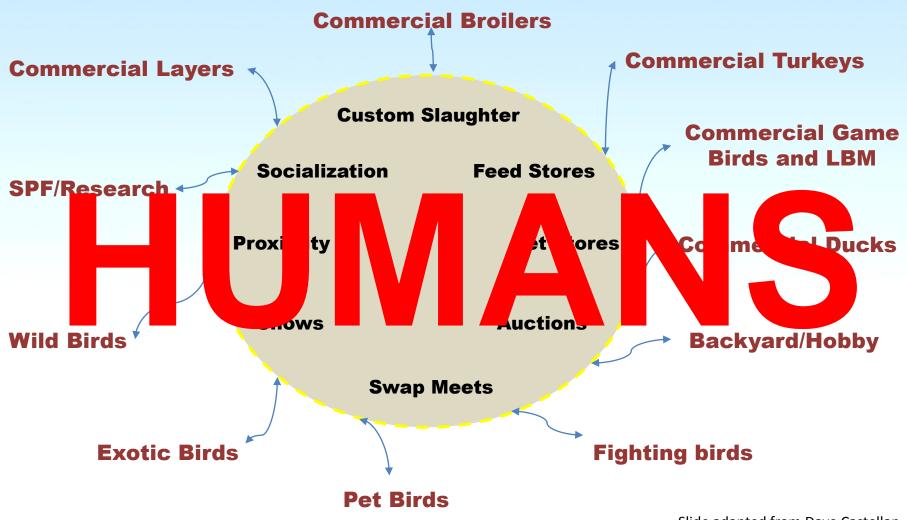


Backyard producers in CA

Slide provided by Dr. Maurice Pitesky



Possible avian interactions in California





Potential diseases and classification in terms of biosecurity

Biosecurity measures are evaluated according to cost-benefit

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Prevention

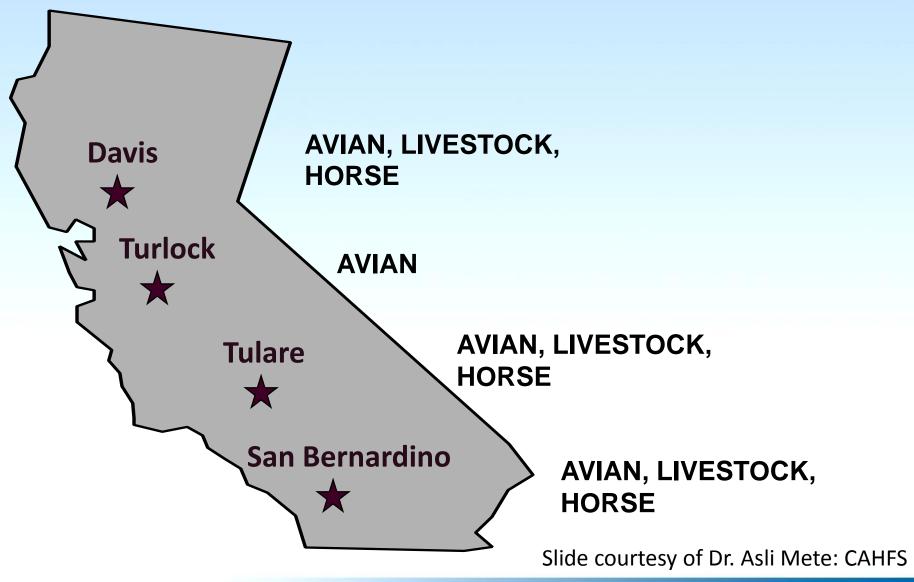
Eradication

Prevention

Limitation of consequences



CAHFS Locations & Services





The CAHFS lab will provide some necropsy services for up to two birds at no charge for BY poultry submitted for necropsy



Select List of Tests Performed on Backyard Poultry at CAHFS

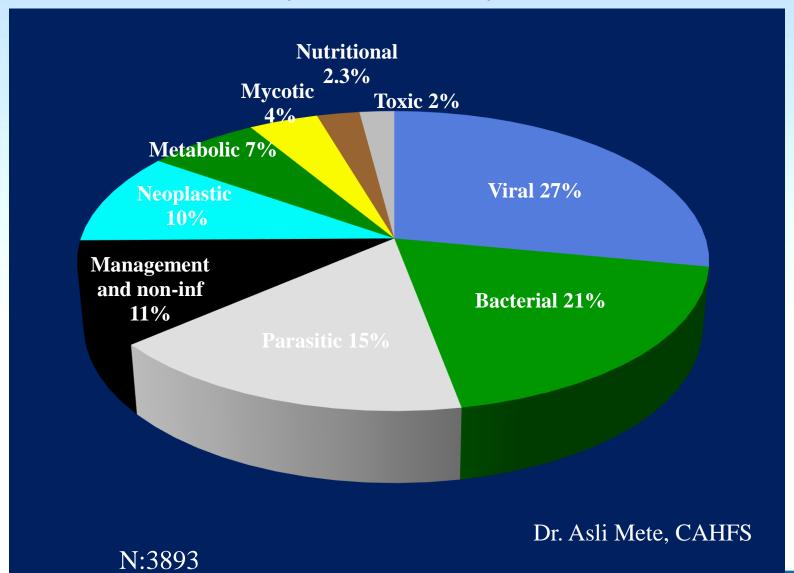
Poultry for backyard flock classification include chickens, turkeys, squabs and waterfowl. Total flock number must be provided and must be <1000 birds for discount necropsy.

	Specimen	Container/	Fee
Test Name	Type	Shipping	(in state)
Bacteriology			
Bacterial aerobic culture	Swab, droppings	Cool	15.90
Botulism test (included in necropsy if testing an	Environmental		
affected bird at necropsy). Samples not from	suspect material		
affected bird (environmental) are extra	(dead animal)	Cool	91.60
Salmonella PCR and/or culture	Droppings,		
	environmental		
	drag swabs	Cool	14.70
Biotechnology/Virology	a= not cotton swab		
Avian Influenza virus PCR (fluid/swab)	Oropharnygeal	Swab in RTT or vial -	
	swab ^a	not culturette	0.00
Infectious bronchitis virus PCR		Swab in RTT or vial	
	Tracheal swab ^a	not culturette	23.70
Mycoplasma gallisepticum PCR	- 1 1 1a	Swab in RTT or vial	40.00
	Tracheal swab ^a	not culturette	19.00
Mycoplasma synoviae PCR	Tracheal swab ^a	Swab in RTT or vial	10.00
	Oropharyngeal	not culturette Swab in RTT or vial	19.00
Newcastle disease virus PCR	swab ^a	not culturette	0.00
Parasitology	SWdD	not culturette	0.00
Direct fecal exam for coccidia and parasite eggs	~1/2 ml of fresh		
bricet recare examinor essecuta and parasite eggs	droppings	Cool	8.80
Flotation for parasite check	5ml droppings	Cool	10.50
Pathology			•
Histopathology (only)	Tissue	Formalin/container	39.50
Necropsy up to 2 birds, same day, same problem			0.00
from backyard flock species with <1000 birds	Carcass	Cool not frozen	
Necropsy for >2 birds from backyard flock species			
with <1000 birds; and ALL poultry and waterfowl			120.00
from flocks >1000 birds; 1-8 birds one price	Carcass	Cool not frozen	
Serology			
Chicken respiratory serology panel (IBV, MG, MS,			
AI, NDV)	Serum, 1ml	RTT or serum*/cool	8.30
Avian influenza antibody test ELISA (AI)	Serum, 1ml	RTT or serum*/cool	1.70
Infectious bronchitis virus ELISA (IBV)	Serum, 1ml	RTT or serum*/cool	1.70
Infectious bursal disease ELISA (IBDV)	Serum, 1ml	RTT or serum*/cool	1.70
Infectious laryngotracheitis ELISA (ILT)	Serum, 1ml	RTT or serum*/cool	1.70



Incidence of diseases in BYF by etiology

(CAHFS 2001-2013)





CAHFS 2013 summary of backyard poultry diagnosis

Diagnosis	Cases/total cases	% of total cases
Marek's disease*	161/1029	16
Ovarian tumors	80/1029	7.8
FHLS	54/1029	5.2
Salpingitis by <i>E. Coli</i>	37/1029	3.6
Coccidiosis	36/1029	3.5
Bacterial salpingitis	30/1029	2.9

CAHFS, 2013



Prevalence of respiratory diseases diagnosed in BYF submissions to the CAHFS Turlock branch 2010-2012

Infectious Disease	Sample size (n=)	Percent Positive
Newcastle disease	125	7%
Infectious bronchitis	125	36%
Mycoplasma gallisepticum	60	75%
Mycoplasma synoviae	48	42%

CAHFS Turlock, 2012





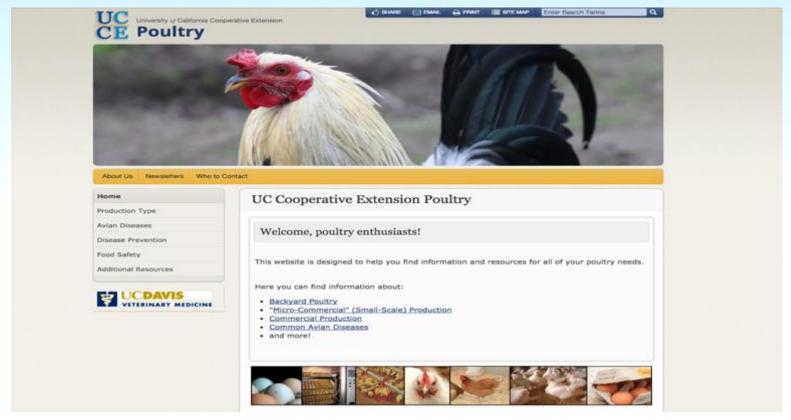
How to get information: Small Flocks Study

- Main purpose: Assess the presence of antibodies to respiratory diseases in areas far and close to commercial poultry
- Blood collection (drops)
- ELISA testing
- Will help us determining the effect of commercial poultry on exposure to respiratory pathogens in small flocks
- Will help establishing preventative measures
- If interested call, email of fill out the participation sheet
- <u>alefigueroa@ucdavis.edu</u> or Phone: (530) 752 5327
- Funding: Center for Food Animal Health UC DAVIS (USDA/NIFA)



Where to get the information

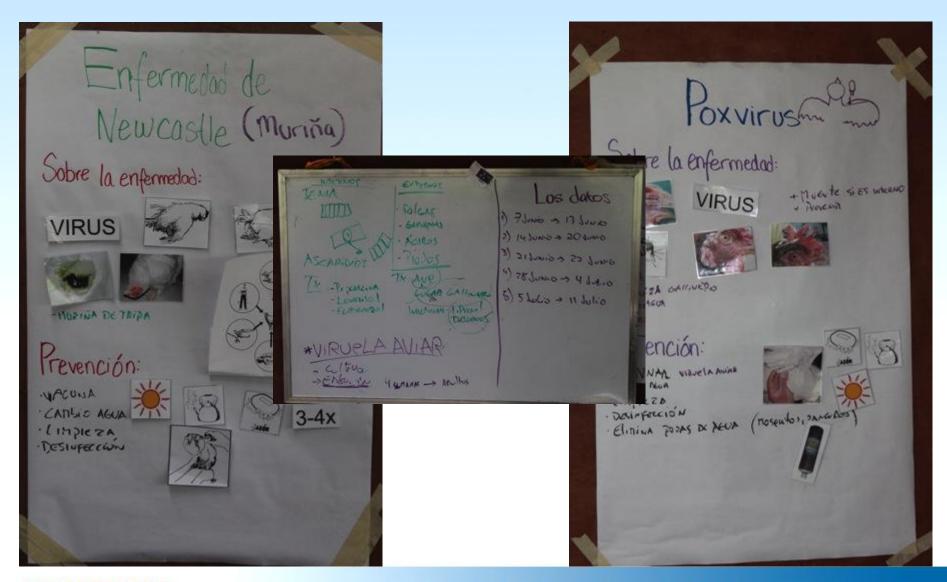
- Internet is full of information that sometimes is not accurate
- Contact a poultry veterinarian (poultry practitioner, university, poultry extension specialist)



http://ucanr.edu/sites/poultry/



Train your people: Be creative





Be inclusive







