



**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Avian Influenza Seminar in Atlanta Now Sponsored by Nine Organizations; Most Speakers Finalized**

**Savoy, IL.**—The Federation of Animal Science Societies (FASS) is pleased to recognize the financial supporters of the second professional series seminar offered by the organization. The FASS seminar, entitled “Avian Influenza: The Emerging Global Impact,” will be held in Atlanta, GA on April 29, 2005 at the Hilton Atlanta. Most speakers to the event, representing academia, government, and industry, have now been finalized, and the initial response to the event has been very favorable. The seminar is expected to draw attendees from scientific, government, extension, veterinary, producer, and commodity groups.

FASS is pleased to announce the following financial supporters:

United Egg Producers	Intervet, Inc.
Schering-Plough Animal Health	IDEXX Laboratories, Inc.
Merial Select	Fort Dodge Animal Health
American Association of Avian Pathologists	Charles River SPAFAS, Inc.
Cobb-Vantress, Inc.	

This second one-day event in the professional seminar series from FASS will address a hot topic for industry, academia, and consumer: avian influenza. Planned to draw upon the concentrated poultry industry in the Southeastern U.S., this event will pack brief presentations, ranging from Federal policy overview to human cross-over of the disease to international trade dimensions, into a full one-day event. Speakers at the event will include

Jack Shere, USDA-APHIS-VS, Associate Director, Western Region  
Fidelis N. Hegngi, USDA-APHIS-VS, Senior Staff Veterinarian, National Animal Health Policy and Programs Certification and Control Team (Poultry Programs)  
David E. Swayne, Southeast Poultry Research Laboratory, Laboratory Director  
Dennis Senne, National Veterinary Services Laboratory  
Nathaniel L. Tablante, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Maryland  
Annette Whiteford, Director of Animal Health and Food Safety Services, California Department of Food and Agriculture  
T. J. Myers, USDA-APHIS  
Bruce Stewart-Brown, Vice President of Food Safety and Quality, Perdue Farms, Inc.  
Susan Trock, New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets  
Jacqueline Katz (Keynote Speaker), Chief, Immunology and Viral Pathogenesis Section, Influenza Branch, Centers for Disease Control

Additional speakers will yet be added to the program, and updates to the agenda can be viewed at [www.fass.org/seminars/avian](http://www.fass.org/seminars/avian).

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The seminar will include formal presentations throughout the morning; a one-hour presentation by the Keynote Speaker, Dr. Jackie Katz, during the catered luncheon; and the opportunity to visit with the speakers in a more informal manner during the panel discussion in the afternoon.

“Avian influenza is recognized as a highly contagious virus with considerable economic impact. But besides its effect on the poultry industry, there are now growing concerns over its cross-over to humans and its use as a bioterrorism weapon. This program will provide a unique opportunity for representatives from academia, government, and industry to interact in a one-day seminar designed to address these and other emerging issues.” *Dr. Calvin Keeler, Member, Programming Committee*

FASS President James Lauderdale welcomes attendees to register now for the event:

“This focused seminar will provide a unique opportunity for participants to discuss all aspects of avian influenza, including basics of the disease, economic impact, human health implications, strategies for response, Federal policy, and the potential use of avian influenza by bioterrorists. With such a focused approach, excellent speakers, and a meeting location in the heart of poultry production, I encourage your registration, attendance, and participation in this seminar.”

Registrations to the seminar are now being accepted via the seminar web site at <http://www.fass.org/seminars/avian>. The cost of the one-day event is \$125. Attendees will receive one copy of the speaker presentations on CD-ROM with attendance and can pre-purchase additional CD-ROMs, which will be disbursed at the seminar and marketed to the general public at a later date.

For more information on this event, contact Amy Kemp, Publication Projects Coordinator, at the Federation of Animal Science Societies or see the seminar web site at <http://www.fass.org/seminars/avian>.

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