



Our Mission: Providing Quality Feed for Quality Food

A Step Toward a Successful Transition

F. Barry Shaw

This will be my last featured article in the Millogram. I may write short articles from time to time. And – NO – I am not RETIRING – not yet anyway.

at the same time, he won't hesitate to challenge our overall direction. The feed industry is changing rapidly and overall directional changes are necessary. A good example is our new



Your support as team members, customers, suppliers, community, and friends is the strength of our industry and is the key to the agricultural future here in the Northeast. We look forward to working with all of you in the future.

Succession planning is critical in any company and especially in a family business. We thought what better way for you to get to know Geoff Finch, who will run the Wenger organization in the future, than to have Geoff write the featured article. This is all part of our Long Range Strategic Plan (LRSP). Successful companies have LRSPs and active boards with outside board members to help the organization successfully manage their way through the transition process. In the next several years, several key executives will be retiring. Resources embodied in senior leadership need to be identified and deliberately transitioned to the next generation, and it is our job to help Geoff build the team that will lead Wenger's in the future.

I know Geoff and I have similar philosophies. He believes strongly in our core values since he helped write them, and,

Ingredient Division. Geoff has been playing a critical role in the LRSP and has had a major impact on our overall direction, possibly more than many may realize. If everything goes as planned, you will not realize the transition took place as we swing over to the 3rd generation.

I have been with Wenger's Feed Mill, Inc. for 48 years and have seen a lot of positive changes in our industry thanks to all of you. Your support as team members, customers, suppliers, community, and friends is the strength of our industry and is the key to the agricultural future here in the Northeast. We look forward to working with all of you in the future.

In This Issue:

Barry Shaw wins Service Award
AI & PEDv Affect Flocks & Herds
Biosecurity: What We Do
SDS for Grain & Feed
Biosecurity Tips

Barry Shaw receives Meritorious Service Award from Gettysburg College

Wenger Feeds' Executive Chairman of the Board, F. Barry Shaw, received the 2015 Meritorious Service Award from Gettysburg College on Saturday, May 30, during the Awards Ceremony held for Reunion Weekend. The award was bestowed by the Alumni Association, who noted, "(We) consider this award to be among the most prestigious of all awards for volunteer service to Gettysburg College. We appreciate the honor you bring to the College, and congratulate and salute you for your dedication to our alma mater."

"(We) consider this award to be among the most prestigious of all awards for volunteer service to Gettysburg College. We appreciate the honor you bring to the College, and congratulate and salute you for your dedication to our alma mater."

Barry was honored to receive the award with his close friend, team mate, and Phi Gamma Delta fraternity brother, Bob Jones. After walking on stage together, Barry quipped to the crowd of over 1,000, "Bob has a physical disability and I have a mental disability, so we thought the two of us together would make one complete unit." Bob sold Barry his first life insurance policy 50 years ago. Bob remarked that Barry still has the policy. Barry mentioned the integral role Gettysburg College (through both academics and sports) played in his life. Gettysburg College has always held a special place in Barry and Bob's lives and both were humbled by the recognition.

A 1965 graduate of Gettysburg College, Barry and his wife Barbara, also a 1965 graduate, celebrated their 50th class reunion at the event.

After serving 13 years on the College Board of Trustees, Barry is now a Trustee Emeritus. Along with chairing the Annual National Fund for two years, Barry was on the Alumni Executive Board, chairman of the Board of Fellows, and a member of the Major Gifts Committee. Barry is a Benefactor and Cupola Society member. In 1995, Barry was presented with Phi Gamma Delta's Distinguished and Exceptional Service Award.



Class of '65 alumnus Bob Jones, Gettysburg College President Janet Morgan Riggs, and Wenger Feeds' Executive Chairman of the Board Barry Shaw. Both Bob and Barry were honored with Meritorious Service Alumni Awards by the College.



Bob Jones speaks to the crowd. Bob, Barry's close friend, team mate, and Phi Gamma Delta fraternity brother, received the award along with Barry. Photos courtesy of Gettysburg College.

AI and PEDv continue to affect US flocks and herds

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is currently monitoring two highly-pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) virus strains in wild and domestic bird populations in the United States. Meanwhile, Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus (PEDv) continues to affect swine herds since it was introduced in the country two years ago.

AI

Two strains of avian influenza (AI) have been found recently and can cause significant mortality in most avian species. H5N8 has been found in Asia and Europe over the past year resulting in significant flock mortality. This Eurasian virus has mixed with North American AI viruses creating new mixed origin viruses, H5N2 and H5N1. H5N2 caused significant economic loss, mortality, and depopulation of commercial poultry in British Columbia, Canada, throughout late 2014. Both H5N8 and H5N2 have been discovered in poultry flocks in the United States since early 2015. While neither variant is a threat to human health, the H5N2 variant has been the most devastating to poultry.

The USDA's Southeast Poultry Research Laboratory isolated both viruses and tested them in white leghorn chickens, white turkeys, and mallard ducks. Their results suggest that the viruses are well adapted to mallards and most likely to other



wild and domestic waterfowl. While the ducks have few clinical signs of disease, they shed the virus for up to two weeks after infection increasing the possible route of exposure to commercial birds. Turkeys are especially susceptible to these new strains of AI and showed few outward signs of infection until death. Chickens experienced mild signs of illness two days after exposure including ruffled feathers, listlessness, eyes partially closed (swollen), pale color, necrotic combs and wattles, or hemorrhages on the shanks. Chickens were also more susceptible to infection at lower virus load levels.

USDA studies point to migrating waterfowl as a vector for transmission of AI, so it is imperative that producers and the entire industry practice good biosecurity at all times and especially when migratory birds are in the area.

PEDV

Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus (PEDv) has also been affecting animals in the United States since 2013. PEDv is a coronavirus similar to Transmissible Gastroenteritis (TGE). The disease is deadly to newborn and young pigs with almost 100% mortality for 3-5 weeks but has less effect on older animals. This virus poses no risk to humans either through live animals or pork consumption.

PEDv has been endemic in other parts of the world but had never been diagnosed in North America before 2013. Nearly 60% of US cases have occurred since December 2013 with a peak number of cases to date in the months of February, March, and April 2014. In less than 24 months, this disease has caused the loss of an estimated 7 to 8 million animals.

While research continues into a vaccine for PEDv, the best defense for a producer is good biosecurity.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR FLOCK OR HERD IS ILL?

Contact a veterinarian or your flock service technician for additional testing.

The USDA's Southeast Poultry Research Laboratory isolated both AI viruses and tested them in white leghorn chickens, white turkeys, and mallard ducks. Their results suggest that the viruses are well adapted to mallards and most likely to other wild and domestic waterfowl. While the ducks have few clinical signs of disease, they shed the virus for up to two weeks after infection increasing the possible route of exposure to commercial birds.

**The best
defense for
a producer
is good
biosecurity.**

What We Do to Protect Your Biosecurity

Poultry and swine diseases are always a concern for growers and producers even when a disease outbreak is not occurring. To aid your biosecurity, all company feed trucks are equipped with disinfecting units. Our drivers spray the wheels of the truck when entering your farm and when exiting. Drivers are instructed to never enter a production facility, and the floor mat and pedals of the truck are disinfected after every shift.

Should your flock or herd become infected, please contact us immediately so we can institute additional biosecurity procedures.

Recently, our drivers began spraying their footwear with disinfectant when entering and exiting the truck cab.

Should your flock or herd become infected, please contact us immediately so we can institute additional biosecurity procedures. The level of procedure instituted will depend on the type of disease, location of the farm(s), and status of the tests (initial or retest).

When disease conditions warrant, a driver will wear disposable boots and coveralls before exiting the trucks. The boots will be disinfected a second time once the driver is outside the truck. Both the boots and the coveralls will be left at the farm when the delivery is complete. Any additional items used while on the farm will also be disinfected. In extreme cases, trucks may also be washed and disinfected before returning to the mill.

COMMUNICATE WITH US

Blood samples are frequently taken before processing to check for disease. If a positive test is found, the flock or herd may be quarantined. If your flock or herd is quarantined for a disease challenge or if an existing quarantine has been lifted from your farm, we need to know.

Your biosecurity is important to us, and if you are experiencing a disease challenge, we need to implement additional “red-alert” biosecurity procedures for your feed delivery to protect your farm and others. If your flock or herd is quarantined, or a quarantine is lifted, please contact Dispatch, 1-800-692-6008.

SDS Distributed for Grain and Feed

Wenger Feeds has recently implemented a new process for the Globally Harmonized System (GHS). The GHS was adopted by the United States in early 2012 as a revision of the Hazard Communication Standard. The system was developed by the United Nations as a way to bring the chemical regulations and standards of different countries into agreement and making the international sale and transportation of hazardous chemicals easier as well as making workplace conditions safer.

As part of the change to the new system, Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) will now be referred to as Safety Data Sheets (SDS). The sheets will also be standardized into 16 sections with a specific order. (Identification; Hazard identification; Composition/information on ingredients; First-aid measures; Fire-fighting measures; Accidental release measures; Handling and storage; Exposure controls/personal protection; Physical and chemical properties; Stability and reactivity; Toxicological information; Ecological information; Disposal considerations;

Transport information; Regulatory information; and other information.)

The new system is meant to define health, physical, and environmental hazards of chemicals; create a classification

Under the new system, there are more ingredients which are considered hazardous and require a SDS, including grain and mixed animal feed.

process that uses available data on chemicals for comparison with defined hazard criteria; and communicate information in a uniform way.

Under the new system, there are more ingredients which are considered hazardous and require a SDS, including grain and mixed animal feed. With guidance from the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA), Wenger Feeds created and distributed an SDS for mixed grain and feed to address the dust hazard associated with these products.

As required by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Wenger Feeds distributed this SDS to all customers. If you have any questions, please see your Account Leader.

BIOSECURITY TIPS FOR POULTRY AND SWINE FARMS

GREATEST RISKS

1. On the farm, one of the greatest risks comes from introducing new animals onto your property or commingling or exposing your flock or herd to other animals. This is a common way to introduce new disease-causing organisms. As a rule of thumb, new animals should be segregated for 30 days.

2. Farm visitors pose a risk, especially if they have been on other farms with animals or have recently been in other countries with diseases exotic to the United States.

3. Farm equipment that has been in contact with manure can be a source of infection. Equipment should not be shared with other farms unless it has been thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before it reaches your property.



**PROTECT
YOUR ANIMALS**

COMMON SENSE BIOSECURITY MEASURES

1. Keep Your Distance. Restrict access to your property and your animals, and post a biosecurity sign. Have a specific area where visitors can enter. Visitors should not be allowed near your animals unless absolutely necessary, and then visitors should be wearing clean footwear (disposable boots work well) and clothes (supply for them). An area should be available for visitors to change clothes and provide shower-in, shower-out facilities if possible. Require and teach biosecurity to family, employees, and all visitors coming into, or involved with your production area.

2. Keep It Clean. You, your staff and family should always follow biosecurity procedures for cleanliness. Wear clean clothes, scrub boots/shoes with disinfectant or use separate dedicated footwear for inside contact with animals, and wash hands thoroughly. Equipment and vehicles should be kept clean and insist all equipment and vehicles be cleaned before entering property. Maintain programs to control birds, rodents, and flies, who can carry and spread disease.

3. Don't Haul Disease Home. If you, your employees, or family have been on other farms, other places where there is livestock and/or poultry, or someplace where fellow farm personnel congregate, clean and disinfect your vehicle tires and equipment before returning home. Always change clothes and wash hands before returning to your animals.

4. Don't Borrow Disease From Your Neighbor. Do not share equipment, tools, or other supplies with your neighbors or other livestock or poultry owners. If sharing equipment, be sure to clean and disinfect before returning to your property.

5. Look for Signs of Infectious Diseases. Know what diseases are of concern for your flock or herd and be on the lookout for symptoms. Assess the health of your flock or herd daily. Early detection is important to prevent the spread of disease.

6. Report Sick Animals - Don't wait.

Report serious or unusual animal health problems to your veterinarian, local extension office, animal owner, or State or Federal Animal Health officials. USDA operates a toll-free hotline



**REPORT
SICK ANIMALS**

(1-866-536-7593) with veterinarians to help you.

PRECAUTIONS FOR FREE RANGE POULTRY

Poultry producers who raise birds in outdoor, non-confinement systems should prevent contact with wild birds and wild bird droppings. Protective measures include:

1. Identify high risk areas including wetlands along migratory flyways or areas where wild waterfowl or shorebirds congregate, and high density poultry production areas.

2. Implement preventive measures for high-risk areas:

- Keep birds indoors.
- Restrict outside open access by maintaining outdoor enclosures covered with solid roofs and wire mesh or netted sides.
- Provide feed and water for all non-confinement-raised poultry in an indoor area. Birds should not be allowed access to surface water that could potentially transmit AI or other avian pathogens through contamination with wild bird excrement.
- Even if an area may be considered low risk, it should be covered with wire mesh or netting.

LOOK FOR SIGNS OF DISEASE

It is important for producers to know the warning signs of diseases such as avian influenza (AI) or Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus (PEDv). If you know the signs, you may be able to tell if something is wrong. Early detection helps prevent the spread of disease.



**LOOK
FOR SIGNS**

Look for these signs of AI:

- Sudden increase in bird deaths in your flock.
- Sneezing, gasping for air, coughing, and/or runny nose.
- Watery and green diarrhea.
- Lack of energy and poor appetite.
- Drop in egg production or soft or thin-shelled, misshapen eggs.
- Swelling around the eyes, neck, and head.
- Purple discoloration of the wattles, combs, and legs.

If you suspect your birds may have AI, don't wait - Report it!

Look for these signs of PEDv:

Sows:

Mild "cow pat" feces through to a watery diarrhea.
Loose feces.

Piglets:

Diarrhea.
Dehydration.
Mortality may be high.

Weaners & Growers:

Acute watery diarrhea with no blood or mucus.
Mortality is usually low but morbidity can be high.

When the virus is first introduced on to the farm, there is a rapid spread of diarrhea across all breeding and growing pigs with almost 100% morbidity (pigs affected) within 5 to 10 days. The incubation period is 2 to 4 days.



Wenger's Feed Mill, Inc.
101 W. Harrisburg Ave.
P.O. Box 26
Rheems, PA 17570

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HARRISBURG PA
PERMIT NO. 533

MilloGram

In This Issue:

Barry Shaw wins Service Award
AI & PEDv Affect Flocks & Herds
Biosecurity: What We Do
SDS for Grain & Feed
Biosecurity Tips

MilloGram

Vol. 28, No. 3
July - September 2015

The MilloGram is published four times a year for our customers, team members, neighbors, and friends by Wenger Feeds, 1-800-692-6008

www.wengerfeeds.com

To be added or removed from the mailing list,
e-mail your request: cc@wengerfeeds.com.

30% recycled paper



GREEN PLUS
PEOPLE. PLANET. PERFORMANCE.
The Redwoods Group Foundation

Performance Driven Programs



**Flexible feeding programs,
great performance for every budget**

www.wengerfeeds.com
1-800-692-6008



WENGER INFO

► GRAIN RECEIVING CAMERAS

If you haul corn or soybeans to the Rheems Mill or corn to the Mount Joy Mill, check our grain receiving cameras. Use the icon on the home page of wengerfeeds.com or click on "Grain Receiving" under the Services tab.



► **Go Green:** Receive your Millogram by e-mail. Send your request to cc@wengerfeeds.com. Be sure to include your mailing address.

