

# UNL POULTRY NEWS

Congratulations to :

Dr. Don Reynolds—NPI Poultry Person of the Year

NEW DATE—UNL Chick Days—June 6, Lincoln, NE.

NEW DATE—MPF Convention July 11-14, Minneapolis, MN

Poultry Science Association Virtual Meeting—Summer 2020

Newsletter Editor

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COVID-19 Changes Everything, Dr. Sheila Purdum

During these difficult times I keep reminding myself of the things we can be grateful for as our poultry industry and state face the challenges of COVID-19. The first that comes to my mind is that we are working in an essential industry supplying important food to a suffering nation. There have already been rapid changes in the shell egg prices due to the COVID-19 outbreak and a quick response from the commercial egg industry. Will these new market trends stay after the quarantines?? Let's hope so,. The second thing I am grateful for is our understanding of how viruses work and spread and how "Biosecurity" helps contain the virus Having a fundamental knowledge of this from the 2013 Avian Influenza outbreak helps me cope with questions and understanding during these stressful times. I have much confidence in our industry's ability to protect their workers as well during this difficult time. The final third item I am grateful for is the University of Nebraska's ability to educate our students by new methods such as distance education, allowing us as educators to continue to do our job and allowing our students to continue their learning. Our UNL leaderships has gone to great lengths to allow continuity of our teaching, extension and research programs during this difficult time period. Our students continue to conduct their graduate research in safe labs and from home offices. They are patient and resourceful.

I want to conclude by wishing everyone good health and safety during these difficult times.

# VIRTUAL EGG DECORATING CONTEST FOR UNL CHICK DAYS



While we await the updated date for UNL Chick Days (Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup>) we want to offer holding a portion of the egg decorating contest online. **SUBMIT NO LATER THAN MAY 1ST**

The top 10 chosen decorated eggs will bring their egg to the in-person contest on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> for further judging.

## How to enter:

Submit a word document that includes a minimum of 2 images (and up to 4) of your decorated egg by May 15<sup>th</sup> 2020. Photographing at least the front and back.

Make sure to read egg decorating rules (<https://4h.unl.edu/chick-days>) and include all required write ups along with the images of your decorated egg within one document

Submit to: <https://www.dropbox.com/request/qUUWcvaudo6mfhcqCN9w>

Clickable link will be available on Facebook

**MAKE SURE TO PUT EGG IMAGES IN THE DOCUMENT YOU UPLOAD THAT INCLUDES THE REST OF THE REQUIRED INFORMATION (ONE DOCUMENT UPLOAD PER EXHIBITOR)**

The top 10 decorated eggs will be chosen and notified

If you are among the top 10, you will be asked to bring your decorated egg to the in-person Chick Days contest for further judging.

If you have any questions, please direct them to

idearmont2@unl.edu

Shell Eggs	Feb. 28	March 27	April 3	% Change since February 28
Cents/doz				
National Large	58.90	258.25	238.0	404.07
Midwest	87.00	225.00	293.00	336.78
California	166.00	307.00	377.00	227.11
Egg Products				
\$/bl				
Central States Breaking Stock	37.00	70.00	26.00	(—) 29.7
% Share of Weekly Egg Production	30.9	28.8	25.9	(-) 16.2

Changes in Egg Prices since Feb. 28, 2020, (taken from USDA Egg Marke

As one can see from the above table, the market prices for eggs has changed very quickly in response to COVID-19 challenges and quarantines. The consumer made some rapid buying decisions resulting in a greater demand for cartoned eggs and less demand for institutional eggs. The price has increased dramatically in only a 4 week period. We did hear rumors that high priced free range eggs were the last to sell off the shelves (too costly). It remains to be seen if this increase in carton egg demand stays strong. We hope it does, good for all involved.



**Nebraska Poultry Industry Scholarship Winners**

**Freshmen:** James Wetovick- Fullerton, NE

**Sophomore:** Kate Mohr- Genoa, NE

**Junior:** Tyson Olson- Dawson, NE

**Senior:** Asha Scheidler- Scotia, NE

**Post-Grad:** Ashley Bigge- Bellevue, NE

## UNL Poultry Interest Team Contacts

Animal Science Dept: Sheila Purdum, Ph.D. (Co-Leader)

Gary Sullivan, Ph.D.

Dennis Burson, Ph.D.

Mary Beck, Ph.D. (Emeriti)

Veterinary Science: Don Reynolds, DVM (Co-Leader)

Roberto Cortinas, DVM

Food Science: Kaustav Mumjeder, Ph.D.

Byron Chavez, Ph.D.

Bing Wang, Ph.D.

Ag. Engineering: Rick Koelsch, Ph.D.

Rick Stowell, Ph.D.

Amy Schmidt, Ph.D.

Tami Brown-Brandl

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