State 4-H Poultry Judging Contest

Top Five Teams
1. Lancaster County: C. Polk, M. Polk, M. Rauert, N. Jelinek
2. Cuming County: G. Meirgerd, K. Growth, T. Stewart
3. Douglas/Sarpy Co.: C. Prososki, J. Prososki, and M. Beethe

Top 3 Sr Individuals
1. G. Meiergerd, Cuming Co.
2. N. Jelinek, Lancaster Co.
3. T. Steward, Cuming Co.

Top 3 Intermediate Individuals
1. R. Spawn, Platte Co.
2. K. Scheideler, Valley Co.
The heat is on and your birds are panting—What to do?? Unfortunately chickens cannot sweat and don’t handle heat well. You can help keep them more comfortable by several methods of cooling the air and their surroundings. First, move the air above them and around them dramatically, turn on fans, tunnel ventilate, keep birds out of direct sunlight, do not crowd the chickens.

Second, cool the air you are moving across the chickens, try an evaporative cooling technique such as evaporative (swamp) pads at the air inlets for your house, or a fine misting spray by the fans. Do not soak the birds, that will cause a high humidity situation which exacerbates the heat index.

Feed your birds at night and do not load during the day. Use common sense, if you are hot, your birds are even hotter!

UNL Faculty are busy this summer presenting their research and extension work at Professional Meetings:


Renovating the iPMU via Internet of Things for pollutant emission estimations in poultry facilities. J. Dotto*, R. S. Gates, S. Pitla, and Y. Xiong. 2022 American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE) annual international meeting. July 17 – 20, Houston, TX.


Grants recently funded for UNL Faculty and Activities by NPI/PED

1. Development of a Method to Assess the Innate Immune Response in Chickens, Dr. Don Reynolds, Dept. Vet and Biol. Sci. $9,500.00

2. Support for 2022 State Fair 4-H Chicken BBQ and 2023 UNL Chick Days, Sheila Purdum, Dept. of Ani. Sci., $3,025.00


UNL Poultry Interest Team Contacts

Animal Science Dept: Sheila Purdum, Ph.D. (Co-Leader)
Gary Sullivan, Ph.D.
Mary Beck, Ph.D. (Emeriti)

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

Food Science: Kaustav Majumder, Ph.D.
Byron Chaves, Ph.D.
Bing Wang, Ph.D.

Ag. Engineering: Yijie Xiong, Ph.D
Rick Stowell, Ph.D.
Amy Schmidt, Ph.D.
Tami Brown-Brandl, Ph.D.

Extension Educator: Brett Kreifels, M.S.

Contact info available at: https://directory.unl.edu/
Announcing—A New 4-H Chicken BBQ contest at the Nebraska State Fair

Each participant will grill 4 chicken thighs with their special technique on an outdoor grill (supplied) over charcoal. They will also do an oral presentation on facts such as the nutritional value of chicken in our diet, the chicken industry in Nebraska, etc. Judges will also be judging the grilling process as well as tasting the finished product.

All participants will receive a free grill and the winner will receive a $750 scholarship from Nebraska Poultry Industries. All entries must be valid 4-H members.

August 28, 2022.

Raising NE Building, NE State Fair, Grand Island

Must sign-up by State Fair 4-H Entries Deadline

Rules: https://national4hpoultry.ca.uky.edu/content/chicken-barbecue