

Report of the Committee on Salmonellosis
American Association of Avian Pathologists

July - 1974

Denver, Colorado

The following outline is an account of the planning and work of the committee during the past year.

- I. Three committee members have cooperated in the preparation of final drafts for the salmonella section of the AAAP Manual on the Isolation and Identification of Avian Pathogens. In accord with the general manual format, the salmonella sections were written for those with several years experience in laboratory procedures.
- II. The same three committee members have also cooperated in writing the poultry section of the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians' Manual on Cultural Methods for the Detection of Animal Salmonellosis and Arizonosis. This manual is in the final stages of editing. It sets forth standard specimen collection and cultural procedures for the isolation and identification of salmonella and arizona organisms from: hatching eggs; embryos; poultry environments, tissues, and feces; and the tissues and feces of various other species of livestock (cattle, swine, etc.). Fluorescent antibody techniques are included. This manual will provide step by step details for laboratory workers who may be inexperienced in salmonella procedures and located in smaller veterinary diagnostic laboratories where library resources may be limited.
- III. Nine committee members have provided detailed, written suggestions on the goals of this committee following correspondence requesting activities that might significantly lessen the public stigma against poultry as a major culprit in human salmonellosis. A compendium of replies and suggestions has been assembled for distribution to each committee member. Briefly summarized the responses indicated:
 - A. Acknowledgment that a consumer confidence problem does exist in relation to poultry products and salmonellosis.
 - B. Acknowledgment that roots of the problem are:
 1. Breeding flocks.
 2. Feeds.
 3. Poultry product contamination during and after processing.
 4. National reporting methods for poultry and livestock salmonellosis.

C. Interest in the following as committee goals:

1. Coordination and compilation of practical field standards and "tools" for monitoring, cleaning up and maintaining an improved salmonella status in breeding flocks.
2. Actions to get poultry feeds cleaned of salmonella.
3. Provision of encouragement and information to help the poultry industry develop realistic, effective recommendations and guidelines aimed towards salmonella safety education of food distributors, handlers and consumers. Direct involvement of the committee in public relations work was discouraged.
4. Consideration and recommendation of simpler methods to obtain field and diagnostic laboratory data that would also assure a more realistic picture of the national prevalence and costs of salmonellosis in mammalian livestock as well as poultry.
5. Definition of voids in current capabilities for producing dependably "clean" products. Recommendations to USDA and FDA for research and programs for reducing salmonella infection in poultry and for production of salmonella free sources of animal protein for animal feed.
6. Preparation of a practicality and attainability listing of the salmonella control recommendations in Chapter 7 of the NAS publication An Evaluation of the Salmonella Problem - a necessary step toward their adoption by the poultry industry.

During the next year it is anticipated that the committee will further refine goals and take positive steps towards implementation.

Respectfully submitted,

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