



BC Sustainable Poultry Farming Group (SPFG)

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Status Summary for April 22, 2016 SPFG Committee Meeting

Angela Groothof has replaced Hester Mulder as the hatching egg representative. Amanda Martin has replaced Trevor Allen as the chicken representative.

One new proposal was reviewed:

2016-02 - One-day knowledge translation workshop in April 2017 on Wetland Sediment testing as a Tool for Avian Influenza Virus Surveillance.

The purpose of the workshop will be to inform stakeholders, particularly poultry producers, of preliminary results and create an opportunity for them to provide input to guide the second year of the study, as well as future policies and procedures regarding AI surveillance in wild birds.

- **Decision: The project was turned down pending more details and a budget.**

Updates on other SPFG projects:

2014-05 - Broiler Litter and Horse Bedding Gasification Feasibility Study – the project showed that gasification is technically and economically feasible, however 40% funding is required to make it financially attractive for investors. A draft final report is being reviewed.

2015-01 Genomic Analysis of Wetland Sediment as a Tool for Avian Influenza Virus Surveillance in Wild Waterfowl – they have identified a wide variety of AI strains and planning is under way for a phase two.

2015-02 The Development and Commercialization of Aerobic Digestion of Poultry Manure to Produce Bio-Active Fertilizers – They are on the 7th run to trial pH control to maximize the availability of nutrients and to address dry matter issues. They have just started their experiments using nitric acid instead of phosphoric to control the pH

2015-03 Development of a Point-of-Care PCR diagnostic platform and assays for the poultry industry – They have now substantially completed the first two milestones of the project. A sample extraction technique to extract DNA from fecal matter has been developed and refined. Nine quantitative real time PCR assays have been developed for the five target organisms.

2015-04 and 2015-05 Speakers for the Poultry Conference – the conference and the two sessions were a success.

2015-07b Reducing Salmonella and Campylobacter contamination of poultry - they have been working on recovering and analyzing lactobacilli that naturally colonize chickens for probiotic activity against *C. jejuni* and *S. typhimurium*.

2016-01 Turkey Manure Fermentation – the project is awaiting word on additional funding

The next SPFG meeting is June 2016.