



Webinar Set to Assist State's Poultry Producers

<http://www.aces.edu/go/155>

Alabama's poultry producers were the hardest hit of the state's farmers by the violent outbreak of tornadoes in late April. The state Department of Agriculture and Industries estimates that the storms killed more than 3.2 million chickens and destroyed more than 200 poultry houses. It is estimated that more than 500 additional poultry houses were damaged by the storms.

For many of these poultry farmers, information about available recovery resources is their most critical need. The Alabama Cooperative Extension System, partnering with a number of other organizations, will host a webinar to update producers on all of the resources that are available to them on Friday, May 20, from 10 a.m. until noon.

"Agriculture Commissioner John McMillan asked Extension to take the lead on this effort," says Dr. Paul Brown, associate Extension director for rural and traditional programs. "As farmers try to put the pieces together, they just don't have the time to seek out every agency that might be a resource for them.

"This webinar will bring together all of these agencies. Agencies will outline what they can do to assist farmers. Perhaps most importantly, farmers will have the opportunity to ask questions about available resources, claims filing and other issues."

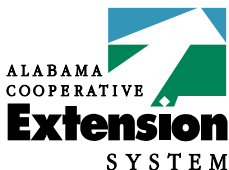
Participating Agencies

- Alabama Cooperative Extension System
- Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries
- Alabama Department of Emergency Management
- Alabama Cattlemen's Association
- Alabama Farmers Federation
- Alabama Poultry and Egg Association
- USDA Farm Services Agency
- USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service

Brown says that poultry producers and other farmers will be able to watch the webinar from more than 40 Extension sites. For more information on the nearest viewing site, contact your county Extension office. A complete listing can be found at <http://www.aces.edu/counties/>. To watch the webcast via computer, connect to this link using your web browser: <http://www.aces.edu/go/155>.

The webcast will be accessible at 9:45 a.m. You may not hear anything until the program begins at 10 a.m.

Poultry is Alabama's top farm commodity in cash receipts, accounting for almost 70 percent of all commodity receipts. In 2010, the state ranked third nationally in broiler production producing more than 1 billion birds.



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