



2019 Egg Industry Issues Forum

Panel on Outcome- vs. Resource-based animal welfare standards

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Outcome-based measures (OBMs)

Focused on the outcome and not the process of achieving the outcome

Can be made at different levels, e.g.

- Employees
 - Do their responses to questions or their behavior (e.g. hen handling) indicate that they are well-trained?
- Environment
 - Air quality, cleanliness of equipment and facility
- Animals
 - Physical condition, behavior

Trend is to move guidelines/audits away from resource-based measures to outcome-based, and especially animal-based, measures

Dr. Larry Sadler





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Outcome or Animal Based Standards: What does that mean?

- In a nutshell, we don't need to tell anyone how to get to the outcome— just achieve it.
- Consider my trip to Kansas City. The outcome was I needed to be here for this panel at 3:30 on April 16, 2019. No one told me how to get here.
- American Humane has moved from a pounds per square foot standard in turkeys and ducks over the past several years to outcome based elements.
- For ducks: freedom of movement, gait, ammonia, clean environment, feather quality.
- For turkeys: Gait, litter, ammonia, clean environment.
- For broilers: Still at a lbs./sq. ft. (7) but— evaluation of several OB metrics at processing: broken wings, foot pad, broken legs, leg bruising and others. We are in the process of reviewing this standard.
- Layers is a bit more complicated. Why? Longer life span, handling of birds by the farmer or auditor, evaluations at processing more problematic. Why is that?
- We have been exploring this issue with our Scientific Advisory Committee and with our certified producers
- Next steps?

Mr. Matt Jones



Dr. Michael David



United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service