



For Immediate Release

U.S. Poultry & Egg Association

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USPOULTRY Accepting Board Research Initiative Preproposals on Infectious Coryza Disease in the Commercial Layer Industry

USPOULTRY and the USPOULTRY Foundation are accepting research preproposals from colleges, universities and research facilities through Nov. 1, addressing infectious coryza disease in the commercial layer industry. Infectious coryza, caused by *Avibacterium paragallinarum* (AP), is an upper respiratory disease leading to drastic drops in egg production. This disease has been traditionally viewed as a warm weather disease with limited geographical areas primarily in the U.S. South and California. However, over the past five years, this disease has emerged in several geographic locations, seriously challenging the layer industry.

The chronic carrier status that AP produces in infected flocks makes it very challenging to control and eradicate the disease in multiage layer complexes which leads to major economic losses. Currently available real-time quantitative polymerase chain reaction (qPCR), which is the main confirmatory diagnostic test for this disease, has shown a large percentage of false positives in normal flocks that have no history of previous exposure. Additionally, very little is known about pathogenicity and immunogenicity factors of this disease which leads to inaccurate diagnoses.

The goal of this initiative is to develop and validate new diagnostic tools that will accurately detect infection, conduct research to understand the pathogenicity of AP, and develop better treatment and vaccination tools for combating this disease.

Visit the USPOULTRY [website](#) for complete instructions to submit a preproposal.

About USPOULTRY

U.S. Poultry & Egg Association (USPOULTRY) is the All Feather Association progressively serving its poultry and egg members through research, education, communications and technical services. Founded in 1947, USPOULTRY is based in Tucker, Georgia.