

For Immediate Release

U.S. Poultry & Egg Association

Tucker, GA - September 10, 2026

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USPOULTRY Seeks BRI Preproposals to Address Reduced Fertility in Broiler Breeders

The U.S. Poultry & Egg Association (USPOULTRY) and the USPOULTRY Foundation are seeking research preproposals to address reduced fertility in broiler breeder flocks, a challenge that can impact hatchability, chick production and overall production efficiency. Fertility can decline due to a combination of factors, including flock age, male and female reproductive performance, body weight management, nutrition, environmental conditions, health status and mating behavior. As genetic progress continues to improve broiler growth and feed efficiency, additional research is needed to better understand the causes of reduced fertility and identify strategies to sustain reproductive performance throughout the production cycle.

Through its Board Research Initiative (BRI), USPOULTRY aims to identify practical, science-based management strategies that optimize reproductive performance in broiler breeder flocks. Research may examine optimal male-to-female ratios across genetic strains, housing systems and flock ages; the influence of feeder space and feed distribution on body weight uniformity, mating behavior and fertility; the impact of feeder design on male competition, semen quality and mating success; and how male grading, selection and culling practices affect reproductive longevity. The goal is to identify management practices that improve fertility, hatchability and overall flock productivity while supporting bird welfare and economic sustainability.

Researchers from colleges, universities and research institutions are invited to submit preproposals by Nov. 2. To view more information about this topic and how to submit preproposals, visit the USPOULTRY BRI [webpage](#).

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.

About USPOULTRY Foundation

The USPOULTRY Foundation's mission is to support the recruitment and training of the brightest students, seek and fund scientific research, foster student scientists and promote careers in the poultry and egg industry.