

For Immediate Release

U.S. Poultry & Egg Association

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Contact: Gwen Venable, 678.514.1971, gvenable@uspoultry.org

Researchers Assess Automated Tracking of Laying Hens in Cage-Free Aviary Environments

USPOULTRY and the USPOULTRY Foundation announce the completion of a funded research project at the University of Georgia in which researchers assessed automated tracking of laying hens in cage-free aviary environments. The research was made possible in part by proceeds from the International Poultry Expo, part of International Production & Processing Expo (IPPE). The research is part of the Association's comprehensive research program encompassing all phases of poultry and egg production and processing. A summary of the completed project is below.

Project #722: Automated Tracking of Laying Hens in Cage-Free Aviary Environment Using Affordable Radio-Frequency Identification (RFID) Chips

(Dr. Prafulla Regmi, Department of Poultry Science, University of Georgia, Athens, Ga.)

Principal investigator Dr. Prafulla Regmi, assistant professor within the Department of Poultry Science at the University of Georgia and colleagues, recently completed a research project with the goal being to track hen movements in a cage-free housing system in a reliable and affordable manner to understand the impacts the system has on welfare and production parameters. Findings indicated that Radio-Frequency Identification (RFID) based trackers can be deployed to track resource utilization by cage-free hens. Further, the consistency of the data obtained suggests that results from a subset of hens could be extrapolated to the entire flock.

The research [summary](#) can be found on the USPOULTRY website. Information on other Association research may also be obtained by visiting the USPOULTRY website, www.uspoultry.org.

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.