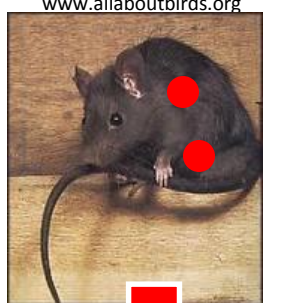
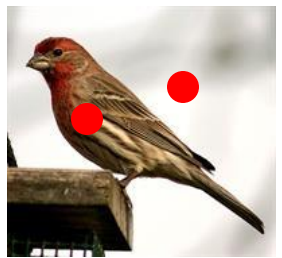
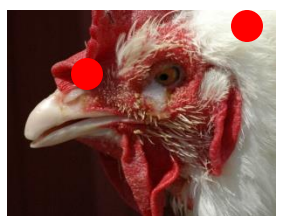
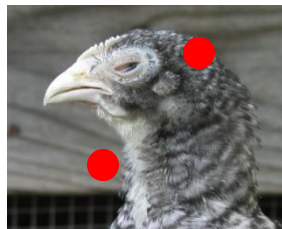
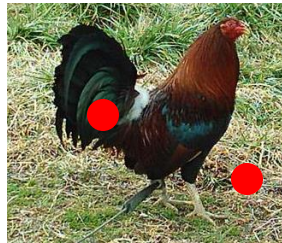


Mycoplasma on GA farms: Prevention and Containment

Mycoplasma infections (MG or MS) are important because positive flocks can transmit the organism to the progeny (usually broilers), possibly making them sick. Mycoplasma positive breeder flocks may also show signs of disease, affecting their productivity. Hatching eggs exports are disturbed. The flocks lose their "clean" NPIP classification and may have to be sold early.

● : MG or MS



My birds tested positive: how did they get it?

THE MOST COMMON WAY TO GET MYCOPLASMA IN THE FIELD: IT WALKS IN, USUALLY ON TWO LEGS!

DIRECT CONTACT OF THE FARM OR GROWER with:

Persons, vehicles, equipment that have been in contact with non-commercial poultry, commercial layers, positive farms: hired help, contractors, crews, family members, other visitors are by far the most common means of infecting a flock!

A FARM CAN ALSO GET MYCOPLASMA FROM MIGRATION (less likely) from a Mycoplasma positive source or farm through rodents or insects

A FARM CAN ALSO GET CONTAMINATED THROUGH THE AIR or wild birds (least likely) MG and MS are sensitive to heat. They do not survive well outside the birds. However, they will withstand freezing. MG may also come from wild birds (ex. house finches)

How do I keep Mycoplasma from spreading from my farm to others?

- Do not lend equipment out
- Practice enhanced rodent, insect control before load out.
- After load out, make sure all birds are disposed of promptly and properly.
 - Keep house empty for a week before removing the litter; Wash and disinfect houses. (Mycoplasma are sensitive to disinfectants).
 - In GA, MG infected birds have to be treated before transportation to decrease shed.

MOST IMPORTANTLY: How do I keep my birds CLEAN in the first place?

- Avoid contact with other birds
- Dispose of all dead birds promptly and properly
- Make sure your visitors and hired help have not been in contact with high risk poultry; No pets in houses
- Use dedicated equipment and vehicles on the farm
- Practice entry biosecurity at all times (no exceptions): Shower (on some farms), change of clothing or disposable coveralls, use dedicated footwear or disposable boots and hairnets, use foot pans. THIS IS VERY EFFECTIVE IN PREVENTING ENTRY!
- Bird proof houses, practice rodent and insect control

