

TEAM ACTIVITY 3
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A farmer decided to grow some of turkeys for Thanksgiving one year. He decided to grow the birds from one day of age until about 16 weeks of age. At this point they would be nice fryer or roaster turkeys that he could market just at the time Thanksgiving came around. He went down to the Farmers COOP one day when they had just received a big shipment of boxes of chicks and turkeys. At the loading dock boxes marked with the terms "Gallus Domesticus" or "Meleagris Gallopavo". He chose the ones marked Gallus Domesticus since they looked fine and took about 10 boxes of 100 birds each back to his farm. He knew things would go well at the farm because he had other older turkeys left from his last flock that he did not yet sell and he was hoping that the presence of these birds would help the new birds learn to eat and drink more quickly. About two weeks prior to the arrival of the turkeys, the farmer had worked hard to clean his growout barn. He knew that proper cleaning would result in a healthier flock. After cleaning the barn, he chose some vials marked with the word vaccine, mixed them according to directions and then disinfected the entire barn top to bottom. Now he was sure that there would not be any infectious organisms present.

About a week prior to when he picked up the turkeys he had gone by the COOP and ordered a batch of starter feed. When he opened some of the bags to put the feed in the hanging feeders he noticed that some of the feed seemed to have a moldy smell, but he figured that this was just because of the additional vitamins that were put into the high priced feed. He had the water turned on and the temperature was brought to the recommended levels. The farmer had thought everything out in advance and even had considered how he would manage the waste of his small turkey operation. He had constructed a new composting facility where he could dispose of dead birds and manure properly.

When he got the boxes back to the farm he unloaded the birds into the facility and put the new flock into the barn. Everything seemed to be going well, it was after about one week when a few of the turkeys started to die. They seemed to be in some type of respiratory stress, and with another symptom he could only describe as cheesy eyes. At this point he decided to get a proper diagnosis so that he could prevent his flock from becoming fully infected. He went in his barn and he looked around and decided to pick some of his best birds for diagnosis by the Kansas State University School of Veterinary Medicine. The best birds he picked were put in a crate and shipped by Federal Express overnight to the clinic. However, after looking at the turkeys, nothing wrong could be found.

Meanwhile the number of turkeys dying at the farm slowed so the farmer thought everything had worked itself out. Then one day later it rained quite a bit and the farmer noticed a large number of earth worms near the surface of the ground which were being consumed readily by the turkeys. He figured that the worms were high protein and that since turkeys naturally would consume this type of worm that there was no problem. However, it wasn't long when he started noticing some of the turkeys had a droopy appearance with a darkening of the head and severe diarrhea. Like before, some died but most of the turkeys survived. Meanwhile since he had a few dead birds and some manure being produced he decided to go ahead and crank up his composting unit. He mixed in one part manure, one part poultry carcass with one part wheat straw. He then added a little water and allowed the system to begin to work. However, after a few days the stench coming from the compost pile was overwhelming. Giving up on that idea he decided to dispose of the turkey manure by feeding it to his cattle. His ranching neighbors thought he was crazy to be feeding turkey litter to his cattle, thinking that the feed probably had no value to help the cattle grow.

Finally the big day came and the farmer was ready to send the turkeys off to market. He caught the turkeys and transported them to the local processing facility. All the processing plant they were separated by size at that point they were stunned by an approved method, scalded and picked using machines, and then finally killed by bleeding. The internal organs are then removed in a process called exsanguination, then they were inspected, chilled, and packaged. The farmer then sold the turkeys for Thanksgiving. When he added up all the pluses and minuses he decided that perhaps growing turkeys was not for him.

1. When the farmer picked up the boxes of day old turkeys from the COOP he should have chose the ones marked:
a. Gallus Domesticus b. Meleagris Gallopavo c. either, it would not have mattered
d. none of these
2. The farmers composting facility did not work because:
a. Composting does not work in Kansas because it's too cold.
b. His carbon and nitrogen ratios were out of balance because he did not use enough manure.
c. He should have added limestone to the pile.
d. None of these.
3. If he had composted his pile correctly, then he could have observed a temperature rise too about °F as the bacteria rapidly broke down in materials.
a. 145-165 b. 60-80 c. 312-360 d. 205-225
4. The type of disinfectant he mixed was:
a. correct b. incorrect c. in doesn't matter d. none of these
5. Why couldn't the veterinary clinic find anything wrong with the farmers sample of birds he sent?
a. The birds were probably too old at the time they were sent in.
b. He forgot to ship a sample of feed along with the birds.
c. They have never been vaccinated so the results were invalid.
d. He selected his best birds when he should have selected his poor performing birds.
6. The turkeys he noticed that had droopiness, darkening of the head, and diarrhea probably had this disease:
a. Coccidiosis b. Bumblefoot c. Fowlpox d. Blackhead
7. The feed that the farmer purchased to start the turkeys probably did have mold which lead to a condition called which causes respiratory stress and cheesy eyes.
a. Newcastle b. Toxicosis c. Pullorum d. Aspergillosis
8. When the farmer chose to feed excess turkey litter to his cows this was a:
a. A crazy idea. b. A good way to save costs on cattle feed.
c. Not allowed by Federal Regulations d. None of these.
9. The farmers turkeys seemed to have respiratory problems. Which of the following are not a part of the respiratory system of a turkey?
a. trachea b. bronchi c. air sack d. infundibulum
10. Which of the following is not a direct cause of an infectious disease:
a. bacteria b. viruses c. overcrowding d. parasites
11. When the farmer kept the older turkeys around hoping that the young turkeys would learn to eat and drink quicker this was:
a. The right thing to do since the turkeys would get on feed faster.
b. The wrong thing to do since the older turkeys may have caused diseases.
c. It doesn't matter as long as the turkeys were healthy.
d. None of these.
12. The farmer marketed these turkeys at about 16 weeks of age. At what age should the turkeys have been marketed to be the right size for fryer/roaster turkeys?
a. 16 weeks b. 6 weeks c. 42 weeks d. 51 weeks

13. Most consumers in the United States prefer breast meat over the other parts of the carcass. The breast meat of a processed carcass will make up about % of the total carcass weight.
- a. 10 b. 16 c. 58 d. 34
14. When the turkeys were processed which of the following steps are listed in the correct order?
- a. stunning, scalding, picking, and bleeding b. stunning, picking, scalding, and bleeding
c. bleeding, stunning scalding, and picking d. stunning, bleeding, scalding, and picking
15. The following three compounds are the primary ingredients in fertilizer and manure:
- a. carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen b. nitrogen, ammonia, and nitrate
c. lithium, carbon, and chlorine d. nitrogen, phosphate, and potash

