

# Speakers at the North Carolina Broiler Supervisor's Short Course 2024

Union County Conference Center, Monroe, NC – April 10



**Dr. Frank Siewerdt** has served as Professor and Head of the Prestage Department of Poultry Science since May of 2023. He earned a Ph.D. in animal breeding and genetics from North Carolina State University and an MBA from University of Arkansas - Walton College of Business. He has spent 16 years in academia, 12 years in the broiler industry, and 2.5 years as a National Program leader at the USDA, as well as one year at the Food Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Among his professional accomplishments, he led the R&D broiler breeding program at Cobb-Vantress for five years and facilitated the establishment of country-wide animal genetics programs in multiple developing countries. **E-mail:** [fsiewer@ncsu.edu](mailto:fsiewer@ncsu.edu)

## Topic: Water quality and supply



**Doug White**, a Colorado native with a Bachelor's in Animal Sciences from Colorado State, started his journey on a cattle and haying farm before venturing into cattle ownership and feed lots. In 2001, he expanded into Agricultural Product Distribution. Responding to requests for water treatment in agriculture, Doug connected with Silver Bullet (now Clear Comfort) in 2013, quickly joining their team. He played a pivotal role in establishing the Livestock Drinking Water Division, showcasing his commitment to the welfare of livestock and sustainable agricultural practices.

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**Steve Awde** is Ziggity Systems' Director of Sales for the U.S. and Canada. With over 40 years of experience in the poultry equipment industry, he provides sales and technical assistance to Distributors, Integrators and Growers. He has also traveled Internationally for Ziggity to Europe, Egypt, Saudia Arabia and the UAE. Steve moved to the U.S in '95 and settled in Hershey, PA where he and his wife raised 4 children and now are enjoying their 3 grandchildren.

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**Dr. Allison Pullin** is an Assistant Professor of Animal Welfare in the Prestage Department of Poultry Science at North Carolina State University. Her research investigates how management practices and housing design influence the welfare of farmed poultry. Dr. Pullin applies science-based assessments of welfare on farms through her role as a PAACO-certified poultry welfare auditor with Humane Farm Animal Care's Certified Humane Raised and Handled program. At NC State, she also teaches an undergraduate animal welfare course and coaches the Animal Welfare Assessment Team for the AVMA's Intercollegiate Animal Welfare Assessment Contest. Prior to joining NC State, she completed her B.S. and M.S. degrees in Animal Science at The Ohio State University,

and she earned her Ph.D. at University of California, Davis in Animal Behavior.

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**Dr. Rebecca Mansell** (DVM, MSpVM) has been the Director of Poultry Health Programs with the Veterinary Division since March 2022. She obtained her veterinary degree, Masters of Specialized Veterinary Medicine (MSpVM), and poultry residency training from the College of Veterinary Medicine at North Carolina State University. Prior to joining state government, she worked for Novozymes, NA in biological product development and scientific support for the poultry community.

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**Chance Bryant** is a professional in the poultry industry employed at Cobb-Vantress, LLC. as the Director of N.A. Technical Services. Chance has 33+ years of experience with hatcheries, breeders and broilers in the Live Production sector of the chicken business, and is responsible for the N.A. Technical Team, supporting Cobb's customers to improve their performance and efficiencies with Cobb products. Graduating from Arkansas Tech University in 1990 with a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Business, Chance started his career at George's Inc. In 1997, Chance joined Tyson Foods and worked there 10.5 years in various Broiler and Breeder positions, serving as a Breeder/Hatchery Mgr for one of Tyson's Complexes when he transitioned to Cobb. In 2007, Chance moved to Cobb-Vantress, LLC.

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**Andy McRee** has enjoyed providing technical services to each segment of the poultry industry. A graduate of Davidson College (Biology), N.C. State University (Poultry Science) and NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine, McRee currently represents Zoetis, supporting poultry vaccines and medicated feed additives. As Senior Technical Services Veterinarian, his primary duties include broiler health monitoring and breeder pullet vaccination evaluation and training. He is an Adjunct Faculty member of the Poultry Health Management group at the College of Veterinary Medicine and participates in educating and mentoring aspiring poultry veterinarians. When not working with the poultry industry, McRee enjoys beekeeping and spending time with his granddaughter, Penny.

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