

# POULTRY TRAINING NEWS

*The newsletter of MVP Training,  
part of the Minster Veterinary Practice Ltd*



## POULTRY TRAINING GRANTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR EMPLOYEES IN YOUR AREA

**A series of poultry training courses, which is supported by substantial grants, is now being run in your area by MVP Training, part of the Minster Veterinary Practice Ltd.**

Grant funding through Lantra Landskills means that veterinary course modules which would normally cost £150 per delegate are now available for as little as £35 to £45, depending on which Regional Development Agency covers the area where your employees are based. These courses will help producers gain and then maintain important accreditations, including:

- Lion Code (eggs)
- RSPCA Freedom Foods (eggs/broilers/ducks)
- Assured Chicken Production
- Quality British Turkey assurance
- Poultry passport: approval is due imminently on MVP courses being Poultry Passport approved. This means any producer attending a course can enter it on his Poultry Passport to show on-going training.
- All MVP courses are Lantra Awards approved.

The MVP courses are designed for all levels and can accommodate a wide range of skill sets – from new entrants through to farm workers and managers. Courses also complement an employee's existing NVQ programme – meeting NVQ



**MVP Training vet Sara Perez with Tadcaster turkey producer Andrew Percy.**

requirements for secondary training in areas such as biosecurity, and poultry health and welfare. MVP training can also provide the background knowledge required to begin an NVQ programme.

If you are finding it difficult to fund an NVQ course, the MVP courses represent a very cost effective and less time-consuming alternative in its own right.

The courses will play a major role in helping to reduce disease and increase

productivity, performance and profitability on the farm. As the sole provider of these courses, MVP Training can offer training at the most suitable venue to meet your needs – either at your own premises or at a convenient alternative venue.

■ **See inside for course dates and venues, and for more information contact MVP Training on 01904 709007 or email Sarah White at: [sarah.white@mvptraining.co.uk](mailto:sarah.white@mvptraining.co.uk)**



# WHAT THE COURSES COVER

The MVP Training poultry courses are funded by LandSkills, and managed by Lantra as part of the Rural Development Programme for England. The courses cover:

- Veterinary Health\*
- Biosecurity\*
- Welfare\*
- Vaccination and Medication\*
- Laboratory Procedures\*
- Housing and the Environment
- Egg Production
- Food and Supply Chain
- Insect and Pest Control
- Vermin Control
- Fire Awareness
- Health and Safety

All courses marked \* will be delivered by an experienced poultry vet.

Some courses are split into a number of modules, enabling you to choose which modules you want to cover.

For example, the **VETERINARY HEALTH** course comprises the following modules:

**MODULE 1:** Bird anatomy and physiology, methods of disease transmission, disease causing agents, recognition of normal vs abnormal, common and current disease conditions.

**MODULE 2:** Notifiable diseases and relevant legislation, flock keepers' response to disease, management practices and how they affect disease, lighting issues and pasture management, occupational health and zoonoses.

**MODULE 3:** Practical session: how to apply good flock keeping on the farm.

The **BIOSECURITY** course comprises the following two modules:

**MODULE 1:** How do diseases enter the flock? How can disease transmission be prevented? Practical approach to cleaning and disinfection, types of disinfectant products, feed and water systems, hygiene and salmonella testing: interpreting results.

**Module 2:** Practical session: how to apply good biosecurity on the farm.

Our **VACCINATION AND MEDICATION** course features these modules:

**MODULE 1:** Principles of vaccination – live and inactivated, types of vaccines, vaccination techniques and programmes, principles of medicating birds, types of medication, application of medication.

**MODULE 2:** Practical session: how to apply vaccines and give appropriate medication on the farm.

Our non-veterinary courses cover a wide range of issues of key importance to poultry and egg producers. Here are some examples:

Our **HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT** course looks at intensive v extensive systems, lighting, ventilation, litter control and hot weather control.

The **EGG PRODUCTION** course takes you through quality control and egg classification, specific diseases and problems, egg handling and collection, and cleaning and storage.

On our **INSECT AND PEST CONTROL** course we consider types of pests and their behaviour, principles of control, insecticides, formulations and applications, and legislation.

Whilst our courses are classed as running for a full day, we can be flexible and adjust starting times to suit your needs.



CONTACT SARAH WHITE OR CAROL MACEY, OUR TRAINING COURSE ADMINISTRATORS, TO FIND OUT WHAT COURSES ARE DUE TO BE RUN IN YOUR AREA.

TELEPHONE  
01904 709007



## “THE COURSES ARE FANTASTIC AND ARE HELPING TO INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY”



**Andrew Warriner, a free range egg producer from Pickering, North Yorkshire, had several days of MVP training at the end of last year and is planning to book a further two to three days shortly.**

He's attended the Veterinary Health courses and also the Egg Production, and Vaccination and Medication modules.

“The courses are fantastic. They've given me much more insight and knowledge about hens and this is helping to increase production and tackle any issues with the flock,” he said.

“The training has shown me how to spot problems earlier, and I'm also now vaccinating the pullets more often and at a different stage. As a result they are looking really healthy.”

Andrew said the courses have helped him to carry out basic post mortems and to communicate clearly with vets when their assistance is required.

He is responsible for looking after 22,000 hens at Swainsea Barn Farm, Pickering.

## HELPING YOU TO SPOT DISEASE AT AN EARLY STAGE

The MVP Training courses will show you how to recognise signs of disease by knowing what is normal/abnormal, giving you the opportunity to catch these diseases early before they become serious.

Issues covered include red mite in egg layers, wet litter and respiratory conditions for poultry producers.

### COURSE FLEXIBILITY

Each course can consist of up to 10 modules – allowing you to choose the modules of most interest for your work.

The courses are very flexible; if employees miss a module they can easily fit into the next programme.

This enables a farmer to avoid disruption to the working day by sending some employees on one course and other employees on a different one at a different time.

### MEASURABLE BENEFITS

The benefits of our courses are all measurable and will highlight increased rate of growth, improved food consumption rates, and improved production and quality.



# MEET THE MVP POULTRY TRAINERS



**Alastair Johnston.**



**Sara Perez.**



**Richard Jennison.**



**Keith Warner.**



**Michael Clark.**

## **Michael Clark, MA, VetMB, MRCVS.**

Graduated in 1992 from Cambridge University. He joined the practice in 1996 after four years working in Chipping Norton in Oxfordshire. In 2000 he became a partner and is now Chairman of the NFU Poultry disease advisory group.

**The Minster Veterinary Practice Ltd was founded around the beginning of the 20th century, making it the oldest veterinary practice in Yorkshire.**

Our poultry training team comprises six full-time and three part-time veterinarians based in Herefordshire, Nottingham and York. Here are some members of the team:

## **Alastair Johnston, BVMS, Cert VA, MRCVS.**

Graduated in 1983 from Glasgow University. He joined the practice in 1985 following two years working at Liverpool University. In 1989 he became a partner and in 2003 he was elected as President of the British Poultry Veterinary Association. Alastair also serves on various national advisory committees. In 2008 he established the training department for the Minster Veterinary Practice Ltd.

## **Sara Perez, DVM, MSc, CertPMP, MRCVS.**

Graduated in 1998 from Barcelona University. She completed a Master of Science in Bristol University and joined the practice in 2003 after five years of farm and meat inspection work. Sara has recently passed the RCVS Certificate in Poultry Medicine and Production. She became a partner in 2010.

## **Richard Jennison, BVM&S, CertLAS, CertWEL, MRCVS.**

Graduated in 1997 from Edinburgh University. After a period in mixed practice in Bridlington and small animal practice in Hull and Essex, Richard joined Minster in 2006. He holds RCVS Certificates in Animal Welfare Science, Ethics and Law and Laboratory Animal Science. He became an associate partner in 2010.

## **Keith Warner, Bsc (Vet Sc) Hons, BVM&S, MRCVS.**

Joined the practice in 1997 immediately after graduating from Edinburgh University with a degree in Veterinary Pathology as well as his Veterinary Degree. He became a partner in 2005.

## HOW YOU CAN FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR TRAINING COURSES

- Telephone MVP Training on 01904 709007
- Fax us on 01904 709079
- Email Sarah White at: [sarah.white@mvptraining.co.uk](mailto:sarah.white@mvptraining.co.uk) or [alastair.johnston@minstervets.co.uk](mailto:alastair.johnston@minstervets.co.uk)
- Visit our website, [www.mvptraining.co.uk](http://www.mvptraining.co.uk)
- Visit [www.minstervets.co.uk](http://www.minstervets.co.uk) to find out more about the Minster Veterinary Practice Ltd



**Our Training Administrators Sarah White (left) and Carol Macey.**