



ARTHUR V. MARTIN
ASSOCIATES INC
The Air Quality Consultants

The Air Quality Reporter

"Certifying the Quality of Your Indoor Environment"

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Air Quality and the Agricultural Field



Art Martin at poultry farm in Malaysia



Dr. Neil Ranaweera treating shed litter

We tend to think about the effects of fungal and bacterial indoor contamination as a people issue first. A unique project is underway in Malaysia south of Kuala Lumpur. During the growing cycle of a normal broiler the birds deposit fecal matter into the litter on the floor of the shed where they grow. When you put 15,000 birds in one shed the accumulation can be significant. As the birds grow and the interior housing space gets more crowded the bacterial and fungal buildup has a damaging effect on the birds. They get sick, eat less, drink less and are susceptible to numerous diseases.

Art Martin, an IAQ expert and Dr. Neil Ranaweera, a world renown expert on poultry recently began an experiment to treat the growing shed interior with a non toxic, all natural anti-fungal and anti-bacterial compound. The goal is to reduce disease causing pathogens.

This particular poultry producer has an annual harvest of ninety-million (90,000,000) birds. If the process can result in as little as a 1% decrease in bird mortality it will allow the grower to harvest nearly 1 million additional birds for market.

The implications are exciting when you extend the results to the entire poultry production output of any country.

A similar trial is planned for New Zealand, Dr. Ranaweera's home base.

Five Portable Classrooms At South Lawrence Shut Down By Health Report. August 05, 2008

Over 100 people attended a meeting discussing the problems with the portable classrooms at South Lawrence Elementary School last night. Schools Director Bill Heath announced that four of the ten portables, all of which have been tested for mold, will be shut down permanently.

Another will be cleaned and used for storage only. Three will be restored and used for classrooms and two are ready for use now. Heath said the school system will maintain a testing and cleaning schedule for these five portables until the new classrooms are built. Heath ordered indoor air quality tests for the portables about a month ago and the results were made public at a special South Lawrence PTO meeting. Heath said parents have a right to know that when they drop their children off at school they are leaving them in a safe and healthy environment.

And, he added, parents have a right to know that when their child coughs at night that it is not a result of what they breathed at school earlier in the day.