



STIAN JOHNSEN, Special Envoy to the EU
EU legislation trends - disease outbreak and management and transport

Stian Johnsen is a counsellor for Food Chain and Food Safety at the Mission of Norway to the EU, stationed in Brussels. He is seconded from the Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food and monitors EU developments in food and veterinary legislation. With a background in fish health biology from the University of Tromsø, he brings both scientific and regulatory expertise to his role. At the Mission, he monitors and influences EU legislation in one of the most extensive regulatory areas affecting Norway. His work ensures that Norwegian interests are safeguarded as EU rules are incorporated into national law.



RUTH NEWBERRY, Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU)
Welfare research in the EU – advancing positive poultry welfare

Ruth Newberry is a Professor of Ethology at NMBU. Originally from Canada, and with a PhD from the University of Edinburgh, she has spent many years investigating methods of enriching the environment of poultry and other species. Currently, her focus is on developing the concept of positive animal welfare, including methodology for assessing positive emotions, stress resilience, and the development of cognitive abilities.



KJERSTI SØRBY, Nortura SA
Our journey to a slower-growing broiler chicken hybrid

Kjersti Sørby is the project manager for the transition from fast-growing to a slower-growing broiler chicken hybrid at Nortura. She has been employed at Nortura for 27 years and has extensive experience with category development and brand building in addition to leading larger value projects.



GORM SANSON, Felleskjøpet Fôrutvikling
The Norwegian social mission towards sustainable feed production

Gorm has worked at the Feed Development department of Felleskjøpet since 2011, first as development manager for poultry feed until 2016, and from 2016 as a specialist veterinarian in animal health and animal welfare. Currently, he works with a combination of veterinary tasks and tasks related to feed development.



KARIANNE SPETAAS HENRIKSEN, Animalia – Norwegian Meat and Poultry Research Centre
The role of egg and poultry on the Norwegian diet

Karianne S. Henriksen is a clinical dietitian with a bachelor's in science and major in nutrition from McGill University in Montreal, Canada. She achieved a master's degree in clinical nutrition from the University of Oslo and has worked as a clinical dietitian both in hospitals and in rehabilitation. Since 2018 she has worked as the head of nutrition in the Norwegian Meat and Poultry Research Center. Collecting data on poultry meat and egg and communicating on the role of these foods in the Norwegian diet both today and in a historical perspective are an important part of her work. She will be presenting recently collected data on the nutritional value of egg and poultry meat in the Norwegian diet, and how this enhances the understanding of the role these foods have in human nutrition.



NATHALIE SLEECKX, Experimental Poultry Centre
Enhancing longevity in laying hens: lessons from the OMELETTE Project

DVM, PhD, Senior Researcher. Since 2013, Nathalie Sleenckx has been actively involved in applied research at the Experimental Poultry Centre in Geel. She graduated as a veterinarian from Ghent University in 2007 and obtained her PhD in Veterinary Medicine from the University of Antwerp in 2013. Her research focuses on animal welfare and animal health, both in broilers and laying hens. Nathalie also serves as project manager for several national and European research projects.



BJÖRN FORKMAN, Copenhagen University
aWISH - Using automatic monitoring at the slaughterhouse to assess the welfare of broilers

Björn Forkman is a Professor of Applied Ethology at the University of Copenhagen. Most of his current work focuses on various aspects of animal welfare assessment in a range of species. He is leading a working group of Animal Welfare in Slaughter House (aWISH), an EU-project that focuses on finding automatic measures of animal welfare, specifically on broilers and fattening pigs.



HELENA WALL, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
Crop fill at broiler slaughter

Helena Wall is Professor in Poultry Production at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. She has conducted research on laying hens and broiler chickens for more than 25 years. She also teaches students at bachelor and master levels in topics related to poultry production and welfare.



TOM VAN HERTEM, Experimental Poultry Centre
The sustainability trade-off: ammonia emissions reduction versus better animal welfare

Tom Van Hertem is an expert in Precision Livestock Farming, specializing in sensor and data applications in poultry farming. He started his career at KU Leuven in 2010, researching lameness detection in cattle. In 2015, he joined Fancom BV, linking animal behaviour and climate control. By 2018, he was with HATO Lighting, focusing on lighting effects on animal welfare. Since 2021, he has worked at the Experimental Poultry Center on smart farming and emissions. His current research includes ammonia measurement, reduction techniques, and policy recognition.



CHRISTIAN KITTEL, dsm-firmenich
 Ph.D., Ph.D., MBA. Innovation Program Director & Business Development Precision Services
The digital revolution in broiler production

Christian Kittel holds a Ph.D in Virology from the University of Applied Life Sciences Vienna, a Ph.D. in Immunology from the Medical University Vienna and an MBA from the WU Executive Academy. He has been working in the field of human and animal health for more than 20 years. He currently leads the dsm-firmenich innovation program "Precision Services," which focuses on the development of AI-supported applications to optimize the health, sustainability, and performance of farm animals. Since the beginning of this year, he has also been responsible for business development of an AI-based service for optimizing poultry farming in Central and Eastern Europe.



EDWIN ZELLER, Seleggt Global
Unlocking the egg production of the future

Edwin Zeller is Chief Commercial Officer for SELEGGT. He has been in the company since 2023 and has a background in food, retail and tech and has been managing companies across Europe. He holds an MBA and is a Commercial executive with over 25 years of experience leading sales, retail, and growth strategies in dynamic, fast-paced environments. Edwin likes to combine a strategic mindset with hands-on execution, to eventually deliver results for his clients. He is also passionate about sustainable business models, digital innovation, and building brands customers love.



GUILLAUME BAAS, ORBEM
In-ovo sexing - an opportunity for the entire poultry industry

Guillaume has built bridges between engineers and business teams for the past 12 years in diverse industries. Originally coming from business in insurance, he went to the automotive industry then to small business core processes to finally find his calling in poultry when he joined Orbem two years ago. He now oversees the business development of applications in Poultry in Europe for Orbem.



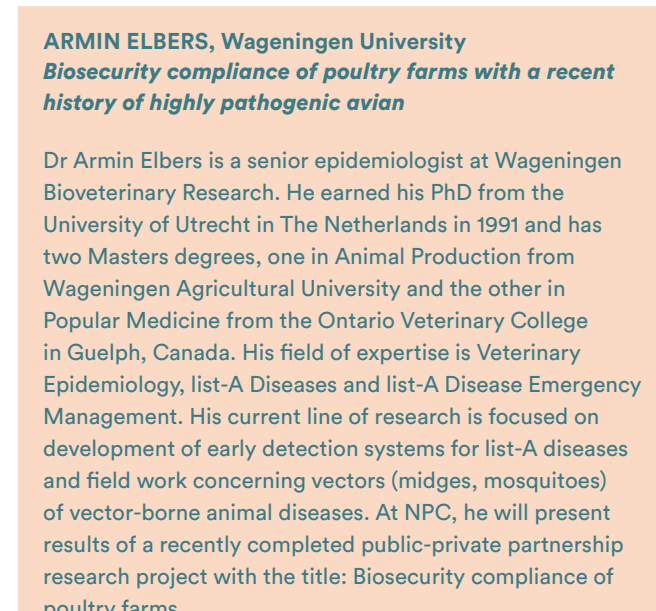
JOSEFINA ZIDAR, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
Safe spaces and stimulating experiences during rearing of laying hen chicks

Josefina Zidar is a researcher at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU). Her work focuses on how early-life experiences affect animal welfare. She has studied personality, cognition, and emotional states in chickens, and is especially interested in how positive experiences can promote better welfare outcomes in poultry production.



EVA LENA ESTENSMO, Norwegian Veterinary Institute
Eimeria and Clostridium perfringens in Norwegian broiler and turkey flocks

Eva Lena Estensmo is a researcher at the Norwegian Veterinary Institute, within the Department of Food Safety and Animal Health. Her work primarily focuses on poultry health, with key research activities including the development and optimization of molecular tools to study microbial communities and bacterial strains. Her research projects focus on improving poultry health by identifying the causative agents of diseases, and to investigate the effects of sustainable feed ingredients and feed additives on poultry health and performance.



ARMIN ELBERS, Wageningen University
Biosecurity compliance of poultry farms with a recent history of highly pathogenic avian

Dr Armin Elbers is a senior epidemiologist at Wageningen Bioveterinary Research. He earned his PhD from the University of Utrecht in The Netherlands in 1991 and has two Masters degrees, one in Animal Production from Wageningen Agricultural University and the other in Popular Medicine from the Ontario Veterinary College in Guelph, Canada. His field of expertise is Veterinary Epidemiology, list-A Diseases and list-A Disease Emergency Management. His current line of research is focused on development of early detection systems for list-A diseases and field work concerning vectors (midges, mosquitoes) of vector-borne animal diseases. At NPC, he will present results of a recently completed public-private partnership research project with the title: Biosecurity compliance of poultry farms with a recent history of highly pathogenic avian influenza virus infection determined by video camera monitoring.



HOMAYOON DAVAM, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
Combating Colibacillosis in Swedish Poultry Farms: Integrated Measures for Outbreak Prevention

Homayoon Davam graduated as a veterinarian from the University of Tehran, Iran, in 2017. He worked for three years as a poultry field veterinarian before moving to Sweden, where he is currently a PhD student. His research focuses on colibacillosis in poultry, with the main aim of reducing outbreaks and preventing the emergence of antimicrobial resistance in Swedish broiler flocks through genomic analyses of E. coli and the development of optimal control and prevention strategies.



KÄTHE KITTELSEN, ANIMALIA – Norwegian Meat and Poultry Research Centre
Traumatic skin injuries in broiler breeders

Käthe Kittelsen is a Diplomate of the European College of Poultry Veterinary Science (ECPVS) with a PhD from the Norwegian University of Life Sciences. She has worked as a veterinarian in the department for Poultry Health, Animalia, since 2011. In addition, she has a part time position as an associated professor at the veterinary faculty at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences. Her research topics cover health and welfare in laying hens, broilers, broiler breeders and turkeys. At the NPC 2025 she will present the latest results from investigation of traumatic skin injuries in broiler breeder hens.



GURO VASDAL, ANIMALIA – Norwegian Meat and Poultry Research Centre
Perches for broiler breeders – why and how?

Guro Vasdal is an ethologist specialised on poultry behaviour and welfare with a PhD from the Norwegian University of Life Sciences. She has worked as an advisor in the Norwegian Agriculture Agency and currently works at the Norwegian Meat and Poultry Research Centre. She works closely with the Norwegian poultry industry on animal welfare programmes and research focused on broiler chickens, broilers breeders and laying hens. She will present the results from three on-farm studies where broiler breeders were given perches during rearing and production.



INGER HELENE KRAVIK, Norwegian Veterinary Institute
Gizzard erosion and ulceration syndrome in turkeys: Preliminary results from a longitudinal and case study

Inger H. Kravik is a veterinary researcher at the Norwegian Veterinary Institute. She has a background from small animal clinical work, diagnostic pathology and a PhD on Avian Pathogenic E. coli causing high first week mortality in broilers. At present Inger is taking part in an ongoing study on "Improved gizzard health in Turkeys: More research-based knowledge of gizzard erosion and ulceration syndrome (GizMo).

HARALD SOLBERG, Norwegian Agricultural Advisory Service
The effect of the fertilizer regulations on turkey production

Harald Solberg is the National Coordinator for Cereals at Norsk Landbruksrådgiving SA (NLR), where he also collaborates with NIBIO. With over three decades of experience in agricultural advisory services, Harald has become a well-known person in Norway's cereal sector. He holds a degree in plant sciences from the Norwegian College of Agriculture (NLH), earned in 1992. Harald began his career as a general manager in Fosenringen, Trøndelag, before moving to Hedmarken, where he served as a cereal advisor in Hedmark Landbruksrådgiving and later NLR Innlandet from 1998.



ETIENNE EFFENBERGER, Biochem
The Unique Benefits of Bacillus coagulans in poultry nutrition

Etienne Effenberger grew up in the countryside of Namibia. He completed his Master of Science degree in Zoology at the University of Stellenbosch, Republic of South Africa. Etienne was trained by one of the first developers of a live attenuated coccidiosis vaccine for poultry in poultry parasitology as well as by leading European specialists in poultry gut health. For the last 16 years, Etienne has focused on client support in the poultry sector. Since 2021, he has been working as Product Manager for Poultry at Biochem.



LEON MARCHAL, Danisco Animal Nutrition (IFF)
Beyond basics: The strategic edge of elevated non-phytase enzyme level

Innovation Director Danisco Animal Nutrition & Health
A bioprocess engineer by education, Leon Marchal obtained his PhD in enzymology from Wageningen University in the Netherlands. For 30 years, he has been active in research and product development in different parts of the food and feed industry. Over time, he slowly shifted from food ingredients to animal feed. For 10 years he was director of Nutrition & Innovation for the largest feed producer in Europe; ForFarmers. Responsible for the technical performance of all the feeds in the market and the development of innovations. From 2013 onward he is also connected as an assistant professor to the Animal Nutrition Group of Wageningen University. A Ted speaker on raising awareness with the wider audience for the need of antibiotic reduction. Since April 2018 Leon Marchal has been working for Danisco Animal Nutrition & Health as global innovation director, where he and his team are working on new solutions for sustainable and antibiotic free animal production.



JENNY YNGVEVSSON, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
Nitrogen foam stunning of turkeys

Jenny Yngvevsson works as a senior lecturer and researcher at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. She is an Associate professor of animal welfare and behaviour and focus on farm animals and horses. Her interest in poultry welfare goes back many years and has covered topics of behaviour of slower growing broilers, injurious pecking in laying hens and welfare at killing and slaughter.



LENA SKÅNBERG, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
The impact of environmental resources during rearing on the welfare and adaptability of broiler breeders

Lena Skånberg is a researcher at the Department of Applied Animal Science and Welfare at SLU, where she studies how early-life handling and management affect the behaviour and welfare of poultry later in life.

