



**COVID-19**

**PANDEMIC**



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*By Elizabeth Doughman*

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# Rapid test could predict COVID-19 in meat processing workers

Other technology advancements improve weight estimations and vaccine delivery in poultry.

Rapid, undetected spread of COVID-19 slowed and even stopped meat processing capacity earlier this year. Differentials can be used to screen people to identify those likely to test positive for COVID-19, triage by predicting COVID-19 in the early stage of infection and track progress of those patients.

At the 2020 Virtual Poultry Tech Summit, Joy Parr Drach, president and CEO, Advanced Animal Diagnostics, will discuss a new automated, mobile, patient-side white blood cell differential test that can provides result in a minute and a half.

This will be just one of the many innovations presented at the one-of-a-kind online event designed to help poultry leaders keep up with newly developed technologies and scientific innovations for poultry production and processing. Other innovations include:

## **A new way to estimate weight, crop uniformity**

Weight estimation and crop uniformity is currently poorly measured and monitored in poultry production causing significant financial losses to the poultry supply chain.

Claire Lewis, CEO, Pondus Technology, will cover new technology that uses image processing and machine learning to replace stressful manual weighing of birds. Automatic weigh scales deliver touchless, accurate and representative information for informed decision making.

## **Precision vaccine delivery**

Ramin Karimpour, CEO and founder, Applied LifeSciences & Systems, will discuss a high throughput automated individual vaccine delivery system that could enable the poultry industry to effectively vaccinate every individual chick on the day of hatch. This will allow each chick to develop the necessary immunity against disease, subsequently saving an estimated \$11 billion annually, as chemicals and antibiotics will no longer be needed in the process.

Other sub-systems under development include automated gender identification and automated health inspection. These sub-systems will further impact productivity and sustainability of growth for the industry.

Make plans to attend the 2020 Virtual Poultry Tech Summit, scheduled for October 20-22, 2020, and take a look at the future of the industry. This one-of-a-kind online event facilitates the transition of innovation technologies from researchers and entrepreneurs into commercial applications for the benefit of the poultry industry. Registration is now open.

View our continuing coverage of the coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic.

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