

The Poultry Health Management Conference 2018

ARDEN WOOD SHAVINGS, the market leading poultry bedding specialist, is pleased to be the Headline Sponsor of the Poultry Health Management Conference for the second consecutive year.

Arden has been reliably supplying wood-based products to poultry farmers for nearly 40 years. As a trusted major supplier to household names in British poultry production, Arden Wood Shavings is today widely regarded as setting the benchmark with its industry leading Safemix bedding and unrivalled customer service.

Safemix Bio-Secure Poultry Bedding supporting Bird Health

Safemix is a blend of high-quality wood shavings and clean Grade A woodchip formulated to provide maximum comfort and hygiene for birds, as well as excellent litter performance. While being an effective poultry bedding solution, it is also an affordable product underpinned by bio-security, consistent quality and reliable supplies. Arden is committed to delivering a hassle-free experience to its customers and accepts 'no place for complacency' within the business.

The development and success of Safemix is largely attributable to Arden's recognition of the extreme importance of high levels of bio-security, to protect and improve bird health. Scientific research into common bird health issues has been at the heart of this, to explore and understand poultry health matters to an extent that would not be associated with traditional bedding suppliers.

Chris Stanford, Founder and Managing Director of Arden Wood Shavings, explains, "We have always felt a moral obligation to provide products and services of the highest quality and integrity, and want to offer an unparalleled level of support to our customers, in terms of assisting bird health initiatives and the industry as a whole."

This started Arden on the trail of its own, possibly ground-breaking, scientific research which has been supported by Innovate UK. In partnership with the University of Lincoln, Arden has researched the most serious of bird health issues and the development of a bio-control for specific toxic strains of bacteria affecting poultry flocks.

Research by Arden Biotechnology

This research, which was initially closely linked with bedding, inspired Chris Stanford to form a dedicated research company - Arden Biotechnology Ltd - to continue the progress in developing new health management products for the poultry industry.



Arden Biotechnology is based at offices and laboratories on Lincoln Science and Innovation Park.

Its formation follows five years of successful research into a novel bio-control for *Clostridium perfringens*, which is

thought to be the most costly of all pathogens affecting poultry flocks globally. A team of 10 scientists led by Director of Research, Dr Joseph Brown, is working on this project.

"C. perfringens causes enteritic disorders in birds and is a serious concern. C. perfringens can significantly increase FCR and is a major welfare issue. In severe cases it can cause necrotic enteritis commonly leading to 50% mortality rates in affected birds. Our research into a bio-control has proved the concept in in vitro and in semi in vivo trials," explains Chris Stanford.

He goes on to say: "Arden Biotechnology is now in advanced negotiations with a leading Chinese agricultural research establishment and an industrial partner in China, who are capable of carrying out field trials to confirm *in vivo* effectiveness and scaling up production to a commercial level. The result, we hope, will be bird health management products of immense value to both the UK and global poultry industry."

The company has applied for funding from Innovate UK to support this fledgling partnership whilst the Chinese counterparts have applied for support from the Ministry of Science and Technology in China.

To find out more about Arden Wood Shavings and Arden Biotechnology, talk to the team at the Poultry Health Management Conference in association with Poultry World on 20th November 2018 at Holywell Park Conference Centre, Loughborough.



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