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## **For Immediate Release**

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### **State Veterinarian Meckes Speaks at NCPF Annual Meeting**

Avian Influenza Main Topic and Concern  
Superior Grower Operations Acknowledged

GREENSBORO, NC... The Grandover Resort & Conference Center was the venue for North Carolina Poultry Federation's Annual Meeting August 6-7. The 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Federation included the election of the 2015-16 Board of Directors, the Awards Banquet, and a keynote address by the State Veterinarian Dr. R. Douglas Meckes.

Outgoing NCPF president Jeff Hancock presented the 2015 Grower Environmental Award to Stephen Smith and Shaun Barkley of Smith & Barkley Farms of Lumberton--a broiler operation contracting with Perdue Farms. Watt Parker and Penny Parker of Parker Farms of Cedar Grove were First Finalists. The Parkers' cage-free commercial egg layers are under contract with Braswell Milling. The 2015 Allied Industry Award winner was Senior Account Manager Danny Weathers of Huvepharma.

The 2015-16 Executive Board is made up of Ronnie Parker of Circle-S-Ranch, President; Jeff Stalls of Perdue Farms, 1<sup>st</sup> VP; Neal Walsh of Butterball, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP; Charles Rigdon of Case Farms, Secretary-Treasurer; and Jeff Hancock of Unicon, Inc., Past President.

Board Members for 2015-16 are Chandler Adams representing the Carolina Feed Industry Association, David Anderson of Butterball, Jeff Beavers of Mountaire Farms, Andrew Boyles of Tyson Foods, John Brinn of Rose Acre Farms, Kendall Casey of Perdue Farms, Tommy Furlough of Cal-Maine Foods, Pat Haynes of Allen Harim Farms, Todd Huneycutt of Huneycutt Brothers Farm, Dr. Alice Johnson of Butterball, Bob Johnson of House of Raeford, Cowan Johnson of House of Raeford, Terry Maness of Perdue Farms, Sean McKeon of Mountaire Farms, Paul Nordin of Wayne Farms, Connie Ozment of Valley Proteins, Tommy Porter Jr. of Porter Farms, Scott Prestage of Prestage Farms, Tommy Robertson of Sanderson Farms, Alex Simpson of Simpson's Eggs, Joe Steed representing the Breeder Hatchery Association, Mark Whitt of International Paper, and Richard Williams of Pilgrims.

Shane's Sporting Clays was host to the 38 competitive shooters, and the annual golf tournament was held on the Grandover's East Course. 126 golfers played two-person modified super ball.

Since 1968 the North Carolina Poultry Federation, a trade association, has represented the poultry industry in North Carolina. Serving producers and processors of chicken, turkey, and egg products, the Federation provides a united voice for the industry with government, media, and the general public. Headquarters are located in Raleigh, NC.

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North Carolina's State Veterinarian Dr. R. Douglas Meckes delivers keynote address on Avian Influenza.



Smith & Barkley Farms of Lumberton was awarded the 2015 Environmental Grower. Pictured left to right: Dr. Meckes; Carroll Smith; NCPF President Jeff Hancock; Stephen Smith of Smith & Barkley Farms; Randy McDonald and Phil Bare of Perdue Farms. (Shaun Barkley was unable to attend.)



The Environmental Grower Award First Finalist went to Parker Farms. *Left to right:* Dr. Meckes, Jeff Hancock, Watt Parker of Parker Farms, and Judge Johnson of Braswell Milling.



*Left to Right:* Jeff Hancock and former winner Allen Traywick of Merck present plaque to the 2015 Allied Industry Award winner, Danny Weathers of Huvepharma.



Incoming NCPF President Ronnie Parker of Circle-S-Ranch (left) accepts Presidential gavel from 2014-15 President Jeff Hancock of Unicon. END.