

Watering system advances can save time and money

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When Ziggity Systems introduced enclosed watering systems in the 1970s, poultry farmers learned they could save substantial time and effort. They did not have to spend as much time cleaning the watering system, and floors and pits stayed much drier. This all helped to improve flock performance as well.

In poultry farming, time is money. Equipment manufacturers continue to seek more efficient methods and innovations that can save producers labor time to help reduce cost, while also improving on performance measures.

Below are examples of innovations developed since the introduction of the enclosed watering system that save poultry farmers time and help improve flock performance.

Pressure Pro

A labor saving development introduced this fall is the Ziggity Pressure Pro, a management tool that allows floor operation producers to adjust the water pressure in all lines in a poultry house at the same time in just seconds.

Poultry houses typically have four to 12 regulators that the producer must adjust regularly to provide appropriate water pressure as the flock matures. This involves the producer bending over and reaching under each regulator to turn the adjustment knob. Pressure Pro makes that chore obsolete and allows a producer to make changes instantly for an entire house simply by turning the handle on a single winch.

Automated flushing

Solenoid regulators allow producers to flush the lines with no one present. This unattended automatic flushing system is comprised of three basic components:

1. A controller or clock that sends a signal to the regulator to start and maintain a flush mode for the number of minutes necessary to achieve a thorough line flush.

Producers can also have the controller set up to flush based on water temperature.

2. A regulator equipped with a solenoid valve that allows water to bypass the regulator's pressure regulation mode and deliver high pressure water into the water line.

3. End assemblies that open automatically and a drain setup for releasing the flush water to an outside location.

Minimal Saddle Obstruction

When compared to other water systems, Ziggity has the least saddle protrusion of the pipe interior of any watering manufacturer and this benefits the producer in the following ways:

- Very little back pressure which increases effectiveness when flushing lines to remove biofilm, sediments and scale.
- Lower water entry point means the efficacy of water borne medicines, therapies, is dramatically improved.
- A far greater percentage of the water bearing capacity is above the entry point and thus usable.

Water filters

Until recently, producers would have a separate stringwound filter for each poultry house. This type of set up is simply not economical or efficient. The Process Advanced Filtration Division of Parker-Hannifin Corp. changed that with its new FarmGuard™ Filtration System. (Ziggity does not sell or distribute this product.)

The FarmGuard employs non-woven pleated polyester as its filter media. The capacity of the system is 100 gallons per minute and the capacity of the filter is equal to 180 stringwound filters. This means producers can use a single filter for the entire farm. That is only one filter to inspect and one filter to change, reducing the farmer's management time. Additionally, producers can wash the filter media with a hose and reinstall it, saving money.

Conclusion

Poultry farming remains a labor-intensive operation. However, manufacturers of poultry watering systems have greatly improved the technology and, in the process, created labor saving components and procedures that can cut many hours of management time every week, allowing producers to turn their attention to other important flock-management needs.

Ziggity Systems, Inc. is the only manufacturer 100 percent focused on poultry watering for improved performance. For more information, write Ziggity Systems, Inc. at 101 Industrial Parkway, P.O. Box 1169, Middlebury, Indiana 46540-1169 USA, call +1 574.825.5849, fax +1 574.825.7674, or visit its Web site at www.ziggity.com.

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