

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Dr. Laurie McCall

We are continuing to spotlight an employee each month to put a face with the many services provided by the Department of Agriculture and Industries. We hope you enjoy getting to know more about our excellent employees!

Our Spotlight Employee of the Month is Dr. Laurie McCall. She has worked for the Department of Agriculture and Industries for almost 2 years.

Dr. McCall is the director of the J. B. Taylor Regional Poultry Diagnostic Lab located in Elba, Ala. Her primary responsibility is to oversee all sample submissions from when they arrive at the Elba

lab until the series of testing is complete. The Elba lab has the capability to conduct bacteriology, parasitology and serology testing but some samples may be sent to the State Diagnostic Lab located in Auburn. At the Elba lab, a majority of the animals submitted for sampling or necropsy (in humans we refer to this as autopsy) is poultry. The lab also receives cattle, whited-tail deer, goats, llamas and companion animals such as dogs and cats. During the necropsy an attempt is made to determine the cause of death together with information gathered from other blood and tissue sample testing results.

Dr. McCall attended Auburn University for her undergraduate degree and then went on to graduate from Auburn University's College of Veterinary Medicine. Her interest in pathology began during vet school and she was certain she wanted to pursue a career that included this specialty. She sees pathology as a mystery that can be solved; a puzzle that can be put together once you find all of the pieces. Dr. McCall's favorite part of her job is to be able to help farmers determine what virus or disease might be affecting their animals. She also appreciates the staff at the Elba lab for their abundant skills and professionalism.

Dr. McCall is originally from Dothan and lives there today. She has a daughter and three sons, Caitlin (24), Matthew (21), Jacob (16) and Connor (13).