



## 2009 NPTC Poultry House Construction, Retrofitting & Energy Conservation Short Course



The **National Poultry Technology Center (NPTC)**, a newly formed Center in the College of Agriculture, recently conducted its 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Poultry Housing Technology Short course on the Auburn campus. This year's three day event focused primarily on issues and economics facing poultry producers and companies during challenging times. The short course was coordinated and hosted by Auburn Universities Biosystems Engineering, Agricultural Economics, and Poultry Science departments. The short course was held at the Dixon Conference Center inside the Hotel at Auburn University. Approximately 125 people attended from across the U.S., and international students attended from Italy, Mexico, and the Philippines. The audience was primarily made up of poultry production personnel, building contractors, equipment manufacturers, and lenders that work with the poultry housing industry. Along with Auburn faculty, professionals from the University of Kentucky, the University of Georgia, the University of Arkansas, and the Mississippi State USDA-ARS poultry research unit made presentations at the short course. Some of the topics covered this year were Building Structures, Energy Auditing Poultry Houses, Solar Heating of Poultry Houses, and Alternative Fuel Sources for Heating Poultry Houses. This collaborative effort was initiated four years ago to educate the industry on the most current technologies and practices regarding poultry house construction, building retrofitting, and energy conservation. The poultry industry employs some 80,000 individuals in Alabama with cash receipts of nearly \$3.0 billion. The industry is estimated to have an \$ 11 billion yearly impact on Alabama's state economy. For more information on poultry housing or poultry housing energy related information please visit [www.poultryhouse.com](http://www.poultryhouse.com). For more information on this short course contact Jesse Campbell, Program Manager for the National Poultry Technology Center.