

# G.A. FLORY CONSULTING CONSULTANT PROFILE

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When animal diseases and natural disasters strike, G.A. Flory Consulting will be there to provide our clients with the highest quality emergency response services. Until then, our professional training programs will enable them to minimize the impact of those disasters.



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## Overview

Since 2003 G.A. Flory Consulting has helped our clients plan, train, and responds to agricultural emergencies like disease outbreaks, acts of agroterrorism, and natural disasters across the country and around the globe. Our clients include international organizations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), state and federal government agencies, individual farmers, and meat and poultry production companies. G.A. Flory Consulting has access to a vast network of subject matter experts and can expand our team to respond to any size response.





## Services

### Emergency Response Training

To maintain their effectiveness, company, state or national agricultural emergency response teams must train continually. G.A. Flory Consulting can provide virtual, field, or tabletop training events spanning a single day or an entire week.

Recent international training events include programs for governments of the Dominican Republic, Philippines, India, South Korea, Vietnam, and Azerbaijan. Within the United States, we have conducted training programs for the states of Ohio, Kansas, Washington, North Carolina, Georgia, and Florida as well as training programs for individual livestock production companies.

### Disease and Natural Disaster Response

G.A. Flory Consulting has responded to animal disease outbreaks around the globe. As incidents of avian influenza, African Swine Fever, and other animal diseases increase, G.A. Flory Consulting stands prepared to respond anywhere, anytime, and provide emergency disease response capabilities.

### Agricultural Emergency Planning

As with any industry, good emergency response planning is the key to minimizing losses within the agricultural sector. When the outbreak or natural disaster occurs, farm-specific plans should already be in place with exactly how impacted animals will be depopulated, how the infected carcasses will be disposed of, and how the premises will be disinfected. Developing these plans before the emergency happens will decrease the cost of the response and prevent disease spread.

### Agricultural Research Projects

The team at G.A. Flory Consulting has provided leadership and technical support on numerous research projects focused on improving the fight against animal diseases and natural disasters affecting agriculture. Many of these projects have resulted in new tools including litter conditioning, in-house composting during avian influenza outbreaks, Above Ground Burial (AGB) for carcass management, and grinding followed by composting or AGB for livestock mortality management.



# Project Portfolio

## DISEASE & NATURAL DISASTER RESPONSE

### Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza/Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Response

March – April 2020

Country: United States, North Carolina/South Carolina

At the request of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture (NCDCA), the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS) deployed G.A. Flory Consulting to North Carolina to help manage an outbreak of Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (LPAI) impacting the commercial poultry industry. G.A. Flory Consulting worked with eleven farms to manage the disposal of infected carcasses, feed, and poultry litter. While in North Carolina, USDA-APHIS requested additional assistance managing outbreaks of LPAI and Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in South Carolina.

### FAO Emergency Management Centre for Animal Health (EMC-AH) Emergency Alert

June 2019

Mission for African Swine Fever

Country: Lao People's Democratic Republic

The FAO Emergency Management Centre for Animal Health (EMC-AH), in collaboration with the FAO Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) Asia and Pacific teams, and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), conducted an emergency alert mission to the Lao People's Democratic Republic to enhance the operational readiness and ability to detect and respond early to African swine fever (ASF) outbreaks. G.A. Flory served as a carcass disposal and decontamination Subject Matter Expert for the mission.

### FAO Emergency Management Centre for Animal Health (EMC-AH) Emergency

May – June 2019

Response Mission for African Swine Fever

Country: Kingdom of Cambodia

The FAO Emergency Management Centre for Animal Health (EMC-AH), in collaboration with the FAO Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) Asia and Pacific teams, and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), conducted an emergency response mission to the Kingdom of Cambodia to support the Government's response to African swine fever outbreaks and/or suspect epidemiological situations. G.A. Flory served as a carcass disposal and decontamination Subject Matter Expert for the mission.

### Avian Influenza Emergency Composting Consultation

January – February 2019

Country: Dominican Republic

At the request of the Dominican Poultry Association and the Ministry of Agriculture, G.A. Flory Consulting deployed to the Dominican Republic to provide emergency carcass composting support during an ongoing avian influenza outbreak. Services provided included advising on the construction and maintenance of compost piles, monitoring windrow temperatures, troubleshooting the composting process, and providing suggestions for improvement. Additionally, G.A. Flory Consulting provided capacity-building training to farmers, industry representatives, and Government officials.

## AGRICULTURAL EMERGENCY PLANNING

### ASF Consultation with India: Depopulation, Disposal, and Decontamination

May 2020

Country: India

In May 2020, India reported its first cases of African Swine Fever (ASF) in both domestic and wild pigs. In support of Indian animal health officials managing the outbreaks in the two north-eastern states of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, G.A. Flory Consulting provided a consultation highlighting best practices for an effective response. The consultation focused on the efficient and humane depopulation of infected animals, environmentally sound carcass disposal, and effective facility decontamination practices.

### African Swine Fever Workshop

October 2018

Country: Ukraine

The United States Defense Threat Reduction Agency's Cooperative Threat Reduction program sponsored an African Swine Fever (ASF) workshop for officials of the Government of Ukraine together with farmers and veterinarians to learn about animal depopulation and disposal, breakdowns in farm biosecurity and measures to identify readily implementable solutions to fill those gaps. The workshop also included visiting government animal health professionals from Romania, Moldova, and Lithuania who are responsible for ASF response in their respective countries. G.A. Flory Consulting served as an animal mortality management Subject Matter Expert for this workshop held in Lviv, Ukraine.

### Animal Mortality Management Consultation

June 2018

Country: South Korea

In support of the Government's efforts to address groundwater contamination from the disposal of carcasses during previous outbreaks of foot and mouth disease and avian influenza, G.A. Flory Consulting conducted a seminar on animal mortality management for staff of the Korean National Institute of Environmental Research in Seoul, Korea. Additionally, G.A. Flory Consulting presented on composting and Above Ground Burial during animal disease outbreaks at the 2nd International Conference on Bioresources, Energy, Environment, and Materials Technology in Gangwon Province, Korea.

### Azerbaijan Avian Influenza Table Top Exercise

May 2016

Country: Azerbaijan

The United States Defense Threat Reduction Agency's Cooperative Threat Reduction program sponsored a Table Top Exercise (TTX) to raise awareness of biological threats, enhance multi-sectorial coordination, and promote the adoption of One Health approaches to biological emergency responses. G.A. Flory Consulting served as a Depopulation, Disposal,

## EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAINING

### **Depopulation, Disposal, and Decontamination (3D) Training Series**

*July 2020 – Present*

Country: Philippines

Ongoing outbreaks of African Swine Fever are causing significant challenges for Philippine farmers and government responders. To help address these challenges in a time when the COVID-19 pandemic prevents in-person training, G.A. Flory Consulting is conducting a series of virtual training to improve approaches to carcass management and on-site biosecurity practices at the affected backyard and commercial farms. Topics for discussion include the role of biosecurity, depopulation, disposal, and decontamination in an animal disease response, and current biosecurity, depopulation, decontamination, and carcass disposal methods to mitigate transmission of infection.

### **ASF Response in Vietnam: Phase I Train-the-Trainer and 3D Response Personnel Training**

*July 2019*

Country: Vietnam

To support the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development's response to ongoing outbreaks of African Swine Fever in Vietnam, G.A. Flory Consulting led a team of Depopulation, Disposal, and Decontamination (3D) Subject Matter Experts on a series of field visits and meetings with National, Provincial and District level animal health officials. After the field activities, the team presented Vietnamese officials with a seminar outlining opportunities for improvement and a plan for Phase II of the train-the-training workshops.

### **2nd Biorisk Management Symposium of the Middle East & North Africa**

*March – April 2019*

(MENA) Regional Network

Country: Tunisia

The 2nd Biorisk Management Symposium of the Middle East & North Africa (MENA) Regional Network aimed to strengthen and enhance biorisk management in the region through two days of interactive workshops and two days of technical presentations. G.A. Flory Consulting conducted a 2-day workshop on agroterrorism and zoonotic disease response and delivered a plenary presentation during the symposium. The event was held in Tunis, Tunisia.

## AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

### **African Swine Fever Virus Inactivation Research in Vietnam**

*August 2020 – Present*

Country: Vietnam

As the recipient of a grant from the National Pork Board, G.A. Flory Consulting is part of a team collaborating with the Vietnam National University of Agriculture to help U.S. pork producers collect data to improve African swine fever (ASF) outbreak response readiness and to help Vietnamese pork producers better respond to and recover from ongoing ASF outbreaks. To accomplish these goals, the team is conducting two distinct research projects. The first aims to verify the effectiveness of carcass composting to inactivate the ASF virus. The second is to evaluate the persistence of ASFv in swine slurry stored in lagoons and digesters. All fieldwork will be conducted in Vietnam.

### **New Approaches to Managing Carcasses during an ASF Outbreak**

*December 2018 – September 2019*

Country: United States

G.A. Flory Consulting was part of the team working to develop new methods for the disposal of swine carcasses during outbreaks of African Swine Fever. The project included a proof-of-concept demonstration project in Virginia and three operational scale projects in North Carolina, and culminated in a 4-day training program for the swine industry. Disposal methods evaluated included composting whole animals, grinding and composting, Above Ground Burial of whole carcasses, and Above Ground Burial of ground carcasses. Lessons learned from the project supported the national response to the 2020 COVID-19 supply chain disruption crisis.

# Leadership



## Gary Flory

Owner | Director of Operations

Gary founded G.A. Flory Consulting to help clients with a range of services including animal disease and natural disaster response, agricultural emergency planning, and emergency response training. Gary has conducted training, given presentations, and deployed on numerous animal disease outbreaks around the country and internationally to a number of countries including the Dominican Republic, Vietnam, Tunisia, Korea, Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, and Azerbaijan. He also serves as a technical reviewer and Subject Matter Expert on agricultural issues for a variety of organizations including the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE).

In addition to numerous other articles, reports, and guidance documents, Gary was a lead author of FAO's Focus On document, Carcass Management for Small- and Medium-Scale Livestock Farms - Practical Considerations and USDA's Catastrophic Livestock Composting Protocol and Mortality Composting Protocol for Avian Influenza Infected Flocks. Gary serves on a variety of national and international working groups and was awarded the Agency Star award by the Governor of Virginia for community service and leadership on agricultural disasters.

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