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IPPE Booth B22033

Hy-Line International Celebrates 90 Years of Innovation in Layer Genetics

Breeding for Tomorrow, Delivering Today

Iowa – January 2026 – Hy-Line International, the world’s oldest layer genetics company, proudly celebrates its 90th anniversary in 2026. For nine decades, Hy-Line has led the global egg industry with scientific innovation and commitment to empowering egg producers worldwide—providing highly efficient, productive laying hens that help deliver affordable, high-quality egg protein to nourish the world.

A Vision That Changed Agriculture

Founded in 1936 by agricultural pioneer Henry A. Wallace, Hy-Line International revolutionized poultry breeding by applying hybridization principles—successfully proven in corn—to laying hens. This breakthrough transformed egg production globally and established Hy-Line as the first company to introduce commercial hybrid layers.

The story of Hy-Line International is inseparable from the Wallace family’s profound influence on global agriculture. Henry A. Wallace’s early work in plant genetics, inspired by mentorship from George Washington Carver, laid the foundation for hybrid breeding. While Wallace later served as U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Vice President of the United States, and Secretary of Commerce, his family continued advancing agricultural innovation.

“Reaching 90 years is an extraordinary milestone,” said Jonathan Cade, President of Hy-Line International. “Our motto—*Breeding for tomorrow, delivering today*—captures our commitment to combining cutting-edge genetics with practical solutions that help egg producers succeed now and prepare for the future.”

Ninety Years of Continuous Innovation

From its earliest days, Hy-Line has been at the forefront of genetic improvement inspired by its visionary founder. Early innovations included blood typing to improve livability and predict productive crosses—techniques that were revolutionary at the time. Today, Hy-Line’s global genetic evaluation program analyzes hundreds of millions of data points annually, using advanced DNA technologies to select for egg production, feed efficiency, egg quality, robustness, and disease resistance.

Field testing, initiated in the 1940s, remains a cornerstone of Hy-Line’s breeding philosophy. Birds are evaluated under diverse production systems worldwide, ensuring adaptability and performance. Hy-Line’s Egg Quality Laboratory, which assesses more than one million eggs each year, continues a legacy of rigorous measurement and data-driven improvement that began over 80 years ago.



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Hy-Line has also introduced industry-first advancements, including:

- Feather-sexing in commercial varieties
- Eradication of vertically transmitted diseases such as Lymphoid Leucosis
- Establishment of an in-house Molecular Biology Laboratory—now 30 years strong—enabling direct genomic analysis to identify and enhance the best traits in Hy-Line varieties

Global Impact and Shared Purpose

As Hy-Line celebrates its 90th anniversary, the company continues to expand its global footprint. Strategic investments in breeder production across the United States, Brazil, and India strengthen Hy-Line's ability to meet growing worldwide demand for high-performing layer genetics.

Beyond genetics, Hy-Line remains deeply committed to its mission of nourishing the world. Through partnerships and community initiatives in regions such as South Africa and Peru, Hy-Line supports programs that improve access to nutritious eggs—helping combat malnutrition and build healthier communities.

“Our success over the past 90 years has been built on strong partnerships with egg producers around the world,” Cade added. “We are incredibly grateful for the trust our customers place in Hy-Line genetics and expertise. Together, we are helping feed a growing global population with one of the most affordable and sustainable sources of high-quality protein—the egg.”

Looking Ahead

While 2026 is a year to reflect on nine decades of achievement, Hy-Line International remains firmly focused on the future. Ongoing investments in research, people, and global infrastructure ensure Hy-Line continues leading layer genetics for generations to come. Sustainability, bird welfare, and innovation remain central to Hy-Line's vision—making egg production one of the most environmentally efficient sources of protein for a growing global population.

As Hy-Line International celebrates 90 years of innovation, its founding vision remains as relevant today as it was in 1936: harnessing the power of genetics to nourish the world.

About Hy-Line International

Hy-Line International is the world's oldest layer genetics company and a global leader in the development of high-performing laying hens. Founded in 1936 and headquartered in Dallas Center, Iowa, USA, Hy-Line is committed to scientific excellence, innovation, and supporting egg producers worldwide with robust, efficient, and sustainable layer genetics.

For more information, visit www.hyline.com.