

# animal agriculture

summer 2006

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ANIMAL AGRICULTURE

## Business Continuity Symposium inspires new disaster preparedness programs

Food is no less than a trillion dollar industry in the United States. At the farm level, animals are a whopping \$124 billion dollar industry, not to mention a major foundation of the domestic crop industries.

Dr. Christopher Hurt, an agricultural economist with Purdue University, belted out these compelling statistics to open the special symposium on Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Planning held April 6, 2006 in conjunction with the National Institute for Animal Agriculture's annual meeting in Louisville, KY.

More than 100 stakeholders attending the landmark symposium were bombarded with eye-



PURDUE AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIST  
DR. CHRIS HURT

opening details regarding all that's at stake in the big leagues of U.S. animal agriculture. According to Hurt, based on a 2001 study, a foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) outbreak in this country could cost beef producers at least \$4.3 billion at the farm level, and \$2.4 billion in losses to pork producers.

Figure in projected loss of exports, loss of U.S. consumption and losses for related industries compounded by direct costs of control and inevitable indirect losses due to FMD, and all excuses to not be prepared for disaster should be washed away.

"A formal program on business continuity planning for any type of disaster affecting animal agriculture has never been done in the past," says Dr. Leonard Bull, a North Carolina State University animal scientist who chaired the

## Business Continuity & Disaster Recovery Planning

Second in a 3-part Series

symposium. "In light of recent natural disasters, most especially Hurricane Katrina, and ever present terrorist threats, business continuity planning has quickly become the single most important issue in our industry."

Symposium speakers included Dr. David Bessler, a Texas A&M University agricultural economist who addressed the 2001 United Kingdom FMD experience and the challenge of re-establishing a domestic market.

An expert panel including Dr. Jimmy Tickel with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Dr. Harry Snelson, representing the American Association of Swine Veterinarians, Dr. Barrett Slenning, with North Carolina State University, and Dr. Sebastian Heath, an Emergency Programs representative with USDA APHIS Veterinary Services, discussed "'Stamping Out' and 'Managed' Eradication: The Best Technology."

Another major component was an expert panel discussion on controversial stop movement issues.

As a result, one tremendous benefit of the symposium, says Bull, is that it helped people identify the fact that proposed disaster lockdowns and stop movement orders of 72 hours or more have to

SEE Business Continuity | PAGE 12

### inside this issue

Page 2	Ken Olson named NIAA director of educational programs
Page 3	Glenn Slack to step down as NIAA's CEO
Page 4-5	News briefs
Page 6-7	Annual meeting coverage
Page 8	Annual meeting sponsors
Page 9	News briefs (cont'd)
Page 10-11	Membership news
Page 12	ID/INFO EXPO 2006

## Ken Olson named NIAA director of educational programs

Kenneth E. Olson, PhD, PAS, has been named director of educational programs at the National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA).



DR. KEN OLSON

Olson, a seasoned veteran in industry circles, enters the newly established position at a time when producer and stakeholder education is receiving more attention on many fronts. During the past year, Olson worked with NIAA to establish the National Johnne's Education Initiative that NIAA coordinates with a grant from USDA, APHIS, Veterinary Services.

In addition to Johnne's, Olson will oversee a similar initiative that NIAA operates, addressing scrapie education in sheep and goats; NIAA's award-winning animal handling and transportation resources; provide NIAA members with additional continuing education (CE) opportunities; and develop new education programs for the industry. He began his duties

on May 1.

"I am delighted that Dr. Olson is joining the NIAA staff as director of educational programs," said NIAA Chairman of the Board R. Scott Stuart. "He is an enabler to get things done on behalf of animal agriculture. We look forward to having someone of his caliber to oversee existing NIAA educational efforts and develop new and stimulating programs for the future."

A native of Wisconsin, Olson received a degree from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls and his M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His career includes 12 years on the Animal Science faculty at the University of Kentucky and 12 years with American Farm Bureau Federation as their national dairy and animal health specialist.

Olson has also worked for the Federation of Animal Science Societies and as a consultant for National Dairy Herd Improvement Association and Dairy Management, Inc. He is a member of the American Dairy Science Association, Council on Agricultural Science and Technology,

U.S. Animal Health Association, and certified by the American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists. Olson, himself, is a past NIAA board chairman.

One of Olson's initial accomplishments has been the establishment of Johnne's Information Central, a website supporting the efforts of the National Johnne's Education Initiative ([www.johnnesdisease.org](http://www.johnnesdisease.org)).

"I look forward to the new opportunities this role will provide for NIAA to work with industry to proactively address the changing information and educational needs of animal agriculture," Olson said.

Since NIAA began operations in January 2000, the staff has grown to include directors of operations, member relations, communications and now, educational programs.

"Having someone as experienced and well-respected as Dr. Olson in this new position will enable NIAA to serve the industry and our growing membership base in a greater capacity," said outgoing NIAA President and CEO Glenn N. Slack. "This is a tremendous addition to our staffing resources." ■

### And they're off!



KATHY SIBBEL FOUND HERSELF WITHIN A NOSE OF GALE JOHNSON (ON HORSE IN BACKGROUND). SIBBEL AND JOHNSON WERE AMONG THOSE IN ATTENDANCE AT THE 2006 NIAA ANNUAL MEETING IN LOUISVILLE WHO EXPERIENCED A SIMULATED RACE AT THE KENTUCKY DERBY MUSEUM AT CHURCHILL DOWNS DURING THE WELCOME TO KENTUCKY RECEPTION.

### animal agriculture

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ANIMAL AGRICULTURE

PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ANIMAL AGRICULTURE

- Nevil Speer, PhD, MBA  
Interim Chief Executive Officer
- Kenneth E. Olson, PhD, PAS  
Director of Educational Programs
- Michele Vise-Brown  
Director of Member Relations
- Peggy Logsdon  
Director of Operations
- Vacant*  
Director of Communications
- Pamela Meador  
Financial Administrator
- Julie Jones  
Staff Assistant

1910 Lyda Avenue • Bowling Green, KY 42104  
Phone: (270) 782-9798 • Fax: (270) 782-0188  
Email: [NIAA@animalagriculture.org](mailto:NIAA@animalagriculture.org)  
Web address: [www.animalagriculture.org](http://www.animalagriculture.org)

# Glenn Slack to step down as NIAA's CEO

*Dr. Nevil Speer appointed interim chief staff executive*

After 12 years at the helm, Glenn Slack has announced that he will be stepping down as president and chief executive officer of the National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA).



GLENN SLACK

Slack notified NIAA Chairman of the Board Scott Stuart on April 28 of his decision. On May 15, the board of directors and staff were notified and the membership was informed of the decision on May 26.

In a letter to Stuart, Slack said, "I have thoroughly enjoyed 12 years with this organization and feel blessed to have been entrusted with this position for that duration."

Slack said he will be launching his own business, a firm specializing in communications, public relations and association manage-

ment services. Reburn-Julia Associates, LLC, will begin operations July 1.

"I look forward to spending a little more time with family - in particular my son, Benjamin, who at 3 1/2, is in those 'formative' years; and my mother who, at 86, is still a model for life-long lessons and strong values," Slack said. "In addition, I might kick around on the farm a little more than I've been able to up until this time; perhaps, taking a stab with Ben at raising some of the same farm animals I've been found talking about frequently, but rarely experiencing in sight and smell the past two decades."

"Glenn's commitment to NIAA has been remarkable for several years and we wish him the very best in his new endeavors," said Stuart.

While Slack's successor is sought by the NIAA board of directors, Dr. Nevil Speer will serve as the association's interim chief executive. A professor of animal science at Western Kentucky

University in Bowling Green, Speer "is an incredibly knowledgeable and experienced individual in animal agriculture issues and will ensure that the many ongoing programs and initiatives NIAA has underway will continue without interruption," according to Stuart.



DR. NEVIL SPEER

"Nevil Speer will do an excellent job in making sure NIAA remains the vital organization that it has become" during the nationwide search, Stuart said.

Slack said in his letter that change brings opportunity and this move is an opportunity to reinvigorate NIAA. "I have faith that the board will make a sound choice in my replacement," he said. "I look forward to supporting that individual in every way possible and pledge my enduring support to this great organization." ■

## 2005 NIAA Annual Report

Copies of the 2005 NIAA Annual Report are available upon request. To obtain a copy, contact Michele Vise-Brown at [mvisebrown@animalagriculture.org](mailto:mvisebrown@animalagriculture.org).



## Longtime staff assistant graduates

Julie Jones, a staff assistant at the National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA) since 2000, graduated with honors in May from Western Kentucky University with a bachelor's of arts degree in advertising and a bachelor's of science degree in nursing.



JULIE JONES

Jones has accepted a position

at Vanderbilt University Hospital in Nashville, Tenn. as a registered nurse in the burn and trauma unit. After a couple of years experience there, Jones said she would like to pursue further education in hopes of obtaining a license as nurse practitioner. She begins her new position July 10.

"Julie has been an able staff assistant, and much more," said outgoing CEO Glenn Slack. "She has been an integral part of NIAA's formation these first six years and her dedication to this organization will be missed." ■

## news briefs news briefs news briefs news briefs news briefs news briefs

### USDA proposes to amend regulations regarding the National Veterinary Accreditation Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is proposing to amend the regulations regarding the National Veterinary Accreditation Program to establish two accreditation categories in place of the current category, add requirements for supplemental training and renewal of accreditation, and offer accreditation specializations.

Under the proposed rule, Category I would authorize veterinarians to perform accredited duties on companion animals only. Veterinarians would be authorized to perform accredited duties on all species to include poultry, equines and livestock under Category II. The new two-tiered system would replace the current structure under which an accredited veterinarian is authorized to perform accredited duties on all species.

APHIS is proposing these changes in order to support its animal health safeguarding initiatives, to involve accredited veterinarians in integrated surveillance activities and to make the provisions governing the National Veterinary Accreditation Program more uniform and consistent.

These proposed changes would increase the level of training and skill of accredited veterinarians in the areas of disease prevention and preparedness for animal health emergencies in the United States.

Notice of this proposed rule was published in the June 1 *Federal Register*.

Consideration will be given to comments received on or before July 31. If you wish to submit a comment using the Internet, go to the Federal

eRulemaking portal at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and, in the "Search Regulations and Federal Actions" box, select "Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service" from the agency drop-down menu; then click on "Submit." In the Docket ID column, select APHIS-2006-0093 to submit or view public comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically.

### Dr. Beth Lautner selected as NVSL director

Saying that the new director of APHIS' National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) "brings an impressive wealth of knowledge and experience to this position," USDA, APHIS Deputy Administrator Dr. John Clifford recently announced the selection of Dr. Elizabeth Lautner to the post.



DR. BETH LAUTNER

Most recently, Lautner served as Center Director, Plum Island Animal Disease Center (PIADC) within the Science and Technology Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). She was the first DHS Center Director and served in that capacity from January 2004 until March 2006.

As Center Director, Lautner was responsible for administration and operations of the Center, a Biosafety Level 3 facility with a budget of \$50 million, and oversight of the DHS science program at the Center consisting of vaccine testing and evaluation and forensic capabilities for foreign animal diseases. She chaired the Senior Leadership Group which coordinated the on-site diagnostic and

research programs and interactions for DHS, APHIS, and ARS. She served as the Executive Secretary for PIADC's Board of Directors which consists of DHS, APHIS, and ARS Administrators. In addition, she represented DHS on USDA's National Surveillance Steering Committee and National Veterinary Stockpile Committee.

Prior to joining DHS, Lautner served as Vice President for Science and Technology at the National Pork Board where she was responsible for a \$6 million budget that funded research and development on a variety of animal health and agricultural issues. In addition to these positions Lautner was a practicing veterinarian for more than 12 years in LeMars, Iowa.

Lautner received a BS degree and a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Michigan State University. She also has a MS degree from the University of Minnesota. Lautner is a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association (IVMA), and the American Association of Swine Veterinarians (AASV).

In 1994, she received the Howard W. Dunne Memorial Award for outstanding service to AASV and the pork industry. Lautner also received the APHIS Administrator's Award in 1997 in recognition of her contributions to the advancement of animal health. In 2002, she received the Meritorious Service Award from the National Institute for Animal Agriculture. In 2005, she received a DHS Under Secretary Award in recognition of her accomplishments in Program Management at PIADC.

Lautner began her duties on May 9.

## news briefs news briefs news briefs news briefs news briefs

### New director of NADC named

Animal reproductive physiologist Kurt A. Zuelke is the new director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Animal Disease Center (NADC) in Ames, Iowa, effective May 28.

ARS Administrator Edward B. Knippling said Zuelke, who for the past five years has served as research leader at the agency's Biotechnology and Germplasm Laboratory in Beltsville, Md., was officially appointed in April after a yearlong international recruitment process.

Knippling said Zuelke's recent research focused on discovering and understanding the molecular mechanisms that lead to early embryonic death in swine. Zuelke also oversaw research at Beltsville employing biotechnology to combat mastitis in dairy cattle. Scientists at the Biotechnology and Germplasm Laboratory have produced transgenic dairy cattle that secrete a novel antimicrobial protein in their milk that makes them resistant to mastitis caused by bacteria known as *Staphylococcus aureus*.

Knippling added that Zuelke had ushered in a new era of functional genomics research at the Beltsville laboratory by pioneering the application of serial analysis of gene expression and proteomics—known as SAGE—to improve the genetic, reproductive and productive efficiency of livestock and poultry.

Zuelke also led a partnership between four laboratories within ARS' Henry A. Wallace Beltsville Agricultural Research Center that established a world-class mass spectroscopy and proteomics facility devoted to animal and natural resources and to plant science.

Prior to serving with ARS, Zuelke was with the Victorian Institute of Animal Science in

Attwood, Australia, where he served as dairy transgenic research program leader, co-investigator/developer for the bovine genomics research program, and senior research embryologist.

Zuelke, a native of Wisconsin, earned a B.S. in animal science from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls in 1984, and a Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Minnesota-St. Paul in 1988. Additionally, he earned a Ph.D. in physiology from the University of Georgia-Athens in 1992.

### Lyle Vogel named director of new AVMA animal welfare division

American Veterinary Medical Association's newly formed Animal Welfare Division will be under the leadership of Lyle Vogel, DVM, MPH. During the past year, Vogel served on the AVMA's Animal Welfare Governance Task Force. He became the new division's first director on May 1.

After serving for 26 years in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps as a food safety health specialist, Vogel joined the staff of the AVMA in 1993 as the assistant director of the Membership and Field Services Division. He was appointed director of the Scientific Activities Division in 1996 where he had served since.

Vogel has appointed Gail Golab, PhD, DVM as associate director of the Animal Welfare Division. Golab most recently served as assistant director for Professional and Public Affairs in the AVMA Communications Division.

Elizabeth Curry-Galvin, DVM, was named to replace Vogel as director of the Scientific Activities Division following 10-years as assistant director and associate director of the division. Curry-Galvin said

she plans to "nurture the division's momentum in science-based policy development and implementation."

Vogel just completed a two-year term as chair of the NIAA Animal Health Emergency Management Committee.

### New technology to aid movement of horses globally

An Internet-based business designed to allow animal health authorities to track and regulate animal movement nationally has developed technology now recognized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for international shipments of horses.

Electronic laboratory forms carrying equine infectious anemia (EIA), or Coggins, test results are now being accepted by federal health officials on horses moving to other countries. In a letter dated May 15 from the USDA Veterinary Services deputy administrator, GlobalVetLink, L.C., was informed that its electronic equine infectious anemia (eEIA) system in paper format for exports can be used for international shipments. Previously the eEIA lab forms were only recognized by USDA for movement within a state or between states.

"USDA's recognition of the GlobalVetLink eEIA form will be substantially beneficial to equine practitioners in the U.S.," said president and founder Kevin D. Maher. "The multi-tiered paper system used for years to track and regulate animal movement in the U.S. can be cumbersome, time-consuming and invites inaccuracies."

Horse owners moving animals for exhibition, pleasure, sale or other reasons must be able to produce proof of a negative EIA test. The

## Stuart elevated to chairman of the board of directors of the National Institute for Animal Agriculture

R. Scott Stuart, of the National Livestock Producers Association, has assumed leadership of the



IN HIS REMARKS AS THE NEW NIAA CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, SCOTT STUART ANNOUNCED THE FORMATION OF A VISION 2020 TASK FORCE.

National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA) in becoming chairman of the association's board of directors at its annual meeting being held in Louisville in April.

Stuart, who has served as chairman-elect for the last two years, replaces Dr. R. L. "Rick" Sibbel, Schering Plough Animal Health, who has served in that role since 2004.

In passing the gavel to Stuart, Sibbel reminded him and other NIAA members of the many challenges facing animal agriculture in the years ahead.

In that regard, as his first act as chairman of the board, Stuart



OUTGOING BOARD CHAIR DR. RICK SIBBEL (LEFT) ACCEPTS AN EMBOSSED-LEATHER PLAQUE FROM SCOTT STUART RECOGNIZING HIS SERVICE TO NIAA.

announced his intention to form a long-range task force to chart NIAA's future through year 2020. ■

### *Opening General Session of the 2006 NIAA Annual Meeting*

## Globalization drives the need for adjustments in all aspects of veterinary services

Globalization and the ever-increasing speed and volume of movement of people and products is driving the need for substantial changes in the way veterinary services are provided, according to a wide array of experts who spoke at the opening session of the annual meeting of the National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA).

Whether updating the association's members on specific diseases such as avian influenza (AI) and foot and mouth disease (FMD) or analyzing how animal diseases, including those that can potentially infect humans, can and do spread, the panel of international experts agreed that veterinary services around the world must shift from simply a disease prevention and control mind set to a broader perspective that includes risk management.

"We have to understand what we are doing not only affects the

well being of animals, it may also affect the health and nutrition of millions of people around the world," pointed out Dr. Kevin Walker of Michigan State University



DR. WILL HUESTON

as he described a confluence of animal and public health. "We have to figure out how we deal with zoonotic diseases such as the H5N1 AI virus that we're hearing so much about as well as those diseases such as FMD that have the potential to devastate animal agriculture and thus the supply of animal protein at

home and abroad."

In summing up the afternoon's messages, Dr. William Hueston, director of the Center for Animal Health and Food Safety at the University of Minnesota and the moderator of the session, said that collectively the speakers made six main points regarding globalization and the speed of movement. Veterinary Services will require:

- Global and regional surveillance strategy;
- A flexible response system;
- New core competencies;
- New international partnerships;
- Narrowing the cultural divide that separates public and animal health; and
- Shifting the paradigm from disease prevention to risk management.

All of which fit well into the theme of the 2006 NIAA Annual Meeting, "Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Planning." ■

# Caspers chosen chairman-elect; new board members named

Jon Caspers, a swine producer from Iowa representing the National Pork Producers Council, was chosen to be the chairman-elect of the Board of Directors during the annual meeting of the National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA) in April.



JON D. CASPERS

Caspers will become chairman in two years, when the current board chairman, R. Scott Stuart, finishes his term. Caspers has most recently served as NIAA's treasurer.

In other NIAA board of directors' election results, Kevin Kirk, Michigan Department of Agriculture was re-elected to a second three-year term, joining four new directors elected to three-year terms. They are:

- Dr. Mark J. Engle, PIC USA, Inc.;
- Dr. John W. Hunt, Arizona Department of Agriculture;
- Dr. Mark F. Spire, Schering-Plough Animal Health; and
- Dr. Peter J. Timoney, University of Kentucky.

Dr. Annette M. Whiteford, California Department of Food and Agriculture, was elected to fill the vacancy created by the elevation of Caspers to chairman-elect.

In welcoming the newly elected

directors, R. Scott Stuart, said, "These six leaders bring diverse and impressive credentials to our board and will contribute greatly the future success of NIAA. I look forward to working closely with each of them." Stuart is with the National Livestock Producers Association.

Retiring from the NIAA board of directors after serving two, three-year terms was Dr. Richard Breitmeyer, California Department of Food and Agriculture; Dr. Donald Lein, Cornell Animal Health Diagnostic Center; and Nancy Robinson, Livestock Marketing Association. Dr. Marvin Beeman, American Horse Council, did not seek re-election this year following completion of one three-year term. ■

## Annual Meeting Highlights



UNITED SOYBEAN BOARD'S TRACY SNIDER SPOKE DURING A LUNCHEON DISCUSSING USB'S ANIMAL AGRICULTURE INITIATIVE.



ATTENDEES ENJOYED TOURING THE KENTUCKY DERBY MUSEUM DURING THE WELCOME TO KENTUCKY RECEPTION AT CHURCHILL DOWNS, INCLUDING DR. NANCY HALPERN, NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE; DR. LYLE VOGEL, AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION; AND DR. MARGUERITE PAPPAYOANOU, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA.



NEIL HAMMERSCHMIDT, DR. DAVE MORRIS AND DR. ROBERT FOURDRAINE ADDRESS QUESTIONS DURING THE ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS COMMITTEE MEETING.

DR. ROBERT STOUT, CHAIR OF THE KENTUCKY HOST COMMITTEE, DR. LEN BULL, CHAIR OF THE SYMPOSIUM PLANNING COMMITTEE AND JIM FRALEY, CHAIR OF THE ANNUAL MEETING PLANNING GROUP, MARVEL AT THE MINIATURE LOUISVILLE SLUGGER BATS THEY WERE GIVEN IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTIONS TO A SUCCESSFUL MEETING.



ANIMAL HEALTH OFFICIALS DR. EDWARD HENRY (LEFT) OF CALIFORNIA AND DR. DONALD HOENIG (FRONT RIGHT) OF MAINE VISIT AT A RECEPTION FOLLOWING THE BUSINESS CONTINUITY AND DISASTER RECOVERY PLANNING SYMPOSIUM. ALSO PICTURED ARE JIM AND MELVA LEAFSTEDT OF SOUTH DAKOTA.

PHOTOS BY LINDA LEAKE

# NIAA Thanks the 2006 Annual Meeting Sponsors!

## Platinum Level Sponsors



**Fort Dodge Animal Health**



**Kentucky Soybean Board**



**USDA, APHIS  
Veterinary Services**

## Gold Level Sponsors



**Kentucky Thoroughbred Association & Kentucky Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders, Inc.**

## Silver Level Sponsors



**American Veterinary  
Medical Association**



**Digital Angel and  
Electronic I.D., Inc.**



**Farnam Livestock  
Tracking Systems**



**IDEXX Laboratories, Inc.**



**Kentucky Department of Agriculture**



**Pfizer Animal Health, Inc.**

**AgInfoLink**

**Kentucky Cattlemen's  
Association**

**PIC USA**

**Cargill**

**Kentucky Veterinary Medical  
Association**

**Premier Supplies**

**Dairy Farmers of America**

**National Pork Board**

**United States Animal  
Health Association**

**Elanco Animal Health**

**Novartis Animal Health**

**American Association of Avian Pathologists**

**Brower - A Division of Hawkeye Steel, Inc.**

**American Association of  
Small Ruminant Practitioners**

**Livestock Marketing Association**

**American Quarter Horse Association**

**National Livestock Producers Association**

## news briefs news briefs news briefs news briefs news briefs news briefs

### New Technology (cont'd)

form is a supplement to the federal health certificate required for international movements.

Benefits of the GVL system include clean, clear and professional forms, real-time automatic submission of documents to animal health authorities, secure storage of certificates for reference anytime, around-the-clock access with an internet connection and real-time lab test submittal and result retrieval. GVL's eEIA system also provides three digital photographs of the horse directly

inserted on the certificate.

Headquartered in Ames, Iowa, GlobalVetLink has created the primary web-based platform for animal health regulatory officials and practicing veterinarians. The GVL system connects all 50 states with real-time animal movement, thus eliminating outdated paper methods.

According to Maher, the movement of over 69 million animals has been documented since 2001 when GVL launched its on-line application. "Our subscriber base has con-

sistently grown weekly and initial signs show that if we remain on this course, we will more than double our business annually," said Maher, who predicts paper health certificates and EIA forms will be obsolete within the next decade.

Accredited veterinarians with clients shipping horses internationally are encouraged to contact GlobalVetLink at 515-296-3779 or via the Internet at [www.globalvetlink.com](http://www.globalvetlink.com) for more information on this and other GVL products. ■

## Johanns releases NAIS implementation plan

Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns has announced the release of an implementation plan that outlines timelines and benchmarks for the establishment of the National Animal Identification System (NAIS), along with a plan for the initial integration of private and state animal tracking databases with NAIS.

"Developing an effective animal identification system has been a high priority for USDA and we've made significant strides toward achieving a comprehensive U.S. system," said Johanns. "We recognize that this represents one of the largest systematic changes ever faced by the livestock industry."

The implementation plan continues to set an aggressive timeline for ensuring full implementation of the NAIS by 2009. It establishes benchmarks for incrementally accomplishing the remaining implementation goals to enable the NAIS to be operational by 2007, and to achieve full producer participation by 2009.

Several important components have already been accomplished. These include the

development of premises registration systems in each state and the issuance of guidelines for the manufacture and distribution of animal identification numbers. More than 235,000 premises are currently registered.

### **Standards for Database Integration**

USDA also released the general technical standards for animal tracking databases that will enable integration of private systems with the NAIS. Private database owners are invited to submit applications for system evaluation to USDA and offer feedback as the final technical requirements are established. USDA will then enter into cooperative agreements with owners of databases that meet the standards. The application for system evaluation and a draft cooperative agreement are available on the NAIS web site at [www.usda.gov/nais](http://www.usda.gov/nais).

By early 2007, USDA expects to have the technology in place, called the Animal Trace Processing System or commonly known as the metadata system, that will allow state and federal

animal health officials to query the NAIS and private databases during a disease investigation. The animal tracking databases will record and store animal movement tracking information for livestock that state and federal animal health officials will query for animals of interest in a disease investigation.

USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is also finalizing \$3 million in funds that will be awarded to a number of States and Tribes to conduct field trials to analyze information pertaining to animal identification. Field trials will focus on the evaluation of new technologies for animal identification and automated data collection. APHIS will also fund an economic study focusing on the cost of NAIS implementation within a state; the development of procedures to measure the performance of identification devices and a bi-state study to develop recommendations regarding livestock exhibitions to achieve compatibility with the NAIS.

The NAIS implementation plan, along with more information about the program, is available at [www.usda.gov/nais](http://www.usda.gov/nais).

## Members in the news

### Cornell scientist recognized for 'Meritorious Service' to animal agriculture industry

Dr. Donald Lein, professor emeritus at Cornell University's College of Veterinary Medicine, was named the 2006 recipient of the prestigious National Institute for Animal Agriculture's Meritorious Service Award during the association's annual meeting in Louisville this spring.



A VERY SURPRISED DR. DON LEIN MAKES A FEW REMARKS TO THOSE ATTENDING NIAA'S ANNUAL RECOGNITION BANQUET AFTER RECEIVING THE 2006 MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD.

In presenting the award, Nancy Robinson of the Livestock Marketing Association and co-recipient of last year's award said, "Dr. Lein has served the association for many years in many capacities including as a distinguished member of the board of directors. When NIAA expanded its scope to include poultry and equine, Dr. Lein led the way. He has also served numerous other allied industry groups including being president of the U.S. Animal Health Association and American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians."

In addition to his research and classroom responsibilities at Cornell University, which included being chairman of the Department of Population Medicine and Diagnostic Science, Dr. Lein was administrative director or the N.Y. State Mastitis Control Program and Quality Milk Service Program. These activities provided service to thousands of New York State and northeast dairy farmers.

During Dr. Lein's 38 years of university service, teaching and research, he has had numerous scientific publications, received outstanding awards for distinguished service and outreach programs for veterinary medicine. Importantly he has also taught hundreds of veterinary students the basic skills of obstetrics, reproduction, pathology and diagnostic medicine.

James Leafstedt, a swine producer from Alcester, S.D. and a representative of the National Pork Board who received last year's award along with Ms. Robinson, participated in the presentation, as well.

Past recipients in addition to Leafstedt and Robinson are: Neil Hammerschmidt, Bowie, Md. (2004); Dr. Richard Breitmeyer, Sacramento, Calif. (2003); Dr. Beth Lautner, Ames, Iowa (2002); and Thomas W. Wenstrand, Houghton, Iowa (2001).

### Jerry Torrison presented 2006 Chairman's Award

Dr. Jerry Torrison, University of Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, was presented with the Chairman's Award during the 2006 annual



DR. JERRY TORRISON

Meeting of the National Institute for Animal Agriculture. The award recognizes NIAA's Volunteer of the Year.

Torrison is a past LCI (NIAA) committee leader and board member; a volunteer who served on the Annual Meeting Planning Group in 2005 and 2006, and assisted NIAA staff in obtaining a record 38 sponsors for the 2005 NIAA Annual Meeting, of which he was directly responsible for seven of the sponsors; has assisted with the recruitment of new members during the past year and currently serves as

NIAA's representative to the AVMA Animal Agriculture Liaison Committee.

In presenting the 2006 Award, the immediate-past Chairman of the Board, R. L. "Rick" Sibbel, said, "Jerry Torrison has always been willing to be of great service to the association and the industry, has great people skills and great enthusiasm for all that he does."

Past recipients of the award are: Amelita Facchiano, Dallas, Texas (2005); the entire U.S. Animal Identification Plan (USAIP) Steering Committee (2004); Neil Hammerschmidt, Bowie, Md. (2003); Jim Fraley, Bloomington, Ill. (2002); and Dr. Ken Olson, Schaumburg, Ill. (2001).

### Animal ID expert, committee chair receives 2006 President's Award

Dr. Robert Fourdraine of Madison, Wis. was the recipient of the 2006 NIAA President's Award for outstanding service as a committee chairman during the previous year at the annual meeting of the National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA) in April.



DR. ROBERT FOURDRAINE (LEFT) ACCEPTS THE 2006 NIAA PRESIDENT'S AWARD FROM GLENN SLACK.

Fourdraine, who is COO of the Wisconsin Livestock Identification Consortium, chairs the NIAA Animal Identification and Information

## NIAA welcomes the following new members!!

### **National Associations & Commercial Organizations:**

#### **American Veal Association**

**Mr. Steve Kraut**  
P.O. Box 900  
Antioch, IL 60002

#### **Osborn & Barr Communications**

**Mr. Benjamin D. Richey**  
304 West 8th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64105

### **State-level Associations & Publicly Supported**

#### **Institutions/Agencies:**

#### **Montana Dept. of Livestock**

**Dr. Thomas Linfield**  
P.O. Box 202001  
Helena, MT 59620-2001

#### **USDA, APHIS, VS, Emergency Management**

**Dr. Randall Levings**  
1800 Dayton Avenue  
Ames, IA 50010

### **Individual Members (Self-Employed):**

#### **Mr. Bill Hawks**

1004 East Capitol Street NE  
Washington, DC 20003

#### **Dr. Valerie E. Ragan**

1004 East Capitol Street NE  
Washington, DC 20003

### **Affiliate Membership (Non-Voting):**

#### **Mr. Kerry Moncur**

9346 East Ellis Street  
Mesa, AZ 85207

For information about membership in NIAA, contact Michele Vise-Brown at (270) 782-9798, Ext. 105 or [mvisebrown@animalagriculture.org](mailto:mvisebrown@animalagriculture.org).

## Animal ID expert

(cont'd from page 10)

Systems Committee.

In presenting the award NIAA President and CEO Glenn Slack said, "Dr. Fourdraine led the Association's efforts in a difficult and frustrating year for proponents of a national identification system."

During the previous year according to Slack, Fourdraine led NIAA's planning for ID/INFO EXPO 2005 which drew record attendance; helped communicate NIAA policy relating to animal identification and provided countless briefings to the executive committee and board of directors; and provided oversight for the creation of "NAIS Facts and Myths," a widely-referenced document that is available on NIAA's website. Fourdraine also serves as a tri-chair of the NAIS Subcommittee of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Foreign Animal and Poultry Diseases.

Past recipients of the President's Award are: Dr. Mark Engle, Franklin, Ky. (2005); Dr. Temple Grandin, Fort Collins, Colo. (2004); Jim Leafstedt, Alcester, S.D. (2003); Dr. Cindy Wolf, St. Paul, Minn. (2002); and Dr. Robert Crandell, College Station, Texas (2001). ■

## Renewing members!

(during the past quarter)

### **National Associations & Commercial Organizations:**

AgInfoLink USA Inc.  
Allflex USA, Inc.  
American Association of Bovine Practitioners  
American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians  
American Quarter Horse Association  
APC, Inc  
Bio-Rad Laboratories  
Bock's Cattle-Identi Company, Inc.  
Cargill Meat Solutions  
Dairy Farmers of America, Inc.  
EZ -ID/AVID ID Systems  
Holstein Association USA  
Intervet, Inc.  
National DHIA, Inc.  
National Milk Producers Federation  
National Pork Board  
National Pork Producers Council  
Pfizer Animal Health, Inc.  
Schering-Plough Animal Health Corp.  
Vitalia Inc.

### **State-level Associations & Publicly Supported Institutions / Agencies:**

Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries  
Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission

### **State-level Associations & Publicly Supported**

#### **Institutions/Agencies: (cont'd)**

Colorado Department of Agriculture  
Indiana State Board of Animal Health  
Iowa State University Outreach Academy  
National Animal Disease Center  
Nebraska Department of Agriculture  
Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, Inc.  
Ontario Pork Producers Marketing Board  
South Dakota Pork Producers Council

### **Individual Members (Self-employed)**

Dr. Martha A. Acosta  
Dr. Claude E. Barton  
Dr. Joseph F. Connor  
Mr. Robert Kleemeier  
Dr. Roger E. Olson  
Dr. Wendell Peden

### **Affiliate Membership (Non-voting)**

Diachemix, LLC  
Dr. Jake Hines  
HI-PLAINS SYSTEMS, Inc.  
Dr. Sheila Keay  
TREK Diagnostic Systems, Inc.

## ID/INFO EXPO 2006 to highlight practical animal ID solutions

### Online registration now open

# ID•INFO EXPO 2006

The National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA) has announced plans for ID/INFO EXPO 2006, a national conference and trade show devoted to animal identification and information systems technology. This year's event will take place, August 22-24 in Kansas City, Mo.

"We are expecting a great meeting for the latest information in animal identification," said R. Scott Stuart, NIAA Chairman of the Board and CEO of the National Livestock Producers Association. "Our planning committee is working diligently in finalizing what looks to be an excellent program."

A trade show, showcasing a variety of animal identification and information systems technology, will take place on August 22 & 23. In addition to the trade show, ID/INFO EXPO 2006 will feature:

#### August 22:

- Pre-Conference seminar outlining the basics of NAIS with exclusive species working group reports and a review of pending revisions to ISO standards.
- An in-depth seminar looking at key elements of USDA's IT Infrastructure, specifically the AIN Management System and the recently announced Animal Trace Processing System (ATPS).
- A half-day of technology seminars from the leading developers, suppliers, and information managers engaged in animal identification and traceability.

#### August 23:

- Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns has been invited to provide the keynote address.
- A review of state legislative efforts to implement the National Animal Identification System (NAIS), including legal authority and FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) issues.
- A review and discussion on ongoing NAIS education and outreach efforts.
- A panel discussion featuring



NAIS proponents and opponents discussing the merits of a national animal identification system.

The third and final day will go beyond NAIS with a complete focus on the practical application of animal ID solutions. Presentations and discussion will highlight current services and value-added programs that have already been implemented and are working for producers.

Online registration is now open. NIAA is offering membership and early registration discounts with the best rates attainable by June 30. Information, including registration, lodging, and preliminary schedule of events, is available on the Internet at [www.animalagriculture.org/id/IDIN\\_FOEXPO2006/Default.htm](http://www.animalagriculture.org/id/IDIN_FOEXPO2006/Default.htm), or by calling 270-782-9798. ■

animal  
agriculture  
 1910 Lyda Avenue • Bowling Green, KY 42104

Non-Profit Organization  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 Permit No. 82  
 Bowling Green, KY  
 42104

## Business Continuity (cont'd from page 1)

be modified in order to keep livestock producers in business.

"Most animal production systems cannot afford much down time and in the presence of excessive down time they simply won't survive," Bull emphasizes. "For example, most animal units typically have only enough feed on hand to last 24 to 36 hours. The symposium clearly heightened awareness on the part of regulatory officials that it's critical to accommodate livestock producers with stop movement orders of less than 72 hours."

The whole issue of business

continuity and disaster recovery planning needs to continue to be promoted, Bull says. "Emphasis on getting livestock producers back in business after a disaster needs to be put in front of people everywhere," he relates. "Fortunately, the NIAA symposium has inspired stakeholders to initiate preparedness programs in a number of states."

To access the symposium presentations, check out: [www.animalagriculture.org/proceedings/2006AMProceedings.asp](http://www.animalagriculture.org/proceedings/2006AMProceedings.asp). ■

By: Linda L. Leake  
Contributing Writer