

animal agriculture



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ANIMAL AGRICULTURE

YOUR SOURCE FOR INFORMATION, EDUCATION, & SOLUTIONS

WINTER/SPRING 2008

NIAA Annual Meeting - Facts NOT *Fiction* Radio Host, Writer Trent Loos to Address Attendees

Radio host and agriculture writer Trent Loos and his burning passion to make a difference in animal agriculture will be front and center when he serves as the featured evening banquet speaker at the National Institute for Animal Agriculture's Annual Meeting, Tuesday, April 1, in Indianapolis, Ind.

"Trent Loos is a sixth-generation animal food provider who travels the country meeting with farmers and ranchers," states Dr. Jerome Geiger, chair of NIAA's Annual Meeting Planning Committee. "Trent's unique style—complete with black cowboy hat and handlebar mustache—balances industry information that all in animal agriculture needs to know with a highly entertaining delivery."

Loos is a farmer/rancher whose passionate desire to stand up for agriculture became public knowledge in January 2001 when he launched "Loos Tales" on KMZU Radio in Carrolton, Mo. In seven short years, Trent's radio career has expanded to include a second program, "The Truth Be Told," with his programs now airing on more than 100 radio stations across the Midwest. He has also appeared on TNN's *The Conspiracy Zone* to debate Robert Cohen of www.notmilk.com and Dr. Jerry Vlasek about the myths surrounding the safety and consumption of milk.



"Trent digs in and gets the information about agriculture, then reaches out to those inside and outside of agriculture to share this information," states Michele Vise-Brown, NIAA's Chief Executive Officer. "Our thanks go to *Feedstuffs* magazine

for sponsoring Trent as NIAA's annual meeting banquet speaker."

While Loos could spend his entire speaking career reaching out to those in non-agriculture, Loos has a reason for staying within agriculture as well: "From special interest groups to bioterrorism, there are many factors affecting the future of food production as we know it. It is vital that we keep up on what is going on in the world in order to ensure the safety and longevity of our industry," he states.

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Cloning Remains in the Spotlight

After years of detailed study and analysis, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has concluded that meat and milk from clones of cattle, swine and goats—as well as the offspring of clones from any species traditionally consumed as food—are as safe to eat as food from conventionally bred animals. Sheep was not included on the list at this point due to insufficient information for the agency to reach a conclusion.

On Jan. 15, the FDA issued three documents on animal cloning outlining the

agency's regulatory approach—a risk assessment, a risk management plan and guidance for industry.

"After reviewing additional data and the public comments in the intervening year since the release of our draft documents on cloning, we conclude that meat and milk from cattle, swine and goat clones are as safe as food we eat every day," said Stephen F. Sundlok, DVM, PhD, director of FDA's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition. "Our additional review strengthens

SEE *Cloning in Spotlight* | PAGE 5

Fair Oaks Farms Tour Available to NIAA Annual Meeting Attendees

Individuals planning to attend the 2008 Annual Meeting of the National Institute for Animal Agriculture, April 1-3, in Indianapolis, Ind., are welcome to arrive a day early and participate in a Monday, March 31, tour of Fair Oaks Farms, a super large family farm that produces enough milk to supply the 3 million citizens of Chicago.

"Fair Oaks Farms is a fully integrated dairy that takes a 'From Grass-to-Glass™' approach," states Dr. Rafael Seneriz, chair of NIAA's Indiana Host Committee. "The company showcases a full and direct responsibility to care for the land, the crops, the cows and the safety, security and quality of the food-chain and care for the Fair Oaks Farms extended family of hard working employees."

"During the tour, we'll also have the opportunity to learn more about the company's *Ethics in Excellence* philosophy founded and endorsed by the owners of Fair Oaks Farms—the Bos, den Dulk, McCloskey, Schakel, and Van Ravenswaay families."

The guided bus tour of Fair Oaks Farms will include stops at a birthing barn where about five to seven calves are born



each day, the milking parlor where 72 cows are milked at one time and the cheese factory where award-winning cheese is made right before our eyes. We'll also drive through one of the farm's 10 barns of 3,000 Holstein cows, view some of the farm's 2,500 heifers and learn about its total mixed ration where ingredients are grown on the farm. Plus participants will see how manure produces electricity and fertilizer.

"This tour is a great opportunity to see a first-rate dairy, sample and purchase tasty cheeses and other dairy products and to spend time with other individuals involved in animal agriculture," states Michele Vise-Brown, NIAA's Chief Executive Officer.

The tour bus will depart the Annual Meeting hotel at 9:00 a.m. and return around 5:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

Cost for the tour, which is open only to NIAA Annual Meeting attendees and their guests, is \$25 per person, and pre-registration is required. To register for the tour and/or the NIAA Annual Meeting, April 1-3, in Indianapolis, call (270) 782-9798 or visit online at www.animalagriculture.org. ■



FDA Addressing Dextran Shortage

The Food and Drug Administration is aware of the shortage of the injectable drug, iron dextran, for the prevention and treatment of iron deficiency in baby pigs and is working with sponsors to exercise discretion on a case-by-case basis regarding importing iron dextran into the United States from foreign sources.

Injectable iron dextran is approved by FDA for the prevention and treatment of iron deficiency anemia in baby pigs. Because injectable iron dextran is considered a medically necessary drug for this indication, and a shortage could result in undue animal suffering and disruption in the swine industry, FDA is working with sponsors to make adequate supplies of the drug available to treat newborn pigs. ■

NIAA Printed Material 'Goes Green'

The National Institute for Animal Agriculture does more than talk the talk when it encourages best practices in environmental stewardship. NIAA also walks the walk, and proof is the organization's use of only recycled paper and soy ink for its printed material.

"These two eco-friendly business solutions—printing with soy inks and using recycled paper—are two steps NIAA can make to improve our overall environmental impact," states Michele Vise-Brown, NIAA Chief Executive Officer. "Soy ink is an agricultural-based ink and comes as a blessing to prevent the degradation of the environment. Recovering fiber from paper and recycling into new paper has numerous eco-friendly advantages, including helping to build a papermaking path out of forests, preserving them for more long-lasting goals."

"Going green with our printed material simply underscores the organization's dedication to

environmental stewardship."

Approximately 90 percent of U.S. newspapers now use soy ink while only about 25 percent of U.S. print shops use soy ink.

Research shows that, in addition to reducing demand on forests, recycled paper uses less total energy, saves water, uses less bleach, produces fewer toxic releases and reduces waste that otherwise must be landfilled or incinerated. The fiber efficiency rate of recycled paper is more than 70 percent compared to 23 percent to 45 percent for virgin papers.

The bottom line is that multiple life-cycle analyses show that recycled paper is better for the environment, even when accounting for transportation.

Changing to recycled paper for the publication you are reading, *Animal Agriculture Quarterly*, will have an impact on the

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Arizona Dept. of Ag Lists Missing Livestock on the Web

Individuals in Arizona who have lost livestock now have another source for help in finding their animals. The source is the Internet and a new website, www.azda.gov/lostfound, developed and managed by the Arizona Department of Agriculture.

In addition to listing livestock lost, the website lists livestock that have been found. Individuals who have found stray livestock are urged to go to www.azda.gov/lostfound to find out who has lost livestock and the animals' rightful owners.

Brad Cowan, livestock officer for the Arizona Department of Agriculture, explains that the department has been posting "found" posters about stray livestock for years in an attempt to locate a stray animal's owner. Now,

in addition to the age-old practice of tacking up "found" posters in feed stores and other businesses frequented by livestock owners, information about the animal will also be posted online.

Cowan says posting the animal on the Internet allows people to see what animals have been found.

"Getting this information on the Internet to a broader audience will help more owners find their animals," Cowan states.

The new website has a "View lost & found livestock animals" button at the bottom of the page. When the button is clicked, a complete listing of lost and found animals is provided. Information includes animal type (horse, cattle, ostrich, etc.), county where found/lost, date

found/lost, description of the animal and a photo of the animal.

If the department is unable to locate the stray animal's rightful owner within two weeks, the animal will be sold at auction.

Livestock listed on the website include cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, emus, ostriches, llamas, alpacas, bison, domestic deer and domestic elk.

"One of the reasons we're doing this is to let people know what we do, as well as hoping to make ourselves more visible," stated Ed Hermes, spokesperson for the Arizona Department of Agriculture. "We want people to know who they need to call and what the process is." ■

Unique Hog Could Lead to Cures for Human Disease

Researchers are turning to a breed of hog to help them find cures for common human diseases. The Ossabaw Island hog, a breed with less than 200 on the mainland, is biologically unique, having been shaped by natural selection in a challenging environment known for heat, humidity and seasonal scarcity of food. Though the pigs may be as small as 100 pounds, they adapted to the food cycle on the island, enabling them to store astounding amounts of body fat in order to survive during the spring season, when there is a dearth of food.

"They're relatively healthy if they're on a lean diet and remain active," says Dr. Mike Sturek, of the University School of Medicine. "But, if they take the couch potato sort of angle and eat too much food and don't do any exercise, then they really display a gross propensity to obesity."

Purdue researchers noted that the physiology of the Ossabaw hog is so human-like that they make ideal study subjects for human diseases. On the medical side hogs and people are alike in that both eat a lot, have an increased risk of insulin resistance, high blood pressure and excess belly fat. Plus, pigs with clogged arteries receive the same life-saving therapies used on people.

"Our main emphasis really is what happens with the metabolic syndrome and



diabetes and how does that actually elicit excess coronary artery disease," Dr. Sturek states.

Another area of study, Dr. Rebecca Krisher of Purdue University points out, is the ovaries. She explains that the ovaries of the Ossabaw hog, "in some cases, do become cystic, that they are heavier on average, they're longer on average." These are characteristics of Poly-Cystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS), which is a common cause of infertility in women. Thus, if the hogs prove to develop the disease, it could lead to a first-ever cure for PCOS.

"There is no other good PCOS model, and that's one reason why the Ossabaw pigs are so important," Dr. Krisher states.

Purdue researchers have a goal of breeding the pigs for research purposes.

Background of Ossabaw Island Hog

Spanish explorers brought a population of pigs to the Americas in the 1500s, and these pigs became the foundation population for both domestic and feral pigs in the southern United States. One of these important and unusual breeds is the Ossabaw, a feral breed found on Ossabaw Island off the coast of Georgia near Savannah.

The Ossabaw is the closest genetic representative of historic Spanish stocks because the population remained on the island where it did not come into contact with mainland breeds. However, as the pigs, adapted to the island, they became smaller, a process called insular dwarfism.

The Ossabaw is usually black, although some are black with white spots or light with black spots. The adults are hairy with heavy frayed bristles on the head, neck, and topline. Their heads and shoulders are heavy but this does not prevent them from being fast and agile in the dense undergrowth of the island.

Due to quarantine restrictions, the animals cannot be imported directly from Ossabaw Island. However small groups of these hogs, descendants from those brought from the island in the 1970s, can be found on the mainland. The American Livestock Breeds Conservancy estimates that fewer than 200 individuals remain on the mainland, though many more can be found on the island itself. ■

Traceability Requires Industry Participation

Traceability is the key to protecting animal health and marketability, and, in order to respond quickly and effectively to a single incident or a full-scale outbreak, animal health officials need to know which animals are involved, where they are located and what other animals might have been exposed.

"The sooner reliable data is available, affected animals can be located, appropriate response measures can be established and disease spread can be halted," states NAIS program coordinator Neil Hammerschmidt.

While retrieving animal location and movement data within a 48-hour window is optimal for efficient, effective disease containment, the current U.S. animal disease traceability infrastructure falls short of this 48-hour objective. As such, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is focusing on opportunities to bolster disease tracing capabilities by increasing the quantity and quality of animal identification data and the efficient use of evolving technology solutions.

The National Animal Identification System (NAIS)—developed in partnership with state animal health authorities, industry and USDA—is designed to facilitate progress toward improved traceability. NAIS cuts across species and extends the benefits of animal identification and disease tracing beyond livestock participating in a particular disease program.

Challenges with Traceability

Although traceability is the answer to protecting animal health and marketability, challenges exist within animal agriculture. Three of the key challenges are listed below.

1) Participation in active disease programs has decreased as diseases have been eradicated.

- This decrease is most apparent in the cattle industry.
- In the past, when livestock diseases like brucellosis were widespread, cattle were commonly tested and vaccinated.
- The process included officially identifying those animals and recording their information in state and federal animal health systems, creating a high level of traceability for the cattle industry.
- Today, however, less than 12 percent of our cattle population is vaccinated for brucellosis.

2) Information that is maintained by many sources must be accessed quickly.

- States, industry, and USDA maintain

separate animal identification information systems.

- Current animal identification and data collection approaches typically address individual objectives, such as specific disease eradication programs, interstate commerce, breed registries and age and source verification.

- An animal can be identified multiple times yet still not be fully traceable in a disease event because separate programs use distinct herd and flock identification protocols.

3) Animal disease traceability varies by species.

- The availability of unique individual animal identification data that results from management, transportation, and marketing practices varies within each species sector.
- The level of vertical integration within an industry sector directly affects that industry's ability to conduct timely and efficient disease tracebacks.

The Way Forward

USDA has released "A Business Plan to Advance Animal Disease Traceability" which details recommended strategies and actions aimed to harmonize existing state/federal regulated and voluntary animal health programs, industry-administered animal health and marketing programs, and various animal identification techniques.

Specifically, this plan recognizes key items for achieving progress toward a comprehensive traceability infrastructure:

1) Prioritize species and sectors to ensure resources are applied where traceability advances are needed most.

- Priority species—and sectors within species—to include all major food animals: cattle, swine, poultry, sheep, and goats, along with select equine sectors. Emphasis is placed on animals that move within commerce and that are commingled with animals from other premises, not on movements within premises or for local events.

2) Harmonize government and industry animal identification programs by creating compatible processes and applying common data standards.

- Separate systems maintained by states, industry and USDA will be able to "speak" to each other when essential animal

location and movement information is needed to respond to a disease outbreak.

- This approach conserves time, money, and effort by drawing from systems and data already in place.

- The approach also maintains the flexibility required by individual States, industry associations, and other entities to use animal identification for multiple purposes.

3) Standardize data elements of disease programs to ensure compatibility.

- By standardizing data elements in existing disease programs, USDA will greatly enhance disease tracing and emergency response capabilities.

4) Integrate automated data capture technology with animal disease programs.

- By using NAIS-compliant identification devices that support automated data capture and integrating handheld computers/readers to replace paper-based forms, animal health officials will increase the volume and quality of the data, minimize errors and speed data entry into searchable databases.

5) Partner with states, tribes, and territories to facilitate the development of each state's animal disease traceability infrastructure.

- State animal health officials will administer localized plans reflecting animal health priorities in their region.

6) Collaborate with industry organizations and animal health officials to accelerate the adoption of practices that will advance traceability.

- In partnership with USDA, non-profit industry organizations will promote premises registration within various species groups.
- Accredited veterinarians, in collaboration with USDA, will adopt NAIS data standards in everyday animal health management and disease program activities at the producer level.

7) Establish performance standards for ID devices and evaluate emerging technology with emphasis on systems that can operate at the "speed of commerce."

USDA's Commitment

USDA is committed to improving and increasing the United States' national animal disease tracing capabilities. Based upon recent animal disease detections, both here and abroad, it is

clear that USDA must be able to respond as quickly as possible to contain diseases and minimize losses. By building a practical, flexible, modern animal identification and disease tracing system, USDA will ensure that U.S. livestock remains the healthiest in the world.

Recent Animal Disease Costs

Bovine Tuberculosis (TB):

- Since 2002, detections in Arizona, California, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico and Texas have required the destruction of more than 25,000 cattle. A new detection in June in New Mexico will add to this total.
- USDA has spent approximately \$130 million on owner indemnification and control activities.
- Producers are financially affected by strict movement controls applied after new detections.
- Since 2004, USDA has tested 787,000 animals in response to TB outbreaks.

Exotic Newcastle Disease (2002):

- Confirmed in California and quickly spread to the neighboring states of Arizona, Nevada and Texas.
- Largest animal disease outbreak in the United States in 30 years. It took 10 months to eradicate the disease at a cost of \$180 million.
- Poultry producers, both commercial and backyard flock owners, lost 4 million birds during extensive depopulation activities.

Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) (2003):

- USDA spent \$5 million on its epidemiology investigation, depopulation and initial response.
- The United States lost 80 percent of its foreign beef trade.
- As part of the effort to regain access to foreign markets, USDA spent approximately \$189 million on the enhanced BSE surveillance program.

Congress Cuts NAIS Budget for FY 08

Congress trimmed the Bush administration's budget request of \$33.2 million for the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) in fiscal year 2008 to just \$9.75 million. That's a cut of more than two-thirds.

It is unclear what the impact of the decision by Congress to slash funding will be. Another unknown is whether sufficient carryover money will be available to make-up the difference between the Bush administration's budget request for NAIS and the funding actually approved by Congress.

NIAA Annual Meeting Schedule*

Monday, March 31

7:30 am - 5:00 pm Registration
9:00 am - 5:30 pm Indiana Tour – Fair Oaks Farms

Tuesday, April 1

7:00 am - 8:00 am Continental Breakfast
7:00 am - 5:00 pm Registration
8:00 am - 12:00 pm Opening General Session
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Lunch Break
1:30 pm - 5:00 pm Section I: Committee Seminars & Business Meetings

- Animal Care
- Animal Health Emergency Management
- Cattle Health
- Sheep & Goat Health

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm "Welcome to Indiana" Reception

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm NIAA Annual Membership Meeting & Annual Recognition Banquet

Wednesday, April 2

7:00 am - 8:00 am Continental Breakfast
7:00 am - 5:00 pm Registration
8:00 am - 11:30 am Section II: Committee Seminars & Business Meetings

- Animal Health & International Trade
- Animal Production Food Safety & Security
- Equine Health

11:30 am - 1:30 pm Lunch Break
1:30 pm - 5:00 pm Section III: Committee Seminars & Business Meetings

- Animal Identification & Information Systems & Subcommittee Equine ID
- Emerging Diseases
- Swine Health
- Poultry Health

Thursday, April 3

7:00 am - 8:00 am Continental Breakfast
7:30 am - 12:00 pm Registration
8:00 am - 4:00 pm ID•INFO Workshop

*See www.animalagriculture.org for the most up-to-date detailed schedule.

Cloning in Spotlight

(cont'd from page 1)

our conclusions on food safety. (Editor's Note: More information about the FDA's stand can be found at www.fda.gov/cvm/cloning.htm)

In the meantime, the Senate-passed farm bill calls for more time to review the impact of bringing cloned food into the nation's food supply and requires two studies to be completed by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) before the FDA can issue its final decision on allowing cloned food in the marketplace. NAS is to convene the nation's top scientists to review the FDA's initial decision that food from cloned animals is safe.

The proposed farm bill also requires the NAS to study the "potential health impacts" if cloned foods are allowed to enter the food supply, including the "possibility of an increase in people developing chronic diseases" if they consume less milk for fear of cloned animals. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is to examine consumer acceptance of cloned

foods and the impact they could have on domestic and international markets.

Tracking System

Two U.S. livestock cloning companies—ViaGen and TransOva Genetics—have developed a tracking system and database that allow food companies to identify a cloned animal as it moves through the food supply chain from farm to slaughterhouse. The system would give each cloned animal a unique ID that can be entered into a registry and used by livestock auction markets and packers and processors to identify the animal.

The database would make it easier for companies to show consumers that their products do not come from cloned animals.

The new tracking program was developed over the last year with members from the food industry. The companies said the owner of a cloned animal would pay a deposit, about \$1,000 for a cow or bull, on top of what they pay for the clone, to ensure they

STUDENTS - Get involved NOW and learn the "what," "so what" and "now what" regarding animal agriculture issues. See the NIAA website www.animalagriculture.org for special discounted annual meeting registration rate for students, or call NIAA at 270-782-9798.

news briefs news briefs news briefs news briefs news briefs news briefs

IN BOAH Names New Assistant Director of Meat & Poultry Inspection

David Bough, DVM, has been named Assistant Director of the Meat & Poultry Inspection Division for the Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH). Dr. Bough (pronounced "boo") comes to BOAH with more than 25 years of



DR. DAVID BOUGH

experience in private veterinary practice, most of those at the Lafayette Veterinary Hospital. Although Dr. Bough's career has focused primarily on small animal medicine, he said he is excited about the shift to the food animal sector and the opportunity to apply his clinical skills to working with meat inspectors and processors to ensure a safe food supply.

Dr. Myers to NVS Team

Dr. Lee Myers is the newest member of the National Center for Animal Health Emergency management, National Veterinary Stockpile (NVS) team, serving as State and Federal Liaison Officer. Her responsibilities include working with State Veterinarians and Departments of Agriculture to plan for requesting and receiving NVS critical veterinary supplies and equipment and assisting NVS outreach and exercise programs. She is also the point of contact for the NVS with the Strategic National Stockpile, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta where she is stationed.

Change in Leadership at 2 Animal Health Companies

Eli Lilly Co.'s Elanco Animal Health has a new president: **Jeff Simmons**. Simmons, who most recently served as Elanco's executive director of U.S. operations and global research and development, took the reins of Elanco on Jan. 1. Elanco's former president, Pat James, remains involved in agriculture and is now the special adviser on agriculture corporate development to the Indiana State Department of Agriculture.

Fort Dodge Animal Health also has a new president. **Richard DeLuca** became Fort

Dodge's new president on Jan. 1, replacing E. Thomas Corcoran who retired after serving as president of FDAH for 23 years. DeLuca had been with FDAH's parent company since 1988, last serving as COO at FDAH.

Dr. Vogel Moves from Interim to 'Official'

Dr. Lyle P. Vogel was elected by the American Veterinary Medical Association Executive Board Nov. 15 as the Association's assistant executive vice president. Dr. Vogel had been serving in an interim capacity since August. Dr. Vogel is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine and has won many awards, including the AVMA President's Award and a special citation from the Food and Drug Administration commissioner in the area of combating antimicrobial resistance.

Prusacki New Director of NASS Stat Division

Joseph J. Prusacki has been named director of the Statistics Division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), NASS Administrator Ron Bosecker announced today. Prusacki succeeds Steve Wiyatt, who retired Jan. 3 after 34 years of service to NASS.

As Statistics Division director, Prusacki will be responsible for the forecasts and estimates published in nearly 500 national statistical reports each year covering all facets of U.S. agriculture. He also replaces Wiyatt as executive director of the Agricultural Statistics Board.

NASS Administrator Ron Bosecker Retires

R. Ronald Bosecker, administrator of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (USDA/NASS), retired January 3, after nearly 43 years of service to American agriculture. During his tenure, Bosecker fostered the growth of collaborative efforts between NASS and other USDA agencies that contributed to more efficient data collection and strengthened partnerships throughout the department. He also significantly increased NASS' outreach efforts to minority and limited-resource farm operators, thereby improving USDA's efforts to

deliver programs and services to previously underserved populations. In addition, Bosecker was instrumental in the development of new methodology that significantly improved Census of Agriculture results and led to the first census that completed the coverage for all components of U.S. agriculture in each county.

Joseph T. Reilly, currently NASS's associate administrator, will serve as acting administrator until a permanent successor to Bosecker is selected.

Demand for Food Animal Veterinarians to Exceed Supply

Demand for food animal veterinarians is anticipated to increase by approximately 12 percent through 2016. Estimates by the Food Supply Veterinary Medicine, however, show that not all of these jobs will be filled. Shortages of about 5 percent each are expected to occur.

"These numbers might not seem very dramatic, but, with all the demands on food supply veterinarians, it's not like that slack can be picked up very easily," said David Kirkpatrick, an American Veterinary Medical Association spokesman. The organization has been lobbying the federal government to fund increases in the size of veterinary schools and pay for student loan forgiveness.

About 2,500 new veterinarians graduate each year nationwide. About 14 percent of 2007 graduates nationwide actually went into large animal or mixed animal practices.

2006 Annual U.S. Animal Health Report Available

The 2006 annual report on U.S. animal health, prepared by USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, is available at www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/content/printable_version/06_AHReport_508.pdf. The 192-page Bulletin No. 801 is the third such report that provides a wide-ranging review of the health of domestic animal resources in the United States.

"The report highlights significant epidemiologic events of 2006 and provides insight into the nation's animal health surveillance activities. In addition, the report presents an update on programs, both new and existing that strive to maintain healthy livestock,

NIAA welcomes the following new and renewing members!

NEW MEMBERS

State-level Associations & Publicly Supported Institutions/Agencies

Alabama A&M University, Dept. of Food & Animal Science
 Dr. Gamaleden Abdelrahim
 PO Box 1628
 Normal, AL 35762

Affiliate Membership (NonVoting)

Applied Biosystems
 2130 Woodward Street
 Austin, TX 78744

Fur Commission USA

826 Orange Avenue, PMB 506
 Coronado, CA 92118

Pennsylvania State University

324 Henning Building
 Dept. of Dairy & Animal Science
 University Park, PA 16802

RENEWING MEMBERS

National Associations & Commercial Organizations

American Association of Avian Pathologists
 American Farm Bureau Federation
 American Quarter Horse Association
 American Veterinary Medical Association
 Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
 Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc.
 Cargill Meat Solutions
 Cattle-Traq
 FoodlogiQ
 Hawkeye Steel Products
 Ketchum Manufacturing, Inc.
 Livestock Marketing Association
 Murphy-Brown LLC
 National Band & Tag Company
 National Livestock Producers Association
 Pfizer Animal Health Inc.
 The Crystal Import Corporation
 WestfaliaSurge, Inc.

State-level Associations & Publicly Supported Institutions/Agencies

Arkansas Farm Bureau
 Cornell University Animal Health Diagnostic Center
 Florida Farm Bureau Federation

Illinois Beef Association
 Illinois Milk Producers Association
 Illinois Pork Council
 Iowa Farm Bureau Federation
 Kansas Farm Bureau
 Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine
 Kentucky Beef Network
 Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation, Inc.
 Maine Department of Agriculture
 Michigan Farm Bureau Federation
 Michigan State University Diagnostic Center for Population & Animal Health
 Minnesota Pork Board
 Mississippi Board of Animal Health
 Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine
 New Jersey Department of Agriculture
 New York Department of Agriculture & Markets
 Ohio Department of Agriculture
 Texas Animal Health Commission
 The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine
 The Ohio State University Department of Animal Science
 Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, & Markets

West Virginia Department of Agriculture
 Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, & Consumer Protection
 Wyoming Livestock Board

Individual Members (Self-employed)

Mr. John B. Adams
 Mr. Jeff Galle
 Mr. Robert Jameson
 Dr. William G. Queen
 Dr. Don Sanders
 Mr. Joel VanGilst
 Mr. Max Waldo

Affiliate Membership (NonVoting)

American Dairy Goat Association
 Chembio Diagnostic Systems, Inc.
 Diachemix, LLC
 Feedlot Health Management Services
 Fleishman-Hillard
 GrowSafe Systems, Ltd
 Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association
 Midwest MicroSystems LLC
 National Meat Association
 Optimal Agriculture Consulting, Inc.
 Mr. Dan Simmons
 Temple Tag, Ltd.

Species-Specific Health Reports Moving from Print to Electronic

Be in the know about animal health initiatives, strategies, research and regulatory action by subscribing to one or more of the available five species-specific Health Reports: Cattle Health Report (beef and dairy), Equine Health Report, Poultry Health Report, Sheep & Goat Health Report and/or Swine Health Report. The Health Reports are underwritten by the USDA.

The Spring issues will be the last time the Health Reports are mailed as hard copies. Starting with the Summer issues, all Health Reports will be sent as e-newsletters.

The NIAA newsletter Animal Agriculture Quarterly will remain available as a hard copy and available electronically also—it's your choice. Please indicate below how you would like to receive Animal Agriculture Quarterly.

To subscribe, maintain your subscription or be deleted from the mailing list, you can do any of the following: call the National Institute for Animal Agriculture at 270-782-9798, go to the

publications' page on the website www.animalagriculture.org under the Publications tab and email us using the request form, or complete the form below and fax it to NIAA at 270-782-0188.

I would like to subscribe to the FREE Health Reports that I have checked:

<input type="checkbox"/> Cattle Health Report	<input type="checkbox"/> Sheep & Goat Health Report
<input type="checkbox"/> Poultry Health Report	<input type="checkbox"/> Animal Agriculture Quarterly
<input type="checkbox"/> Swine Health Report	<input type="checkbox"/> print <input type="checkbox"/> electronic
<input type="checkbox"/> Equine Health Report	<input type="checkbox"/> All

Name _____
 Email _____
 Organization _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Please state your connection to animal agriculture _____

NIAA 'Goes Green'

(cont'd from page 2)

environment. Just this one paper stock change will result in these environmental savings for just one year of printing:

- 1.76 trees preserved for the future
- 5.09 lbs. waterborne waste not created
- 749 gallons of wastewater flow saved
- 83 lbs. solid waste not generated
- 163 lbs. net greenhouse gases prevented
- 1,249,500 btu's energy not consumed

"Additional savings occur when you consider that recycled paper will also be used for other educational material printed by NIAA," Vise-Brown adds.

Soy ink use in the printing industry is another save, environmentally friendly step. Soy ink is also a helpful component in paper recycling as the soy ink can be removed more easily than regular ink from paper during the de-inking process. This allows the recycled paper to have less damage to its paper fibers. In addition, the waste left from the soy ink during the de-inking process is not hazardous. ■

News Briefs

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poultry and aquaculture populations," states John Clifford, deputy administrator for Veterinary Services.

FSIS Alters *E. coli* Inspection Program

USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has implemented a more risk-based inspection program for *E. coli* in raw ground beef. Under the new procedure, which took effect in early January, FSIS will take into account how much ground beef an establishment processes and whether the plant had any positive results within the preceding 120 days. The agency promised stepped-up inspection after last fall's recall of nearly 22 million pounds of ground beef from one company, the Topps Meat Co. ■

Cloning in Spotlight

(cont'd from page 5)

follow proper marketing and disposal of the animal. The farmer or breeder would get the deposit back after the death of the animal, consumption by owner or sale to a meat packer or processor. ■

Attention Animal Agriculture

Clone producers, livestock breeders and farmers and ranchers purchasing clones are asked to read the FDA-issued guidance for industry. This document provides the agency's current thinking on use of clones and their offspring in human food or animal feed and addresses the use of food and feed products derived from clones and their offspring.



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