



News Release

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Contact: Teres Lambert
847-838-2966
tlambert@animalagriculture.org



Dr. Robert Fourdraine Named Vice Chairman of NIAA

BOWLING GREEN, KY— Dr. Robert Fourdraine, chief operating officer of the Wisconsin Livestock Identification Consortium, was elected Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Institute for Animal Agriculture at the organization's annual meeting on April 1-3, in Indianapolis, Ind. NIAA's Board of Directors guides the organization's 232 members from the beef, dairy, swine, sheep, goat, equine and poultry industries. Membership includes national and state livestock, poultry and equine organizations as well as veterinarians, government regulatory personnel, academia, researchers, extension specialists, producers and allied industry businesses and organizations.

"Robert is an incredibly intelligent and dedicated individual," states Michele Vise-Brown, NIAA's Chief Executive Officer. "He is a great leader who can accomplish many goals in involving others and encouraging them to work collaboratively."

"He was elected to the NIAA board just last year and, in this short time, has exhibited the knowledge and management and leadership skills that make him extremely valuable to the NIAA Board of Directors. He is known throughout animal agriculture as 'Mr. Animal ID.'"

Fourdraine has made a positive impact on NIAA, first as vice chairman and then as chairman of the organization's Animal Identification and Information Systems Committee. His professional background has always been strongly connected to animal identification. He led the development of the National Farm Animal Identification and Records (FAIR) program for the Holstein Association USA Inc. and, before that, was responsible for developing software packages that analyze and evaluation Dairy Herd Improvement records for the Texas DHIA.

The National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA) mission is to provide forums for building consensus and advancing solutions for animal agriculture and to provide continuing education and communication linkages to animal agriculture professionals. NIAA is dedicated to programs that work towards the eradication of animal diseases that pose risk to the health of animals, wildlife and humans; promote a safe and wholesome food supply for our nation and abroad; and promote best practices in environmental stewardship, animal health and well being. NIAA members represent producers, veterinarians, scientists, state and federal officials, and business executives. More information is available at www.animalagriculture.org.

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1910 Lyda Avenue • Bowling Green, Kentucky 42104-5809 • Phone 270-782-9798 • Fax 270-782-0188
E-mail: NIAA@animalagriculture.org • Web Address: www.animalagriculture.org