



2014-2015 Annual Report

NIAA National Institute for
Animal Agriculture



From Your Chairman



With sincere thanks and admiration to all our members, our leadership team and our staff, I am privileged to report that the National Institute for Animal Agriculture enjoyed another successful and profitable year serving the animal agriculture industry. NIAA has continued its hard work by focusing on the core mission — bringing people together to find solutions and come to consensus on the many issues facing our industry today.

The Precautionary Principle: How Animal Agriculture Will Thrive was the theme of last year's Annual Conference in Omaha. The purpose was to look at how to initiate preventive action as a response to scientific uncertainty, shift the burden of proof to the proponents of a potentially harmful activity, explore alternative means to achieve the same goal and involve stakeholders in the decision making process. The attendees learned

that the demand for food for a hungry world will require not only innovation but that consumers trust agricultural innovations and view them as helpful and not harmful.

Also during the annual conference, NIAA and US Animal Health Association hosted a Joint Forum on Trichomoniasis Standards. Cattle producers, veterinarians and scientists discussed the disease, its history and past management practices. Based on the economic impact of the disease, new practices were developed to better prevent and treat the disease that has troubled cattle producers for years.

Another critical discussion at the Annual Conference led us to the Antibiotics Symposium held in Atlanta this past November. NIAA's team has done an excellent job of filling an important need through our Antibiotics Symposia over the past four years. The human and animal health committees are continuing to come together to discuss the need for shared antibiotic stewardship and the effects of antibiotics resistance. This year was no exception as this symposium hosted more speakers from the human health community and clearly showed the need for all professionals to work together to minimize antimicrobial resistance.

It was also a year of great progress for our newest committee as the Aquatic Livestock Committee hosted its first ever stakeholder meeting held in Denver this past October. The focus was on developing a definition for sustainability for seafood producers. Working closely with Dr. Marty Matlock, Executive Director of the Office of Sustainability at the University of Arkansas, metrics are being developed to increase the sustainability, productivity and profitability of seafood production in the US. With over 92 percent of seafood being imported into the US, there is a large market for US producers to engage. NIAA has taken on the challenge in moving into a dynamic future with the creation of the National Roundtable for Sustainable Aquaculture, with its first meeting being held following our Annual Conference in Indianapolis.

The strength of the NIAA directly correlates to the contribution of volunteers. And, the volunteers have cultivated a brand that will continue to have a bright future, and it has been an honor to work with all of you over the past year.

As the saying goes...The strength of many greatly outweighs the strength of one.

I am excited to be part of the future that we can create together through our commitment and engagement with NIAA and across all of animal agriculture.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Glenn Fischer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Glenn Fischer

NIAA Board of Directors

Overview

NIAA provides animal agriculture professionals with knowledge that will lead to improvement in food animal production, thus creating a more safe and wholesome food supply, improved animal care and handling, and the eradication of costly diseases that threaten the health of the country's domestic animal population.

The National Institute for Animal Agriculture is a non-profit, membership-driven organization that unites and advances animal agriculture—the aquatic livestock, beef, dairy, equine, goat, poultry, sheep and swine industries.

NIAA's Board of Directors represents a cross-section of this membership: state and national association leadership, private practice and government veterinarians, extension specialists, academia, researchers, state and national government regulatory personnel, producers and allied business professionals. NIAA's volunteer Board of Directors governs the organization, provides continuity for the organization, monitors programs and services and accounts to the members and the public for the operations and services of the organization and expenditures of its funds.

Executive Committee



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of Food and
Agriculture



**Ex-Officio (Past
Chairman)**
Dr. Annette Jones
California Department
of Food and
Agriculture

2014 Annual Conference Overview



2014 Annual Conference & NIAA/USAHA Joint Forum on Trichomoniasis Standards

The theme of “Precautionary Principle: How Animal Agriculture Will Thrive” held March 31 - April 3, 2014 in Omaha, NE was spot-on for this conference as this principle is being utilized by some governments to make regulatory decisions.

It is a strategy to cope with possible risks where scientific understanding is yet incomplete, such as the risks of nano-technology, genetically modified organisms and systemic insecticides.

How animal agriculture deals with the impacts of the precautionary principle now and in the future will dictate how innovative and competitive US agriculture will be in the global marketplace.

Opening General Session speaker Mark Walton, PhD, Chief Marketing Officer for Recombinetics said the Precautionary Principle, which is based on a “better to be safe than sorry” approach to regulation, is not a “bad idea.” But, when the Precautionary Principle becomes twisted and diverts progress due to prejudices, he contends that it is not accomplishing what it was designed to do.

Walton identified several challenges associated with policy being set when the Precautionary Principle is taken to the extreme. Among the challenges he shared are “who gets to decide what risks warrant not moving a product forward” and why fear-instilled, perceived risks voiced by activist groups take precedence over fact-based evidence such as research and science findings. Adding to the concern is that “there is no single, generally agreed-to definition of the Precautionary Principle.”

Closing General Session speakers Ron Stotish, PhD, President and Chief Executive Officer of AquaBounty Technologies, and Dave Edwards, PhD, Director of Animal Biotechnology, agree that the Precautionary Principle applied to the extreme can halt progress. Edwards didn’t leave those in animal agriculture off the hook. He stressed that it is animal agriculture’s job to be open and transparent, communicate with consumers and convince others that the technology used is safe.

Planning Committee Co-Chairs

Leah C. Dorman, DVM
Senior Director of Animal & Food Policy,
Ohio Farm Bureau

Ms. Betsy Flores
Government Relations,
Vice President Dairy Foods & Nutrition,
National Milk Producers Federation



NIAA/USAHA Joint Forum on Trichomoniasis Standards

USAHA and NIAA partnered to develop the “Forum on Trichomoniasis Standards” which took place April 3rd, 2014, the last day of the 2014 Annual Conference.

The Forum allowed state veterinarians, animal health officials and other interested individuals to discuss challenges and develop solutions regarding more standardized rules intended to prevent introduction of trichomoniasis into cattle herds. To date, inconsistency in individual state requirements creates burdensome barriers to seedstock trade, and harmonization can help eliminate this burden.

Forum attendees pinpointed several areas where harmonization among states could have significant value:

- Test results being valid for 60 days as long as a bull has not been exposed to breeding-age females.
- Using PCR as the defining test, knowing new test methods may broaden accepted test method.
- Approving the pooling of samples in the laboratory.
- Defining “virgin status/age,” with 24-month-old virgin bulls as a starting point for further discussions.
- Developing standards for the shipping of samples, including acceptable temperature range and maximum time frame parameters from collection to in the hands of the laboratory.
- Veterinarian certification regarding the collection of samples.
- Management of infected cows—from movement to communication with markets.
- Follow-up with infected herds.
- Increased collaboration among diagnostic laboratories.



Planning Committee Co-Chairs

Lewis “Bud” Dinges, DVM, Clinical Assistant Professor, Texas A&M University

Carl Heckendorf, DVM, Director of Livestock Disease and Animal Health, Colorado Department of Agriculture



National Roundtable for Sustainable Aquaculture Stakeholders Meeting

Key contributors came together in Denver, CO. October 7th, 2014 in an effort to develop a sustainable and robust domestic aquaculture industry.

Gathering like-minded and motivated visionaries was the first step in the development of a cohesive and strategic plan to grow aquaculture in the US.

The goal of the meeting was to frame a development strategy and to develop the Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) to guide and measure progress. Additional discussion revolved around the establishment of a National Roundtable for Sustainable Seafood (NRSS). The roundtable structure has proven effective in a similar effort for global sustainable beef production and other agricultural commodities and will provide the platform for continuous improvement programs and initiative implementation.

NIAA believes that growing US aquaculture production will revitalize the livestock and seafood industries while producing safe seafood for both domestic and international consumption.

The meeting was lead by Dr. Marty Matlock, a professor of Ecological Engineering in the Biological and Agricultural Engineering Department and he serves as Executive Director for the University of Arkansas Office for Sustainability. Matlock is a registered professional engineer and a board certified environmental engineer in sustainable design. He conducts research on human impacts on ecosystem processes at the watershed level, with a focus on nutrient dynamics. Matlock serves on the US Secretary of Agriculture's AC21 Committee, the executive committee for the Field to Market Initiative for Sustainable Agriculture, and is chair of the Cherokee Nation Environmental Protection Commission. He has extensive experience with facilitating sustainability frameworks including row crops, poultry, soy bean and pork. This experience is invaluable to move the aquaculture framework forward.

How is a sustainability framework constructed?

Dr. Matlock has developed a model to construct a sustainability framework. The framework will provide direction and substance for the aquaculture industry's economic, social and environmental outcomes. This will create a foundation to guide future aquaculture sustainability priorities by clearly defining the vision, direction and goals of aquaculture producers concerning sustainability.

Key components of a Sustainability Framework include:

1. Sustainability definition
2. Key Performance Indicators (KPI)
3. Critical impact metrics for each KPI
4. Benchmark of performance for each metric
5. Goals for improvement across each metric
6. A plan for implementation of improvement strategies
7. A mechanism to measure each metric using best scientific methods at prescribed frequencies



Antibiotics Symposium 4



**Antibiotic Use and Resistance:
Moving Forward Through Shared Stewardship**

NOVEMBER 12-14, 2014 • ATLANTA, GA

hosted by **NIAA** National Institute for
Animal Agriculture

Stewardship (Noun): the activity or job of protecting and being responsible for something.

Stewardship was the theme for the 2014 NIAA Antibiotics Symposium. More specifically, the symposium focused on antibiotic use and resistance, and moving forward through shared stewardship.

The goal of the symposium was to educate attendees about minimizing resistance and maintaining antimicrobials important for animal and human health. Keynote speakers representing both the animal and human health communities identified and prioritized key resistance issues at the human and animal interface, presented stewardship programs and metrics of success to minimize resistance, and concluded with real-world solution strategies to move forward.

An integral part of the annual NIAA Antibiotics Symposium was discussion via small breakout groups and a large group session. The Symposium was open to individuals who wanted to learn from each other, engage in productive discussion and create successful strategies to preserve antibiotic efficacy.

The goals of the 2014 symposium were the same as for past symposiums:

- To build relationships among participants from different disciplines with diverse backgrounds and expertise in animal, human and environmental health, and gain a better understanding of other's perspectives.
- To lead and engage participants in an open dialogue.
- To find common ground and formulate a path forward.
- To focus on continuous improvement and commitment to long-term health (animals, people and the environment).

The 15 presentations delivered by antibiotic use and resistance experts representing animal health, human health and public health resulted in a robust dialogue and exchange of information.

Animal agriculture takes its role in this matter seriously, and NIAA will continue to provide leadership within animal agriculture and establish a platform to develop further collaboration whereby antibiotic resistance solutions can be developed from the perspective of science and not reflect a political divide between the human and animal health communities.

Symposium Planning Committee Co-Chairs

David Dargatz, DVM, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health, Ft. Collins, Colo.

Jennifer Koeman, DVM, Director, Producer and Public Health, National Pork Board

Eric Moore, DVM, Technical Services Manager, Ruminant Business Unit, Norbrook, Inc.



Committees and Councils



Aquatic Livestock Committee

To advance sustainable aquatic livestock (aquaculture) industries, by addressing key issues relevant to farmed aquatic animal health, well-being, seafood safety, public health and environmental concerns.

*Co-Chairs: Dr. David Scarfe – AVMA (American Veterinary Medical Association);
Mr. Todd Low – Hawaii Department of Agriculture*



Bovine Committee

To facilitate the development and implementation of programs to control and eradicate beef and dairy cattle diseases and programs to assure the wholesomeness of food products derived from milk and beef.

*Co-chairs: Dr. Nevil Speer, Individual Member;
Mr. Nathan Dewsberry, Life Technologies*



Equine Committee

To address key equine health issues relevant to the economic well-being of the U.S. equine industry.

*Co-Chairs: Dr. Carl Heckendorf, Colorado Department of Agriculture;
Dr. Thomas Lenz, Zoetis*



Poultry Committee

To work in cooperation with and build consensus among poultry organizations, to share educational materials and advance solutions for healthy, safe and secure poultry production.

*Co-Chairs: Dr. Hector Cervantes, Phibro Animal Health;
Dr. Terry Slaten, Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries*



Small Ruminant Committee

To work in cooperation with the sheep and goat industries to address the animal health and care challenges of those industries.

*Co-Chairs: Ms. Eileen Kuhlmann, University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine;
Mr. Paul Rodgers, American Sheep Industry Association*



Swine Committee

To develop a comprehensive swine health agenda that includes regulatory animal health, animal welfare, biosecurity and food safety assurance.

*Co-Chairs: Dr. Harry Snelson, American Association of Swine Veterinarians;
Dr. Butch Baker, Iowa State University Department of Veterinary Diagnostic & Production
Animal Medicine*



Animal Care Council

To identify and monitor issues surrounding the care and handling of livestock and to develop resources and educational materials for distribution to industry, producers, educators and other individuals interested in livestock care issues.

*Co-Chairs: Mrs. Sherrie Webb, National Pork Board;
Mr. Jim Fraley, Illinois Farm Bureau*



Animal Health Emergency Management (AHM) Council

To provide a forum for representatives from animal agriculture, the veterinary profession, governmental agencies and academia to address animal health emergency management (AHM) issues that may adversely affect animal agriculture or public health.

*Co-Chairs: Dr. Matt Cochran, Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory;
Dr. Lindsey Holmstrom, Texas A&M AgriLife Research*



Identification & Information Systems Council

To play an important role in bringing unresolved issues such as advocating cost effective technologies and systems for modernizing the identification of livestock that has significant implications for residue avoidance, disease control and providing management information to producers.

*Co-Chairs: Dr. Robert Fourdraine, AgSource Cooperative Services;
Dr. Boyd Parr, Clemson University*



Antibiotics Council

To enhance an animal agriculture industry that is aligned with judicious antibiotic use policies and practices. The mission of the Antibiotics Council of NIAA is to facilitate and encourage:

1. The judicious use of antibiotics in food animal production to ensure public health, food safety, animal health and welfare
2. Applying sound sciences the basis for decision-making and policy development regarding antibiotics in food animal production
3. Education and communication on the role, benefits, risks and most current information on antibiotic uses in food animal production
4. Leadership and partnership with food chain stakeholders (from farms to consumers to allied industry, etc.) to promote judicious antibiotic use policies and practices

*Co-Chairs: Dr. Eric Moore, Norbrook, Inc.;
Dr. Brian Lubbers, Kansas State University*



Emerging Diseases Council

Stay abreast of emerging animal diseases and educate the NIAA membership about them. Create resolutions and position statements regarding emerging animal disease issues, which are aimed at benefiting animal health and US animal agriculture.

*Co-Chairs: Dr. Carla Huston, Mississippi State University;
Dr. Lora Ballweber, Colorado State University*



Global Animal Health, Food Security & Trade Council

Identify current problems with national and international trade by cross-disciplinary discussion between government, academia, and industry and recommend solutions through the novel application of information, communication, and technology.

To enhance and assure the wholesomeness of products derived from livestock and to encourage research to identify, develop and implement management strategies to avoid and eliminate contamination from products derived by livestock.

*Co-Chairs: Dr. David Meeker, National Renderers Association;
Ms. Joy Phillippi, Virginia Pork Council*

By action of the NIAA Board of Directors and Committee concurrence, the Animal Health & International Trade and Animal Production Food Safety & Security Committees have been merged into the Global Animal Health, Food Security & Trade Council.

NIAA Membership Levels and Benefits

Overview of membership tiers

Services and Benefits

- Serve on Committees & Councils — be integrally involved in addressing key issues affecting animal agriculture
- Become a Leader— utilize talents and enhance your leadership portfolio by serving with a prominent national organization
- Voting Rights — allows you to influence industry direction
- List serves — peer-to-peer interaction and discussion on timely topics
- Receive News & Information for Animal Agriculture
- Weekly News Bulletin — stay abreast of industry news and information relating to key issues in animal agriculture
- Virtual Membership Directory — be listed with a direct link to member organization sites
- Discounts on Meeting Registrations — save money on educational meetings/conferences/continuing education opportunities

Membership in the NIAA is open to all persons and entities, subject to review and approval by the NIAA Board of Directors. Membership in the NIAA is not based on race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, religion or political beliefs. The NIAA provides a forum for open discussion on differing viewpoints affecting agriculture. However, NIAA's Board of Directors reserves the right to deny an application for membership when, in its sole discretion, it determines that an applicant's membership will be unduly disruptive or contrary to the mission and goals of the NIAA.

Membership Categories

National Associations and Commercial Organizations

Membership for organizations and corporations that operate at a national or international level, as well as federal agencies (such as USDA's APHIS and FSIS, FDA and DHS). Multiple organization contacts permitted within this membership, full voting privileges.

State Level Associations & Publicly Supported Institutions/Agencies

Membership for state government agencies, diagnostic laboratories, university-affiliated groups or associations that operate at a state level, and also federal agencies at regional locations. Multiple organization contacts permitted, full voting privileges.

Individuals (Self-Employed)

Membership for self-employed or small entities, such as producers, practitioners, retirees or others that do not fit a state or national level membership. Single contact, full voting privileges.

NIAA Mission

- Providing a forum for building consensus and advancing proactive solutions for animal agriculture.
- Providing continuing education and communication linkages to animal agriculture professionals.
- Providing a platform across animal agriculture for networking and gaining mutual insight.

NIAA's purpose is to provide a source for individuals and organizations to obtain information, education and solutions for challenges facing animal agriculture.

2014 NIAA Membership

As of March 9, 2015

National Members

American Assn of Bovine Practitioners
American Assn of Swine Veterinarians
American Assn of Vet Lab Diag
American Dairy Goat Assn
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Feed Industry Association
American Horse Council
American Humane Certified
American Sheep Industry Assn
American Veterinary Medical Assn
AquaBounty Technologies
Canadian Swine Health Board
Dairy Farmers of America, Inc.
Elanco
Federation of Animal Science Societies
Holstein Assn USA, Inc.
Livestock Marketing Assn
National Livestock Credit Corporation
National Livestock Producers Assn
National Milk Producers Federation
National Pork Board
National Pork Producers Council
National Renderers Assn, Inc.
National Swine Registry
North American Meat Assn

Commercial Organizations

AgSource Cooperative Services
Allflex (incl. Destron Fearing, SCR and Biomark)
Alltech, Inc.
APC, Inc.
Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica Inc.
Cargill Meat Solutions
Cooper Farms Inc.
Dairy Records Management Systems
Dairylea Cooperative Inc.
Darling Ingredients, Inc.
Equity Cooperative Livestock
EZ -ID/AVID ID Systems
Farm Credit
GEA WestfaliaSurge, Inc.
GlobalVetLINK
Hawkeye Steel Products, Inc.
IDEXX Laboratories, Inc.
IMI Global, Inc.

ITS Global
Life Technologies
Merck Animal Health
Moly Manufacturing, Inc
MWI Veterinary Supply
Norbrook
Ogena Solutions
Phibro Animal Health
Qiagen, Inc
Select Sires
Shook, Hardy & Bacon L.L.P.
Smith-Bucklin United Soybean Board
Temple Tag/Z Tags
VMRD
Wiechman Pig Co., Inc.
Y-TEX Corp.
Zoetis

State Members

Alabama Cattlemen's Assn
Alabama Dept of Ag & Industries
Alabama Farmers Federation
Alabama Poultry & Egg Assn
Arkansas Farm Bureau
Arkansas Livestock & Poultry Commission
California Dept of Food & Ag
Colorado Dept of Agriculture
Colorado State University
Delaware Dept of Agriculture
Florida Farm Bureau Federation
Georgia Dept of Agriculture
Hawaii Dept of Agriculture
Idaho State Dept of Agriculture
Illinois Farm Bureau
Illinois Milk Producers Assn
Illinois Pork Producers Assn
Indiana Soybean Alliance
Indiana State Board of Animal Health
Iowa Dept of Ag & Land Stewardship
Iowa Dept of Public Defense
Iowa Farm Bureau Federation
Iowa Pork Producers Assn
Iowa State University
Kansas Dept of Agriculture
Kansas Farm Bureau
Kansas State University
Kentucky Dept of Agriculture

Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation
Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation, Inc.
Michigan Dept of Ag & Rural Development
Michigan Farm Bureau Federation
Michigan Pork Producers Assn
Minnesota Board of Animal Health
Minnesota Pork Board
Mississippi Board of Animal Health
Mississippi State University
Missouri Dept of Agriculture
Montana Dept of Livestock
Nebraska Dept of Agriculture
New Jersey Dept of Agriculture
New York Dept of Ag & Markets
North Carolina Dept of Ag & Consumer Services
North Carolina Pork Council, Inc.
North Dakota Dept of Agriculture
Ohio Aquaculture Association
Ohio Dept of Agriculture
Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, Inc.
Oklahoma Dept of Ag, Food, & Forestry
Ontario Pork Producers Mktg Board
Pennsylvania Dept of Agriculture
South Dakota Animal Industry Board
South Dakota Pork Producers Council
South Dakota State University
Tennessee Dept of Agriculture
Texas Animal Health Commission
Texas Cattle Feeders Assn
Texas Christian University
Texas Farm Bureau
Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Lab
The Ohio State University
University of Minnesota
Utah State Dept of Ag
Vermont Agency of Ag
Virginia Farm Bureau Federation
Washington State Dept of Agriculture
West Virginia Dept of Agriculture
Wisconsin Dept of Ag, Trade, & Consumer Protection
Wisconsin Horse Council
Wisconsin Livestock Identification Consortium
Wyoming Livestock Board

2014 NIAA Membership continued

As of March 9, 2015

Publicly Supported Institutions

American Goat Federation
Auburn University
Beef Cattle Institute
Center for Food Security & Public Health
Clemson University
Farm Credit Services of Mid-America
National Livestock Commission Assn
Northwest Dairy Assn
Producers Livestock Marketing Assn
Purdue University
Southeast United Dairy
The University of Connecticut
Tri-State Livestock Credit Corp

University of California - Davis System
University of Kentucky
University of Missouri VMDL
University of Tennessee
Western Dairy Association

Individual Members

Dr. Marit Arana
Dr. Michael Coe
Ms. Teresa Cremer
Mr. Keith M. Detrick
Mr. Terry Detrick
Dr. Pernilla Fajersson
Dr. Mark Fitzsimmons
Dr. Temple Grandin
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Ms. Joy Philippi
Dr. Margaret Rush
Dr. Don Sanders
Dr. Julie Smith
Dr. Nevil Speer
Dr. John Thomson
Dr. Mark Walton

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President, Chief Executive Officer



Katie Ambrose
Chief Operating Officer



Mona Wolverton
Event Coordinator



Bobbie Williams
Finance



Jessica Greene
Administrative Communications Coordinator



Polly Welden
Marketing

NIAA Annual Awards



2014 NIAA Meritorious Service Award

Mr. Jim Fraley, Illinois Farm Bureau

NIAA traditionally honors an individual who has made extensive contributions and/or has given exemplary service to the animal agriculture industry and to NIAA.

Fraley devoted his career to bringing people and organizations together. He was on the inaugural NIAA Board of Directors, he served as Board Secretary and was on the Executive Committee for several terms.



2014 NIAA President's Award

Dr. Hailu Kinde, California Animal Health & Food Safety Systems and co-chair of NIAA's Emerging Disease Council, was presented the organization's President's Award that recognizes an NIAA committee or council chairman or co-chairman for exemplary leadership and dedication to the organization.



2014 NIAA Advocate for Animal Agriculture Award

Dr. Richard Raymond, M.D., Former Undersecretary for Food Safety US Department of Agriculture (2005-2008) A food safety and public health consultant, was given NIAA's Advocate for Animal Agriculture Award for building bridges between the animal and human health communities by delivering strong, positive messages about antibiotics and antimicrobial resistance as both a facilitator and planning committee member.



2014 NIAA Chairman's Award

Dr. Karen Jordan, a veterinarian and dairy farmer from North Carolina who serves on NIAA's board of directors, was given NIAA's Chairman's Award for her unselfish dedication and tireless devotion to the advancement of animal agriculture.



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*For more information or to join,
please visit AnimalAgriculture.org*

