



# FEDERAL VETERINARIAN

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## Announcements

### NAFV DR. DANIEL E. SALMON AWARD REMINDER!

Dear NAFV members, this is a reminder that the due date for our 2017 NAFV Salmon Award nominations is April 15, 2017.

Nomination form can be found on our website at [www.nafv.org](http://www.nafv.org) under "Awards."

With any questions, please contact Ms. Mariana Barros at [mbarros@nafv.org](mailto:mbarros@nafv.org) or 202.223.4878.

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## USDA Confirms Second Case of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in a Commercial Flock in Lincoln County, Tennessee

Source: *USDA-APHIS* | 03/16/2017

The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has confirmed a second case of highly pathogenic H7N9 avian influenza in a commercial breeder flock in Lincoln County, Tennessee. This H7N9 strain is of North American wild bird lineage and is the same strain of avian influenza that was previously confirmed in Tennessee. It is NOT the same as the China H7N9 virus that has impacted poultry and infected humans in Asia. The flock of 55,000 chickens is located in the Mississippi flyway, within three kilometers of the first Tennessee case. Samples from the affected flock, which displayed signs of illness and experienced increased mortality, were tested at Tennessee's Kord Animal Health Diagnostic Laboratory and confirmed at the APHIS National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) in Ames, Iowa.

USDA is working with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture on the joint incident response. State officials quarantined the affected premises, and depopulation has be-

gun. Federal and State partners will conduct surveillance and testing of commercial and backyard poultry within a 10 kilometer (6.2 mile) radius of the site.

The United States has the strongest AI surveillance program in the world, and USDA works with its partners to actively look for the disease in commercial poultry operations, live bird markets and in migratory wild bird populations.

USDA will be informing the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) as well as international trading partners of this finding. USDA also continues to communicate with trading partners to encourage adherence to OIE standards and minimize trade impacts.

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture is working directly with poultry workers at the affected facilities to ensure that they are taking the proper precautions to prevent illness and contain disease spread. As a reminder, the proper handling and cooking of poultry and eggs to an internal temperature of 165 °F kills bacteria and viruses.

Source: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAAPHIS/bulletins/18dd7dc>

## Updated Slaughter Compliance Guideline for Beef Slaughtering Establishments Is Available

Source: *USDA - FSIS* | 03/03/2017

FSIS has posted an updated compliance guideline entitled, "Compliance Guideline for Minimizing the Risk of Shiga Toxin-producing *Escherichia Coli* (STEC) and *Salmonella* in Beef (including Veal) Slaughter Establishments 2017". This guideline provides slaughter establishments with infor-

mation concerning best practices at slaughter that they can use to prevent, eliminate, or reduce levels microbiological contamination, specifically contamination with Shiga Toxin Producing *E. coli* (STEC) and *Salmonella*.

Original Posting: <http://bit.ly/2nc8kOf>

Interested in hosting a local NAFV Chapter Meeting? Contact Ms. Mariana Barros at [mbarros@nafv.org](mailto:mbarros@nafv.org)

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The annual subscription rate is \$50.00 for United States and Canada and \$70.00 for foreign mailing, payable by January 1 each year. Subscriptions are not available to those eligible for membership.

Any non-uniformed veterinarian employed full time by the federal government may become an active member. Dues are \$234.00 annually, payable annually, semiannually, or by federal payroll deductions (eligibility for payroll deduction is limited to USDA veterinarians—of \$9.00 authorized by signing USDA Form AD 1054 (FSIS) or SF 1187 (APHIS)). Uniformed veterinarians dues are \$150.00 annually. Active duty uniformed veterinarians— please contact the NAFV office.

Associate membership may be granted to active members when they retire from federal service. Associate members pay no dues. Associate mailed subscriptions are \$25.00 per year.

The National Association of Federal Veterinarians is a non-profit corporation and the purposes for which it is formed are to promote the veterinary profession, to improve the professional efficiency and material interests of the members, to acquaint the public with the activities of veterinarians in the federal service, and to cooperate with the American Veterinary Medical Association, the United States Animal Health Association and other similar groups with common interests.

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## EVP Column

### Note from Dr. Michael Gilsdorf

Dear Colleagues:

NAFV watches for opportunities to add services that benefit our members. Recently, we were approached by [myplanitraveler.com](http://myplanitraveler.com) with what looks like a way for NAFV members to save on travel costs.

We put a notice in the last newsletter about it and received a lot of interest. However, I tried it out last week and ran into problems each time I tried to make a reservation. It took three days to try to make a reservation and at the end it still had problems. Therefore, I cannot recommend this company.

I was told that the things that happened to me were not common. If a few of you would like to try it for yourselves and get back to us with your experience please contact Mariana or I and we can guide you through the process. You can email us at [nafv@nafv.org](mailto:nafv@nafv.org) or call the national office at 202-223-4878.

## USDA Announces Eradication of New World Screwworm in Florida

**Source: USDA-APHIS | 03/23/2017**

USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is announcing the successful eradication of the New World screwworm (NWS) from Florida.

"I want to personally thank our many collaborating partners at the Federal, State, and local levels," said Dr. Jack Shere, USDA Chief Veterinarian. "Through their dedication and professionalism close to 154 million sterile flies have been released, 16,902 animals have been inspected at checkpoints, and almost 430 hours of active surveillance in the Keys and 250 hours of active surveillance on the mainland have been completed. Their tireless work has allowed us to eliminate New World screwworm from the United States once again."

Animal health checkpoints, or interdiction stations, were closed on Saturday. Fly releases are scheduled to end on April 25 in the Florida Keys.

APHIS considers an area to be screwworm-free through surveillance which includes trapping flies and visually inspecting animals for signs and symptoms of NWS infes-

tation. No new cases of NWS have been reported in Florida since January 10. Science shows that, when sterile flies are released, elimination of NWS is achieved three life cycles after the last detection. The flies have on average, a 21-day life cycle, and they continue to circulate in the area for three weeks beyond each release. In the Keys, APHIS will complete five life cycles beyond the last positive screwworm detection. APHIS and Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) will continue passive surveillance to ensure any new findings are quickly identified. This surveillance includes veterinarians reporting any suspicious cases, wildlife surveillance, concerned citizens that see suspicious wounds on animals or even on a person, and continued communication with the parks and the National Key Deer Refuge.

More information about the screwworm response can be found here:

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information/cattle-disease-information/nws>

## Development of a Microwave Energy Delivery System for Reversible Stunning of Cattle

Authors: D. McLean, L. Meers, J. Ralph, J.S. Owen, A. Small

### Abstract

Stunning prior to slaughter is commonly used to render the animal insensible to pain. However, for certain markets, stunning is disallowed, unless the animal can fully recover if not slaughtered. There are very few available methods of inducing a fully recoverable stun. This paper describes the development of a microwave energy application system for stunning cattle. Cadaver heads were used to demonstrate that brain temperature could be raised to a point at which insensibility would be expected to occur (44° C), and to calculate the power and time combinations required to achieve this in a range of cattle weights. Surface heating was identified as a cause for potential concern, which was mitigated by the development of another type of microwave applicator. Although the applicator and process variables require validation in animal studies, this technology shows promise as a method of inducing a recoverable stun.

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\*Res Vet Sci. 2017 Jan 7;112:13-17. doi: 10.1016/j.rvsc.2016.12.010. [Epub ahead of print] Development of a microwave energy delivery system for reversible stunning of cattle. McLean D1, Meers L1, Ralph J2, Owen JS3, Small A4.

PMID: 28107666 | DOI: [10.1016/j.rvsc.2016.12.010](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rvsc.2016.12.010)

## New Food Safety Analytics Strategic Plan

**Source: DHHS - FDA | 03/24/2017**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) have issued a new [Strategic Plan for 2017-2021](#) as part of the Interagency Food Safety Analytics Collaboration (IFSAC).

IFSAC was created in 2011 to improve coordination of federal food safety analytic efforts and address cross-cutting priorities for food safety data collection, analysis and use. Its projects and studies aim to identify foods that are important sources of human illness. IFSAC focuses analytic efforts on four priority pathogens: *Salmonella*, *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) O157:H7, *Listeria monocytogenes* (*Lm*), and *Campylobacter*. CDC estimates that together, these four pathogens cause 1.9 million cases of foodborne illness in the United States each year.

Under the new Strategic Plan, IFSAC will focus on continuing to improve estimates of the sources of foodborne illnesses and developing methods to estimate how these sources change over time. The three goals of the new Strategic Plan are to improve the use and quality of new and existing data sources; improve analytic methods and models; and enhance communication about IFSAC progress.

The Strategic Plan outlines key objectives to achieve those goals, including:

- Enhance the collection and quality of relevant source data;
- Enhance the use of existing regulatory and foodborne illness surveillance data;
- Incorporate genomic data and other novel data sources;
- Explore ways to address key gaps in data quality, methods and models;
- Develop new analytic approaches and models to maximize use of existing data;
- Expand the availability of technical and scientific expertise through collaboration with internal and external partners;
- Enhance relationships and engagement with internal and external groups; and
- Improve the synthesis, interpretation and dissemination of analytical findings for multiple audiences.

The plan also highlights accomplishments from IFSAC's first five years, and the group's intent to continue engaging with stakeholders on future work.

Source: <https://www.fda.gov/Food/NewsEvents/ConstituentUpdates/ucm547957.htm>

## INTERAGENCY FOOD SAFETY - ANALYTICS COLLABORATION (IFSAC) STRATEGIC PLAN - CALENDAR YEAR 2017-2021

<https://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/pdfs/ifsac-strategic-plan-2017-2021.pdf>





## Master of Preventive Veterinary Medicine (MPVM)



The University of California, Davis welcomes applications for the Master of Preventive Veterinary Medicine (MPVM) degree program. The MPVM is a 1-2 year graduate professional Master's degree for veterinarians. Since 1967, this pioneering program's more than 900 graduates have excelled worldwide in leadership, academic, and research positions with universities, private industry, international agencies, non-governmental organizations, and governments.

We offer core courses in epidemiology concepts, study design, research methods, leadership, ecosystem health, and infectious disease epidemiology as well as biostatistics. Electives allow students to explore zoonotic disease, food safety, diagnostic test evaluation, spatial analysis, mathematical modeling, disease ecology, and many more courses throughout the university. Coursework in 'One Health' incorporates public health and conservation at the interface of humans and animals. In addition to didactic instruction, students write a thesis on research they undertake. We support our extensive course offerings and student research with a large, diverse, vibrant faculty including recent hires in epidemiology, wildlife, food animals, urban agriculture, and poultry health, and a wealth of adjunct contributors from state and federal management agencies and organizations.

Instruction begins in early August. Requirements for entry include a minimum 3.0 GPA, and TOEFL score of 85 or higher for non-English speakers. The application deadline for the 2016-17 academic year is January 15<sup>th</sup> 2016.

Please send inquiries to Graduate Group Coordinator Ms. Tami Ali ([tali@ucdavis.edu](mailto:tali@ucdavis.edu); 530-752-2657) or Program Chair Dr. Ashley Hill ([aehill@ucdavis.edu](mailto:aehill@ucdavis.edu)).

Visit our website at <http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/mpvm/>

## CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) Short Sleep Duration by Occupation Group\* 29 States, 2013–2014

### Summary

#### What is already known about this topic?

Shift work and other work factors influence sleep duration and sleep quality, which have a direct effect on worker health and safety. Previous research has found that workers in production, health care, protective service, transportation and material moving, and food preparation and serving-related fields are more likely to be shift workers. In addition, production and transportation and material moving occupations have been associated with higher prevalences of short sleep duration.

#### What is added by this report?

Analysis of 2013 and 2014 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System data conducted to examine 93 detailed occupation groups in 29 states found that the prevalence of <7 hours of sleep per day (short sleep duration) ranged from 21.4% among air transportation workers to 58.2% among communications equipment workers. The percentage of workers employed in at least one of the five occupations with the highest prevalence of short sleep duration ranged from 17.6% in Wyoming to 26.8% in Mississippi.

#### What are the implications for public health practice?

Significant differences were found in the prevalence of short sleep duration among occupation groups. Workers in occupations with high prevalences of short sleep duration might be most at risk for sleep-related accidents and adverse health outcomes associated with short sleep duration. Work-related factors should be further evaluated in the context of short sleep duration to guide prevention efforts.

\*Shockey TM, Wheaton AG. Short Sleep Duration by Occupation Group — 29 States, 2013–2014. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2017;66:207–213. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6608a2>.



## American College of Animal Welfare (ACAW) Fourth Annual Animal Welfare Short Course June 7 - 9, 2017 | Raleigh, NC

The NC State College of Veterinary Medicine and American College of Animal Welfare invites veterinarians interested in gaining specialized knowledge regarding animal welfare assessments, animal welfare issues, and the veterinarian's role in animal welfare, including veterinarians interesting in preparing for board certification by the American College of Animal Welfare.

This year the ACAW welcomes Colorado State University Distinguished Professor Bernard Rollin. Dr. Rollin has spent the last 45 years working relentlessly to raise awareness about how animals are treated on farms, in laboratories, in rodeo arenas, on hunting grounds and in slaughterhouses. He helped to establish legislation to control pain for animals in research and played an instrumental role in eliminating the use of sow stalls or gestation crates, which he has called "one of the most egregiously inhumane housing systems" in agriculture.

The program consists of lectures on animal welfare at the NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine in Raleigh, NC; including short presentations on the history and purposes of ACAW, the ACAW application process, and the ACAW exam process. Lectures will focus on topics that will help prepare individuals for the ACAW exam, and will emphasize knowledge areas listed in the ACAW Role Delineation Document ([RDD:http://www.acaw.org](http://www.acaw.org)). Applicants applying under the alternate route may wish to use selected lectures as documentation of their knowledge for some aspects of their ACAW application.

This course will be held at the NC State College of Veterinary Medicine at 1060 William Moore Dr. in Raleigh, NC. **A block of rooms will be reserved at the Ramada Inn-Blue Ridge, 1420 Blue Ridge Road, Raleigh, NC at a discounted rate.** To make your reservation, please call 919-832-4100 and reference the group code **GCSHORTCOURSE**. The local airport is Raleigh-Durham International (RDU), which is approximately ten miles from the CVM. Participants will be required to arrange their own transportation to and from the hotel. Hotel reservations must be made by May 23rd to receive the discounted rate. For more hotels and area information visit: <https://cvm.ncsu.edu/education/continuing-education/housing-and-transportation/>

<https://cvm.ncsu.edu/education/continuing-education/forums-lectures-and-labs/acaw/>

## USDA Releases Statement on Tainted Meat from Brazil

**Source: USDA-FSIS | 03/22/2017**

FSIS announced additional steps that the Agency is taking to keep the food supply safe for American families in light of the recent investigations of Brazil's meat industry. While none of the slaughter or processing facilities implicated in the Brazilian scandal have shipped meat products to the United States, FSIS immediately instituted additional pathogen testing of all shipments of raw beef and ready-to-eat products from Brazil upon hearing reports of the Brazilian investigation. FSIS has also increased its examination of all these products at ports-of-entry across the country. The Agency will indefinitely maintain its 100% re-inspection and pathogen testing of all lots of FSIS-regulated products imported from Brazil.

The FSIS import inspection system (including equivalence determinations, in-country audits, and re-inspection processes) is designed to ensure that imported meat, poultry, and processed egg products are safe and wholesome. FSIS works closely with the

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to ensure that these products are safe before they enter the country. Although none of the establishments implicated in the Brazil scandal have shipped meat products to the United States, effective March 18, FSIS instituted 100 % re-inspection of all Brazilian beef imported into the United States, including conducting product examination on 100 % of the lots. This re-inspection includes 100 % testing of beef trimmings from Brazil for *Salmonella*, *E. coli* O157:H7, and non-O157 Shiga-toxin producing *E. coli* (STEC). The 100 % re-inspection also includes 100 % testing of products from Brazil for *Salmonella* and *Listeria monocytogenes*. FSIS will take immediate action to refuse entry of product into the United States if there are findings of food safety concern.

For more information, please visit <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2017/03/22/usda-tainted-brazilian-meat-none-has-entered-us-100-percent-re>

## NAFV recommends FEDS Professional Liability Insurance

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### NAFV Wants You to Protect Yourself.

*Do you know personnel actions in federal employment are not covered by AVMA insurance?*

*Do you know that claims resulting in investigations can be made against you by anyone - plant workers, special interest groups, politically motivated elected officials, members of the public, or managers, co-workers or subordinates?*

*Do you know the FEDS policy has paid attorneys for numerous claims with some exceeding costs of \$30,000, \$40,000, \$50,000 and more than \$100,000 just over the past two years to defend federal veterinarians?*

*Do you know that FEDS Protection also provides an attorney to defend you in a state veterinary board investigation and proceeding arising out of the performance of your federal job duties.*



**Enrollment takes just 5 minutes!**  
**Call 866.955.FEDS or**  
**ENROLL ONLINE NOW**

### Note to NAFV Members:

Below is information for federal employees regarding emergency assistance and Scholarships for federal employees and their families. We found out about them recently and thought our members should be aware of this free service in case you have an emergency that qualifies:

#### The Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund

Founded in 1986, FEEA: The Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund is the only independent, nonprofit, 501c3 organization devoted solely to providing emergency financial assistance and scholarships to our dedicated civilian federal and postal public servants and their families. FEEA has supported federal families with emergency loans, disaster relief grants (no interest/no fees), scholarships, and childcare subsidies.

For more information go to [www.feea.org](http://www.feea.org) | Phone: [202-554-0007](tel:202-554-0007) | email: [fedshelpingfeds@feea.org](mailto:fedshelpingfeds@feea.org)

### Gottlieb Nominated to Lead FDA

President Donald Trump nominated Scott Gottlieb, a practicing physician, to serve as the 23<sup>rd</sup> commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Gottlieb previously served as FDA's deputy commissioner for medical and scientific affairs from 2005 to 2007. Gottlieb is also a venture partner at New Enterprise Associates, a venture capital

firm. Prior to his FDA position, Gottlieb served as senior policy adviser to the administrator at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. He earned his medical degree from Mount Sinai School of Medicine and has a bachelor's degree in economics from Wesleyan University.

Source: <https://www.meatinstitute.org/>

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: AVMA Council on Education Members

**NAFV is now accepting interested candidates for endorsement to the AVMA's Council on Education. NAFV believes it is imperative that federal veterinarians be represented on this council.** The AVMA Council on Education (COE) accredits DVM or equivalent educational programs. The AVMA COE assures that minimum standards in veterinary medical education are met by all AVMA-accredited colleges of veterinary medicine, and that students enrolled in those colleges receive an education which will prepare them for entry-level positions in the profession.

This council is responsible for setting education policy for veterinary colleges, it accredits new colleges and reviews existing ones. NAFV believes that one of the outcome assessments should be related to an understanding of working with regulatory programs. Students should understand the importance of animal health certificates. Also, students should be familiar with proper emergency responses for the protection of animals in their clinics and that they will need a plan to evacuate them.

By having a federal representative on the council, we can share our experiences, opportunities, and make the profession is more aware of our critical contributions to the public health. Interested candidates should contact Ms. Mariana Barros at [mbarros@nafv.org](mailto:mbarros@nafv.org).

<https://www.avma.org/ProfessionalDevelopment/Education/Accreditation/Colleges/Pages/Accreditation-Standards-Changes.aspx>

## Another Government Shutdown? It's Being Discussed.

*by Ian Smith | 03/13/2017*

Reports of a possible government shutdown have surfaced today, but this time it isn't about health care, it's about the border wall.

Senate Democrats, led by Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY), sent a letter today to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) in which they warned against including funding for President Trump's proposed border wall.

Senate Democrats wrote in the letter<sup>1</sup>, which was obtained by the Associated Press, "We believe it would be inappropriate to insist on the inclusion of (wall) funding in a must-pass appropriations bill that is needed for the Republican majority in control of the Congress to avert a government shutdown so early in President Trump's administration."

The letter also warned Republicans against adding any provisions to cut things such as protections for veterans or the environment, and specifically said that efforts to defund Planned Parenthood were off limits.

The shutdown debate has arisen in advance of an upcoming spending package Congress must pass next month to fund the government. April 28 is the deadline for Congress to complete the spending measure and avoid a partial government shutdown.

The last government shutdown took place in 2013 when Republicans tried to strip funding for ObamaCare from a spending bill.

Congress came close to another one last year, but Senate Democrats ultimately relented. The dispute was over benefits for coal miners; a small group

of Democrats from coal-mining states were trying to obtain additional benefits for the miners but Republicans had refused to go along.

### **Pay and Benefits During a Partial Government Shutdown**

Shutdowns impact pay and benefits for federal employees in different ways.

For federal employees who are furloughed, whether or not they get paid is determined by Congress. During the 2013 shutdown, federal employees were paid, although they likely saw a delay from their normal pay date until the shutdown was over.

A recent class action lawsuit<sup>2</sup> awarded back pay to some federal employees impacted by the 2013 shutdown.

OPM has provided detailed guidance<sup>3</sup> on what happens to your pay and benefits during a partial government shutdown.

For federal retirees, their annuity payments are not stopped by a shutdown. OPM has guidance<sup>4</sup> for federal retirees as well.

### **Article Resources**

1. [Letter](#)
2. [Court Awards Back Pay](#)
3. [OPM Federal Employee Guideline](#)
4. [OPM Federal Retiree Guideline](#)

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Source: <https://www.fedsmith.com/2017/03/13/another-government-shutdown-its-being-discussed/#sthash.dkGEyaIv.dpuf>



## NAFV Names Award Recipient: 2017 Unsung Veterinary Excellence Award

NAFV is proud to announce the 2017 recipient of the NAFV Unsung Veterinary Excellence Award. The [Unsung Veterinary Excellence Award](#) is presented to an individual who has performed his/her job in an extraordinary manner and who has made a substantive yet unrecognized contribution to his/her organization, public health, or society as a whole. The award is broad in its reach and by design is meant to recognize those not usually recognized through traditional awards' criteria. The nominee must have contributed his/her skill, time, and effort towards furthering the vision, mission and strategy of the agency and/or NAFV.

Dr. Fred Bourgeois is a veterinarian with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS), Surveillance, Preparedness and Response Services, (SPRS) National Preparedness and Incident Coordination (NPIC) staff living in Lake Charles, LA. He received his DVM from Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine in 1985. Before joining the USDA, Dr. Bourgeois owned and operated a mixed veterinary practice in southwest Louisiana from 1985 to 1990. Dr. Bourgeois' USDA career began in 1990 with FSIS in Palestine, Texas as a Veterinary Inspector in Charge at Calhoun Pack, a cull cow and horse plant, then continued at Green Acres Poultry plant in Nacogdoches, Texas before he joined VS in 1993. He served as a field veterinary medical officer for VS in Louisiana for 15 years. While a field VMO, Dr. Bourgeois participated in disease control programs in Louisiana testing brucellosis-infected herds before the state was free, and many disease responses such as VSV in the 1995 and 1997, and VAAI in 2002. Also, special projects such as horse imports for the 1996 Atlanta Olympics and other horse import details, the Mexico Heifer Spay project in 1997, and writing a FMD Redbook for Mongolia in 2002. In March, 2001 he was a member of the first team sent to the United Kingdom for the FMD outbreak and

spent over a month involved in depopulation. In 2003, he spent 10 tours in CA END and five tours in CA TB08, and was operations chief for hurricanes Katrina and



**Dr. Fred Bourgeois**  
EMRS National Coordinator  
USDA:APHIS:VS | SPRS:NPIC

Rita in 2005 where the Rita ICP was at his home. He has been involved with information management either on-site or remotely for most incidents since 2003 including tours recently to HPAI 2016.

While with VS he has led the development of the premises ID system and EMRS1 and 2, and has worked in all aspects of disease control and information management. Recently, he has been working with his team and poultry companies assisting in adding more than 18,000 new commercial poultry premises in EMRS and launching the EMRS Permit Gateway and permitting allowing industry to enter requests into EMRS, which states then approve without further data entry in a secure environment. Currently he is concentrating on recent AI and screw-worm outbreaks, redeveloping the EMRS2 2016 interface and implementation of Gateway with training for states and industry. As the National EMRS Coordinator since 2007, Dr. Bourgeois supports Veterinary Services and state cooperators in utilization of EMRS for routine FAD and outbreak control activities along with the EMRS IT team, three highly skilled EMRS Staff Specialists and more than 20 EMRS Network associates.

Dr. Bourgeois has been married for 35 yrs. to a very patient woman, Eve Bourgeois. He has three children, and very soon five grandchildren.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, DC

### FSIS NOTICE

18-17

3/16/17

#### HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA ALERT

Due to recent confirmed cases of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in the U.S., FSIS is issuing this FSIS Notice to serve as an official alert and notification for Inspection Program Personnel (IPP) in poultry slaughter establishments to implement the instructions found in [FSIS Directive 6020.1, Enhanced Inspection of Poultry in Response to a Notification of a Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Outbreak](#). This alert will remain in effect until FSIS sends further notification to IPP that the threat of HPAI is no longer in effect.



### NAFV is Currently Looking for 2 Volunteers to serve on our AVMA/USAHA Food Safety Symposium Committee

NAFV is searching for two members to participate as part of the association's continuing education program committee. The current focus of this committee is to plan and implement annual food safety sessions at USAHA and AVMA. The committee can particularly use people who routinely attend USAHA and/or AVMA annual conferences. Activities of committee members include:

- ◆ Work in conjunction with National Association of Federal Veterinarians (NAFV) on program planning and implementation activities
- ◆ Generate a session theme and draft agenda for each conference
- ◆ Contact potential speakers and finalize session agendas
- ◆ Work with USAHA and AVMA to meet their guidelines and time requirements for conference planning and program implementation
- ◆ Attend each conference to moderate, speak on behalf of AAFSPHV, and otherwise assure successful program delivery

If you are interested in participating on this committee, please contact Ms. Mariana Barros at [mbarros@nafv.org](mailto:mbarros@nafv.org) or 202-223.4878 .

### Penn Vet: First Student Accepted into Special VMD-MBA Program

*Source: University of Pennsylvania | 03/04/2017 | Volume 63, No. 26*

Melanie Kirshenbaum of Westchester County, New York, is the first student accepted into the new VMD-MBA degree program at Penn Vet's Center for Animal Health and Productivity (CAHP) and the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

The VMD-MBA combined-degree program is supported by the Robert Marshak-Vernon Hill Scholarship Fund, named in honor of Dr. Robert Marshak, Penn Vet Dean from 1973 to 1987. Established with a generous \$1 million gift from Vernon and Shirley Hill, the fund supports the training of leaders and entrepreneurs with the vision to advance both the science and business of food animal production in order to help ensure global food security.

The Marshak-Hill scholars are required to develop projects that explore the applications of economic and business principles to the health and productivity of livestock industries. The integrated training emphasizes innovative solutions to the complex business, health, environmental, and societal challenges associated with intensive and small-scale livestock and poultry production in a global environment with a rapidly increasing demand for animal-sourced protein.

"The combined-degree program provides students with a unique interchange of knowledge that helps to ensure veterinarians have an important voice in addressing issues of food security both in Pennsylvania and globally," said Joan C. Hendricks, the Gilbert S. Kahn Dean of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. "We are delighted that Melanie is the first student accepted into this program."

Ms. Kirshenbaum is a fourth-year student at Penn Vet with an interest in global health and agricultural development. After finishing her undergraduate stud-

ies in economics at Cornell University, she worked with international development organizations before pursuing her veterinary education. She is pursuing the combined VMD-MBA degree in recognition of the integrated nature of health, food and economic security, as well as the power of industry and multi-lateral organizations to contribute resources and sustainable interventions in these fields.

"An economic and industry-focused approach to global food security, health, and sustainable development—rooted in science—will be especially important in the coming years," said Ms. Kirshenbaum. "I'm excited about this opportunity to expand my knowledge of these areas and I'm pleased to be part of the ongoing collaborations between Penn Vet and Wharton."

"We are all excited about Melanie's acceptance into the program," said David Galligan, professor of animal health economics and director of the Center for Animal Health and Productivity. "The integration of Penn's VMD and MBA programs creates a new focus on emerging global food security issues and enables us to train the next generation of veterinarians to deal with these concerns."

The combined VMD-MBA degree program at Penn Vet and the Wharton School was established in 1981. Dr. Galligan oversees the updated program and mentors the Marshak-Hill scholars. Those completing the multi-year program will obtain their veterinary and MBA degrees and a certificate in Food Animal Production Medicine. Marshak-Hill graduates will have unique qualifications for leadership roles in food animal agribusiness, government, non-governmental organizations, public health, research and academia.

Source: <http://www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v63/n26/vmd-mba-program.html>

## WHO Publishes List of Bacteria for which New Antibiotics Are Urgently Needed

GENEVA - WHO | 02/27/2017

The World Health Organization today published its first ever list of antibiotic-resistant "priority pathogens" – a catalogue of 12 families of bacteria that pose the greatest threat to human health.



The list was drawn up in a bid to guide and promote research and development (R&D) of new antibiotics, as part of WHO's efforts to address growing global resistance to antimicrobial medicines.

The list highlights in particular the threat of gram-negative bacteria that are resistant to multiple antibiotics. These bacteria have built-in abilities to find new ways to resist treatment and can pass along genetic material that allows other bacteria to become drug-resistant as well.

"This list is a new tool to ensure R&D responds to urgent public health needs," says Dr Marie-Paule Kieny, WHO's Assistant Director-General for Health Systems and Innovation. "Antibiotic resistance is growing, and we are fast running out of treatment options. If we leave it to market forces alone, the new antibiotics we most urgently need are not going to be developed in time."

The WHO list is divided into three categories according to the urgency of need for new antibiotics: critical, high and medium priority.

The most critical group of all includes multidrug resistant bacteria that pose a particular threat in hospitals, nursing homes, and among patients whose care requires devices such as ventilators and blood catheters. They include *Acinetobacter*, *Pseudomonas* and various Enterobacteriaceae including *Klebsiella*, *E. coli*, *Serratia*, and *Proteus*. They can cause severe and often deadly infections such as bloodstream infections and pneumonia.

These bacteria have become resistant to a large number of antibiotics, including carbapenems and third generation cephalosporins – the best available antibiotics for treating multi-drug resistant bacteria. The second and third tiers in the list – the high and medium priority categories – contain other increasingly drug-resistant bacteria that cause more common diseases such as gonorrhoea and food poisoning caused by *Salmonella*.

G20 health experts will meet this week in Berlin. Mr Hermann Gröhe, Federal Minister of Health, Germany says, "We need effective antibiotics for our health systems. We have to take joint action today for a healthier tomorrow. Therefore, we will discuss and bring the attention of the G20 to the fight against antimicrobial resistance. WHO's first global priority pathogen list is an important new tool to secure and

guide research and development related to new antibiotics."

The list is intended to spur governments to put in place policies that incentivize basic science and advanced R&D by both publicly funded agencies and the private sector investing in new antibiotic discovery. It will provide guidance to new R&D initiatives such as the WHO/Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi) Global Antibiotic R&D Partnership that is engaging in not-for-profit development of new antibiotics.

Tuberculosis – whose resistance to traditional treatment has been growing in recent years – was not included in the list because it is targeted by other, dedicated programmes. Other bacteria that were not included, such as *Streptococcus A* and *B* and chlamydia, have low levels of resistance to existing treatments and do not currently pose a significant public health threat.

The list was developed in collaboration with the Division of Infectious Diseases at the University of Tübingen, Germany, using a multi-criteria decision analysis technique vetted by a group of international experts. The criteria for selecting pathogens on the list were: how deadly the infections they cause are; whether their treatment requires long hospital stays; how frequently they are resistant to existing antibiotics when people in communities catch them; how easily they spread between animals, from animals to humans, and from person to person; whether they can be prevented (e.g. through good hygiene and vaccination); how many treatment options remain; and whether new antibiotics to treat them are already in the R&D pipeline.

"New antibiotics targeting this priority list of pathogens will help to reduce deaths due to resistant infections around the world," says Prof Evelina Tacconelli, Head of the Division of Infectious Diseases at the University of Tübingen and a major contributor to the development of the list. "Waiting any longer will cause further public health problems and dramatically impact on patient care."

While more R&D is vital, alone, it cannot solve the problem. To address resistance, there must also be better prevention of infections and appropriate use of existing antibiotics in humans and animals, as well as rational use of any new antibiotics that are developed in the future.

**Full List Available on Pg. 11!**

Original Article:

<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2017/bacteria-antibiotics-needed/en/#.WMLFUMV7F0M.email>

## WHO Priority Pathogens List for R&D of New Antibiotics

### Priority 1: CRITICAL

- *Acinetobacter baumannii*, carbapenem-resistant
- *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, carbapenem-resistant
- *Enterobacteriaceae*, carbapenem-resistant, ESBL-producing

### Priority 2: HIGH

- *Enterococcus faecium*, vancomycin-resistant
- *Staphylococcus aureus*, methicillin-resistant, vancomycin-intermediate and resistant
- *Helicobacter pylori*, clarithromycin-resistant
- *Campylobacter* spp., fluoroquinolone-resistant
- *Salmonellae*, fluoroquinolone-resistant
- *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, cephalosporin-resistant, fluoroquinolone-resistant

### Priority 3: MEDIUM

- *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, penicillin-non-susceptible
- *Haemophilus influenzae*, ampicillin-resistant
- *Shigella* spp., fluoroquinolone-resistant

## FSIS Publishes Compliance Guideline for Establishments that Slaughter or Further Process Siluriformes Fish and Fish Products

**Source: USDA - FSIS | 03/24/2017**

FSIS has posted a Siluriformes fish compliance guideline to assist establishments that slaughter or further process Siluriformes fish and fish products to understand and implement their regulatory responsibilities. This guidance represents best practice recommendations by FSIS, based on the best scientific and practical considerations.

The final rule, "Mandatory Inspection of Fish of the Order Siluriformes and Products Derived From Such Fish," was published on Dec. 2, 2015. Starting on March 1, 2016, the Agency implemented an 18-month transitional period during which it has conducted inspection and exercised broad enforcement discretion in domestic Siluriformes fish establishments. FSIS will enforce all regulatory requirements starting Sept. 1, 2017. In the final rule, FSIS stated that during initial implementation, it would provide domestic Siluriformes fish and fish product establishments with guidance to ensure that they understand the requirements (80 FR 75607).

The compliance guideline contains information, in part, on how fish establishments can apply for a Grant of Inspection (GOI); submit labels for approv-

al; develop written recall plans; comply with Sanitation Performance Standards (SPS) and Sanitation SOP requirements; and comply with Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) requirements. This compliance guideline also contains information to help establishments understand sampling requirements and requirements for exporting and importing Siluriformes fish and fish products. FSIS developed this guideline for the domestic industry. However, foreign countries that are interested in obtaining an equivalence determination from FSIS can also use it to inform the design of their inspection program. FSIS will likely update this guidance after the transitional period.

FSIS requests that all interested persons submit comments on any aspect of this document, including but not limited to: content, readability, applicability, and accessibility. The comment period will be 60 days from March 24, 2017.

The guideline is available at <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/wcm/connect/8ec92a7f-8f9b-45ae-b80f-7c336f7d6ff5/Compliance-Guideline-Siluriformes-Fish.pdf?MOD=AJPERES>.

***"Where there is no vision, there is no hope."***

- George Washington Carver

# Federal Veterinarians Protect and Improve Public and Animal Health and Welfare

National Association of Federal Veterinarians  
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## **VETERINARY HAPPENINGS**

Notify NAFV of Promotions, Reassignments, Transfers, Awards, Retirements, etc. for members not listed in the "Veterinary Happenings" column so they may be included in a future issue. The following information was received by NAFV.

### **USDA FSIS Members**

(Information available next month)

### **USDA APHIS Members**

(Information available next month)

Email Changes of Address to:

[mbarros@nafv.org](mailto:mbarros@nafv.org)

Returned Checks NAFV charges

\$10.00 for checks returned for  
Insufficient funds

Periodicals postage paid  
at Washington, DC

### **Welcome New Members**

- Dr. Megin Nichols, CDC, CSU '08, Atlanta, GA  
 Dr. Leonardo Sevilla, FSIS, GS - 12, WSU '10, Clayton, NC  
 Dr. Richard Elliott, FSIS, ILL, Springfield, MO  
 Dr. Dawn Fitzburgh, ARMY, UP '00, Forest Hill, MD  
 Dr. Matthew Doyle, FDA, GS - 14, MSU '08, Washington, DC  
 Dr. Linda Tollefson, PHS, O - 8, ILL '80, Williamsburg, VA  
 Dr. Bernadette Dunham, ONT '75, Hume, VA  
 Dr. H. Butch Johnson, ARMY, COL, TEX, '66, Dripping Springs, TX  
 Dr. Bashar Shaheen, FSIS, GS - 12, AUB '09, Cape Girardeau, MO (Recommended by Deanna Brown)  
 Dr. Jennifer, May, FSIS, GS - 12, PUR '96, Logansport, IN  
 Dr. Leo Gayheart, FSIS, GS12, AUB '79, Waco, KY  
 Dr. Netia Abercrombie, APHIS, GS - 12, CSU '09, Conroe, TX  
 Dr. John L. Poppe, ARMY, BG, WSU '86, San Antonio, TX  
 Dr. Linda Buss, FSIS, GS - 12, CSU '05, Alma, AR  
 Dr. Erica Ofeldt, FSIS, GS - 11, ROS '16, Towson, MD  
 Dr. Megan Uitvlugt, FSIS, GS - 12, MSU '14, Hattiesburg, MS (Recommended by John Fuller)  
 Dr. Joseph Callicut, FSIS, GS - 12, AUB '75, Brandon, MS (Recommended by Robert Kennedy)  
 Dr. William Lanier, PHS, O - 5, ILL '05, Bountiful, UT  
 Dr. Sara Pennell, FSIS, GS - 12, ORE '07, Salem, OR (Recommended by Michael Mikhael)  
 Dr. Thomas Catanzaro, ARMY, LTC, CSU '74, Lakewood, CO (Recommended by John Poppe)  
 Dr. Michael Cates, ARMY, BG, TEX '80, Lake Kiowa, TX  
 Dr. Lindsey Ewing, FSIS, GS - 12, VT '14, Easton, DE (Recommended by Ahmad Jilani)

