

Animal Health Network

Your Local Information Link for Animal Safety and Security



News Release



<<Insert Your Organization's Name>>

<<Insert Organization's Contact Address>>

<<Insert Organization's Phone Number, Email, Fax Number>>

<<Insert Date:>>

NEWS RELEASE

<<Insert Your Extension or Agency Name Here>> Launches the Animal Health Network Statewide

The area of agriculture and food systems is an extensive, open, interconnected, diverse, and complex structure – making it a potential target for terrorist attacks. Any disease, pest, or poisonous agent, which occurs either naturally, is unintentionally introduced, or is intentionally introduced by acts of terrorism could potentially cause catastrophic health effects or economic losses to the United States.

The Animal Health Network is a state-adaptable, local network concept connecting underserved populations of non-commercial livestock and poultry owners with vital animal disease related alerts and information from the State Veterinarian through their local feed retailer via the existing Extension system for the protection of our food and agriculture infrastructure.

Currently, there is not a system in place that sends messages out in an emergency. The goal of the network is to deliver the state veterinarian's message through the established Extension system at critical times.

(more)

The Network is established by local-level Extension educators who gain the commitment of local feed retailers to reach out to customers, both non-commercial and commercial livestock and poultry owners, with a State Department of Health Zoonosis Division or State Veterinarian written or approved message.

The development of the network concept was funded by the National Center for Foreign Animal and Zoonotic Disease Defense – a Department of Homeland Security University Center of Excellence.

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