ARKANSAS AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT



ARKANSAS FORESTRY COMMISSION ARKANSAS LIVESTOCK & POULTRY COMMISSION ARKANSAS STATE PLANT BOARD



GOVERN POR IMMEDIATE RELEASEtu 2/18/2017 Rive, Little Rock, ar 72205 | (501) 225-1598 | AAD. ARKANSAS.GOV Contact: Adriane Barnes, (501) 516-6255, adriane.barnes@arkansas.gov

Twelve Days of Arkansas Agriculture: Animal Health Activities Help Keep Arkansas Livestock Disease Free

LITTLE ROCK, AR — The Inspection and Disease Control Programs at the Agriculture Department's Livestock and Poultry Commission provide testing, vaccinations, and disease surveillance that prevent diseases, pests, and even maintain eradication of diseases like Brucellosis in cattle and Salmonella Pullorum-Typhoid disease in poultry. These duties encompass the inspection of herds of cattle and swine through site visits, blood testing for poultry flocks and horses, as well as surveillance of auction barns, livestock dealers, and garbage feeding establishments.

- 45,906 Equine Infectious Anemia (Coggins) tests were performed on horses in 2016 and 35,973 Equine Infectious Anemia (Coggins) tests were completed as of September, 2017.
- 515 swine were tested for Swine Brucellosis and Pseudorabies Virus in 2016, and 430 swine were tested for Swine Brucellosis and Pseudorabies Virus as of September, 2017.
- Inspectors provided to heifers 68,860 Bovine Brucellosis vaccinations in 2016 and 26,038 Bovine Brucellosis vaccinations as of September, 2017 to maintain eradication of Bovine Brucellosis.
- Through the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) program, officials certified 14,840 poultry flocks in 2016 and 10,841 poultry flocks as of September, 2017, in the NPIP monitoring and surveillance programs for poultry diseases of significance including Typhoid, Avian Influenza, Mycoplasma, and Salmonella enteritidis.
- During site visits, inspectors also maintain surveillance for diseases of concern (Screwworm, Foot and Mouth Disease, Avian Influenza, Brucellosis, Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, Scrapie, etc.) that are seldom diagnosed, but which are constant threats to the State's livestock industry.

"Through vaccinations, testing, and other surveillance methods, we not only provide hands-on preventative services, we have the opportunity to visit with farmers about healthy practices and biosecurity efforts," says Arkansas State Veterinarian Dr. Brandon Doss. "We also work closely with our industry partners, other state agencies, and USDA APHIS VS to maintain our surveillance and response capabilities in the event of a significant animal disease incursion with the goal of mitigating the negative animal health and economic impacts on our producers and state."

This release is the eleventh edition to the Twelve Days of Arkansas Agriculture campaign, which highlights some of the programs and services provided by the AAD that support our state's agriculture industry. Follow each of the 12 stories by searching the #12DaysofARAgriculture hashtag, or visit aad.arkansas.gov. The AAD is dedicated to the development and implementation of policies and programs for Arkansas agriculture and forestry to keep its farmers and ranchers competitive in national and international markets while ensuring safe food, fiber, and forest products for the citizens of the state and nation.

###

The Arkansas Agriculture Department offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.





