

**ANIMAL AND EGG PRODUCTION FOOD SAFETY STATE OUTREACH
PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES
QUARTERLY REPORT**

DATE: **APRIL 2001** NAME OF STATE SUBMITTING: NEBRASKA

**1. NUMBER OF MEETINGS HELD FOR THE PARTNERSHIP TEAM
(Nebraska Animal Production Food Safety Committee) DURING THE
QUARTER:**

- Seven meetings have been held at the University of NE, Lincoln the first quarter of 2001 for members of the NE Animal Production Food Safety Committee.
- Three (3) meetings have been held in the NE Bureau of Animal Industry to agree on third party collaboration (UNL), finalize project with UNL (training kits) and finalize decisions on dissemination of funds.
- Two (2) collaborative meetings have been held with the University of NE and the NE Bureau of Animal Industry.

2. NUMBER OF PRODUCERS RECEIVING TRAINING:

Beef

- 4,250 per year (1,063/qrtr) in quality assurance per NE Cattlemen organization

Dairy

- Per Nebraska State Dairy Division, the Milk and Dairy Beef Quality Assurance Program, initiated about 1992, has not had follow-through in the state in recent years, as it is not required. To their knowledge, there is no record keeping of producers following the program.

Swine

- 5,931 per year (1,483/qrtr) in quality assurance per NE Pork Producer Association
- 3,500 youth were certified through the NE 4-H Cooperative Extension services in 2000 (875/qrtr) See the attached "Youth Pork Quality Assurance Training" published by the University of Nebraska.

Poultry

- No formal data available

Egg

- The United Egg Producers (UEP) has developed a quality assurance program. However, Nebraska does not have egg producers using third party monitoring to be able to gather data.

Sheep

- The Nebraska Sheep Producers Association reported that the sheep quality assurance program does not require mandatory third party monitoring, therefore, are unable to gather data on producers using the program.

Extension Agents Trained

- Seventy (70) extension staff received training on quality assurance techniques and use of the present Nebraska grant project – food safety “training kits” for youth.

3. NUMBER OF PRODUCERS WHO HAVE JOINED INDUSTRY QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAMS OR STATE-COORDINATED VERIFIED PRODUCTION CONTROL PROGRAMS:

Beef

- 3,500 presently enrolled in the Beef Quality Assurance per the Nebraska Cattlemen organization
- Presently there are six (6) beef herds enrolled in a state-coordinated Nebraska Voluntary Johne’s Certification program.

Dairy

- Presently there are five (5) dairy herds enrolled in a state-coordinated Nebraska Voluntary Johne’s Certification program.

Swine

- Presently all of the swine herds are enrolled in a state-coordinated Nebraska Pseudorabies eradication program.

Poultry

- No formal data available

Egg

- No formal data available

Sheep

- No formal data available

Cervidae

- Presently there are thirty (30) cervid herds enrolled in a state-coordinated Nebraska Voluntary Chronic Wasting Disease Monitoring program.

4. NUMBER OF PRIVATE VETERINARIANS RECEIVING TRAINING DURING THE QUARTER:

TOTAL NUMBER OF VETERINARIANS WHO HAVE BEEN TRAINED:

- 245 Beef Quality Assurance veterinarians trained annually, per Dr. Dee Griffin, Extension Veterinarian – University of Nebraska, NE.
- Current number of Pork Quality Assurance Trainers – 271 veterinarians, 81 extension educators and 29 vocational agricultural instructors.

TOTAL NUMBER OF FOOD ANIMAL VETERINARIANS IN THE STATE:

- Per the NE Bureau of Animal Industry and the local APHIS/Veterinary Services records, approximately 700 of the state's veterinarian's practice with animal related to food production.

5. STATUS OF ANY NEW PUBLICATIONS OR TRAINING MATERIALS BEING DEVELOPED OR FINALIZED:

- 3,500 copies of Beef Quality Assurance Manuals were published in 1999, with 2,800 distributed, and 5,000 copies of a Quality Assurance CD with 1,400 distributed.
- The new 'youth' Pork Quality Assurance curriculum was developed in November 2000, includes instructional materials in a booklet format as well as on CD.
- The University of NE Cooperative Extension services and Nebraska Bureau of Animal Industry are collaboratively developing an "all species" quality assurance program, to include 'Learning Laboratories'.
- Pamphlets collaboratively produced with the Bureau of Animal Industry and the University of NE explain the availability and usage of the Youth Food Safety Training Kits, purchased with the 2000-01 USDA grant funding to be disseminated to area extension offices and veterinarians.
- NE Department of Agriculture developed brochures and compiled packets this quarter stressing the importance of bio-security and good management practices for veterinarians and producers in lieu of public food safety concerns (perceived and real). The information addressed Mad Cow Disease, Foot and Mouth Disease, Pseudorabies in Swine and Chronic Wasting Disease, with the goal of educating consumers. The distribution was to heighten awareness amongst producers on the need for consumers to witness safe food practices.

6. OTHER ACTIVITIES

- The Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Industry and the University of NE Cooperative Extension via the FSIS food safety grant, has developed a program to purchase Food Safety 'Learning Laboratories'. With the purchase of the species-specific kits the first quarter of 2001, next steps include training of Cooperative Extension personnel and distribution of the hands-on tools. The Nebraska Bureau of Animal Industry will forward information regarding the 'learning labs' to professional contacts statewide and assist in food safety training.