



United States Department of Agriculture

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service  
**2018 IMPACT REPORT**



# Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

## WHO WE ARE

**8,379**  
EMPLOYEES TOTAL\*

**\$1.4B**  
BUDGET

**6** OPERATIONAL PROGRAMS

**7** LABS AND RESEARCH HUBS

## MISSION

To protect the health and value of America's agricultural and natural resources

## OUR FOCUS



PLANT HEALTH



ANIMAL HEALTH



WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT



ANIMAL WELFARE

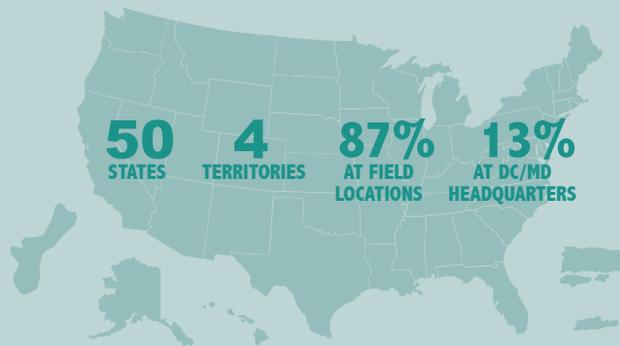


GLOBAL TRADE



BIOTECHNOLOGY

## WHERE WE SERVE



## WHAT DRIVES US



**25+**  
agricultural sectors with diverse needs to serve



**21.6M**  
jobs depending on U.S. agriculture and related industries



**\$143B**  
in U.S. agricultural exports for the global food supply



**900M**  
acres of U.S. farmland to protect



**183M**  
head of livestock to protect from predators and foreign animal diseases



**1M+**  
animals to inspect for humane care and use under the Animal Welfare Act and the Horse Protection Act

## WHY?

Because **HEALTHY** and **PROFITABLE** American agriculture means **FEEDING** and **CLOTHING** the **WORLD**.



# 2018 IMPACT

# BY THE NUMBERS

For more than 40 years, the mission of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has been to protect the health and value of America's agricultural and natural resources. Millions of people benefit from APHIS' programs and services every day. Below are key results from our work in 2018.



## PLANT & ANIMAL HEALTH

# 100%

of commercial cotton-producing areas in the continental United States now free of pink bollworm, ending a 101-year-old battle with one of the world's most damaging cotton pests



# 650+

participants in Federal-State-industry response to a simulated outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), improving U.S. readiness for foreign animal diseases

# 0

incursions of the most dangerous foreign animal diseases of livestock (FMD, African swine fever)

# 89%

compliance with the Horse Protection Act

# 91%

compliance with the Animal Welfare Act

## ANIMAL CARE



# 10,000+

producers we helped in 47 States to protect livestock from predators

## WILDLIFE SERVICES



## GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY

# \$50M

net cost savings from 7 deregulatory market access proposed rules



## MARKET ACCESS

# \$23.4B

estimated value of foreign markets opened, expanded, or retained for U.S. plant and plant product exports

# 200+

markets opened, expanded, or retained for U.S.-origin animal products or live animals

# 129

innovations authorized (deregulated) to date for field use

# 700

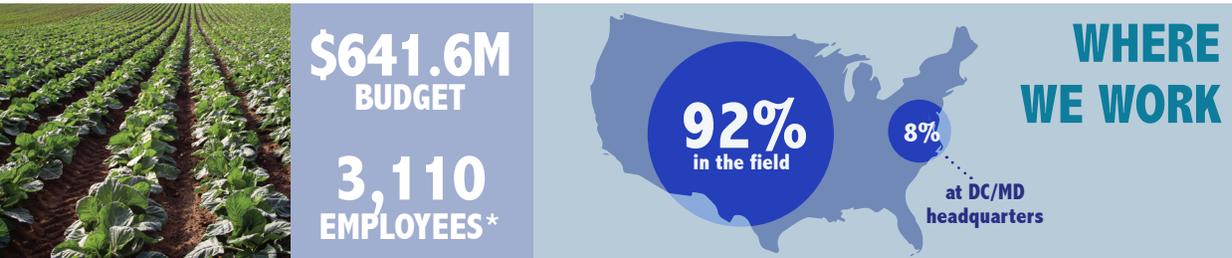
site inspections to oversee field testing for genetically engineered crops and protect plant health

## BIOTECHNOLOGY



# Plant Health

Plant Protection and Quarantine protects plant health by preventing destructive pests from entering the United States, limiting the spread of pests that are already here, working to eradicate economically and environmentally significant pests of concern, and facilitating the safe trade of plants and other agricultural products.



\* Includes full-time permanent, temporary, and term positions as well as Locally Employed Staff abroad

## 2018 Highlights



Inspected and cleared **3.83 billion** pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables and **1.1 billion** plants from **22** countries before they shipped to the United States



Cleared **18,502** imported shipments containing nearly **1.7 billion** plant products and nearly **697 tons** of seeds and intercepted **1,173** different pest species



Identified **130,493** individual pests found during U.S. Customs and Border Protection inspections of imported commodities, cargo, conveyances, and passenger baggage and took quick action to prevent those of concern from entering the United States



Completed **226** risk analyses and related products to evaluate new or exotic pests for their potential to establish and harm U.S. agriculture and determine which ones might travel here on imported goods and commodities



Issued more than **21,000** import permits for plants and plant products and responded to more than **22,000** inquiries about imports and plant health permits



Issued over **719,755** Federal phytosanitary (plant health) certificates to facilitate the export of U.S. plants and plant products to **208** international destinations



Opened, expanded, or retained markets for U.S. plant and plant product exports valued at more than **\$23.4 billion**



Conducted **466** pest surveys with partners in 50 States and 3 Territories, detecting **14** new or re-introduced species—all of which were found before they caused significant damage



Eliminated pink bollworm from all commercial cotton-producing areas in the continental United States, ending a **101-year-old battle** with a pest that cost growers tens of millions of dollars in losses annually



Distributed **\$63.5 million** in funds from the Plant Pest and Disease Management and Disaster Prevention Program to cooperators across the country for **446** projects that help safeguard U.S. plant health



Negotiated with foreign governments to release **204** U.S.-origin shipments worth more than **\$50 million** that were held at ports abroad due to paperwork issues or plant health concerns and helped re-export **58** U.S. shipments worth **\$284,000**



Worked with **182** International Plant Protection Convention members to adopt **9** new international standards that facilitate safe agricultural trade



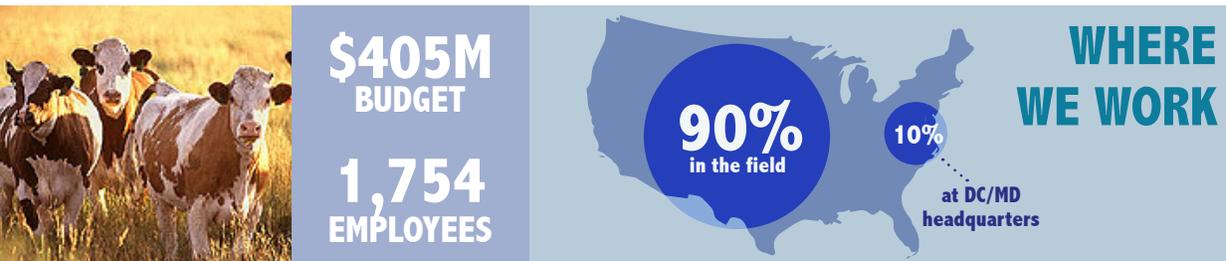
Maintained access to a **\$12 billion** soybean market in China by identifying best practices for reducing weed seeds in U.S. exports

[www.aphis.usda.gov/plant-health](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant-health)



# Animal Health

Our Veterinary Services program protects animal health by regulating the import of animals and animal products; responding to animal disease emergencies; managing national programs for controlling animal diseases; conducting diagnostic testing; and ensuring pure, safe, potent, and effective veterinary biologics.



## 2018 Highlights



Surveyed the health of backyard birds at more than **100,000** locations and tested over **3,300** diagnostic samples to prevent virulent Newcastle disease—a highly contagious and fatal bird disease—from spreading to commercial poultry, an industry valued at **\$49.2 billion**



Performed **28,000** tests on U.S. poultry for influenza A virus



Improved U.S. readiness to respond to foreign animal diseases by carrying out the APHIS Agriculture Response Management and Resources foot-and-mouth disease functional exercise, a Federal-State-industry response to a simulated disease outbreak involving an estimated **650** participants and **13** States



Conducted **2,072** foreign animal disease investigations to protect the health of U.S. agriculture, the most investigations ever conducted in a fiscal year



Monitored U.S. livestock for disease, including **2.5 million** tests for brucellosis; **232,000** animal inspections or treatments for cattle fever tick; **815,000** tests for cattle tuberculosis; **12,000** tests for classical swine fever; **125,000** tests for swine pseudorabies; and **43,000** tests for scrapie



Provided market release of more than **106 billion** doses of veterinary biologics prepared by **94** manufacturers and permit holders targeting **230** animal diseases that threaten American agriculture



Endorsed **326,000** health certificates to facilitate safe animal exports



Negotiated export requirements to open, continue, or expand access to more than **200** markets for U.S.-origin animal products or live animals



Helped safely import and return home more than **1,000** foreign horses that came to North Carolina for the World Equestrian Games



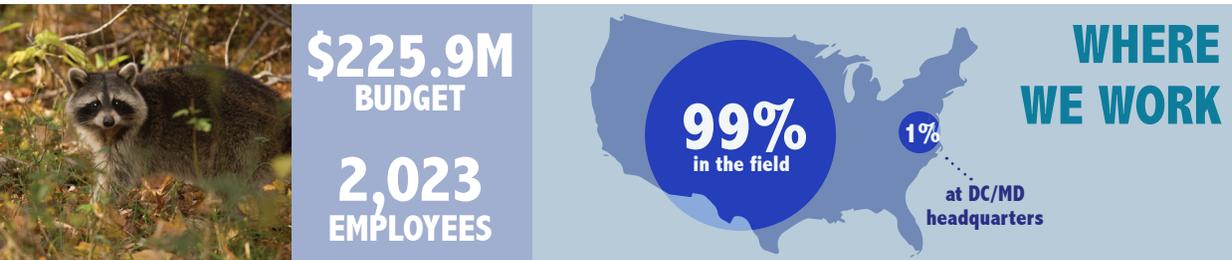
Enhanced our ability to electronically collect data for the national animal disease tracing system—for example, using mobile technology to speed the import of approximately **30,000** cattle from Canada—and retired **4 million** identification numbers for cattle at the end of their lifespans, making it possible to conduct tracebacks more quickly

[www.aphis.usda.gov/animal-health](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal-health)



# Wildlife Damage Management

Wildlife Services provides Federal leadership and expertise to resolve conflicts between people and wildlife and allow them to coexist by protecting agriculture; natural resources, including threatened and endangered species; property and infrastructure; and public health and safety.



## 2018 Highlights



Assisted farmers and ranchers in **47 States** to reduce the impact of predators on their animals, protecting **4.5 million** head of cattle, **3.4 million** sheep, and **550,000** head of other livestock



Worked with **872 airports** across the United States to prevent wildlife from colliding with aircraft, improving travel safety for more than **700 million** passengers



Distributed more than **10 million** vaccination baits in **17 States** to reduce rabies in wildlife and prevent disease spread to people and pets



Donated **118 tons** of goose and deer meat for people in need—providing protein for **50,000** meals in the Washington, D.C., area alone—and **13 tons** of deer and goose meat for animals in zoos, aquariums, and veterinary facilities



Eradicated feral swine from **2 States**—Maryland and New Jersey—and worked in **37** other States and **3** Territories to reduce populations of feral swine and protect agriculture from this major threat



Gave advice and information to **268,823** farmers, ranchers, and members of the public to help them protect resources from wildlife damage



Conducted research to find innovative solutions to wildlife damage issues, with broad public impact—**140** articles published in **91** different scientific venues and **243** presentations given at scientific, stakeholder, and public forums in 2018 alone



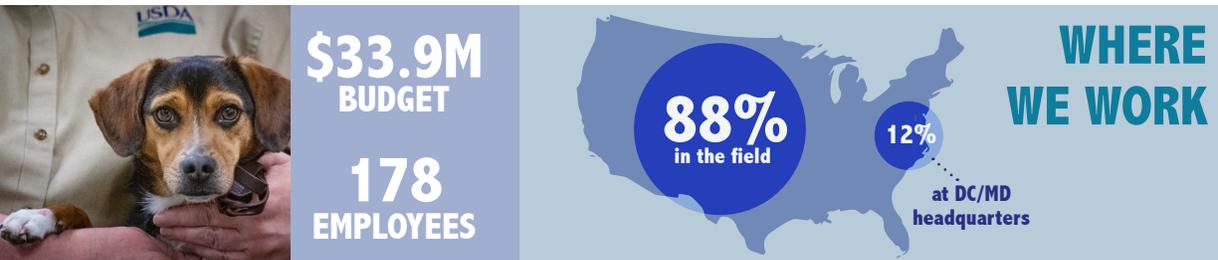
Managed beaver damage in **37 States**, protecting roads, bridges, timber, agriculture, and property—with an up to **\$89** return on taxpayer investment for every **\$1** spent on this work

[www.aphis.usda.gov/wildlife-damage](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wildlife-damage)



# Animal Welfare

Animal Care protects the welfare of animals by administering two important laws: the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) and the Horse Protection Act (HPA). Over 8,000 customers engage in activities governed by these laws—breeders, dealers, and exhibitors; research facilities; transporters; dog importers; and managers of horse shows, exhibitions, and sales. Animal Care also provides national leadership on the safety and well-being of pets and other animals during disasters.



## 2018 Highlights



Conducted **10,342** AWA site inspections, assessing the health, care, and treatment of more than **1 million** animals



Achieved **91%** compliance among AWA licensees and registrants through quality inspections, guidance, and outreach



Initiated **19** investigative cases for alleged AWA violations, assessed nearly **\$300,000** in penalties, and suspended or revoked **6** AWA licenses



Inspected **1,638** horses at shows and exhibitions for HPA compliance



Improved the consistency of USDA and industry inspections under the HPA, with a **90%** increase in detections of HPA noncompliances by Designated Qualified Persons



Assessed almost **\$70,000** in penalties for HPA violations and disqualified **49** individuals from participating in HPA-regulated activities



Invested more than **\$400,000** in cooperative agreements with key emergency management partners to strengthen U.S. preparedness for ensuring the safety of pets and other animals in disasters



Provided **\$15,000** to help Native American communities with free spay and neuter services



Improved AWA license renewal process to remind licensees when it's time to renew, leading to a **24%** reduction in lapsed licenses



Introduced a one-stop web resource for obtaining permits to import dogs, issuing **586** import permits for **2,021** dogs (compared to 5 permits for 35 dogs in FY 2017)

[www.aphis.usda.gov/animal-welfare](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal-welfare)



# Global Trade

International Services' team of domestic policy staff, Foreign Service officers, and foreign nationals supports APHIS' mission on the global stage. They work closely with other governments to control pests and diseases before they can enter the United States, build technical and regulatory skills to prevent the spread of pests and diseases, and facilitate safe agricultural trade.



\* Includes full-time permanent, temporary, and term positions as well as Locally Employed Staff abroad

## 2018 Highlights



Represented APHIS in numerous face-to-face meetings and other direct, ongoing dialogue with foreign counterparts abroad to promote agricultural health and trade—with 2018 seeing a **\$3 billion** increase in U.S. exports of agricultural products



Coordinated with other APHIS programs to help open new markets and expand or retain existing access for a wide range of U.S.-origin products, such as breeding cattle to Ghana (worth an estimated **\$20 million** over a 5-year period), corn to Myanmar (valued at **\$6 million**), live poultry to Indonesia (worth **\$22 million** in 2017), and ash wood to the European Union (worth **\$47 million**)



Provided key diplomatic and technical support in APHIS negotiations with foreign governments to release more than **270** shipments of U.S. agricultural exports worth over **\$50 million** that were held at ports abroad due to paperwork issues or agricultural health concerns



Produced **1.1 billion** sterile Mediterranean fruit flies weekly at the El Pino sterile insect facility in Guatemala, supporting preventive release programs in California and Florida, along with suppression efforts in Guatemala and Mexico



Released **780 million** sterile screwworm flies in the biological barrier zone in Panama and Colombia to protect screwworm-free areas in North and Central America from re-infestation



Trained **283** foreign officials on the U.S. regulatory process by hosting them during **58** visits



Responded to **130** requests from foreign governments and others for subject matter expertise, trainings, and outreach-related activities, including working with Tuskegee University to train 2 groups of **50** veterinarians and officials from **21** African countries in animal and plant health risk assessment



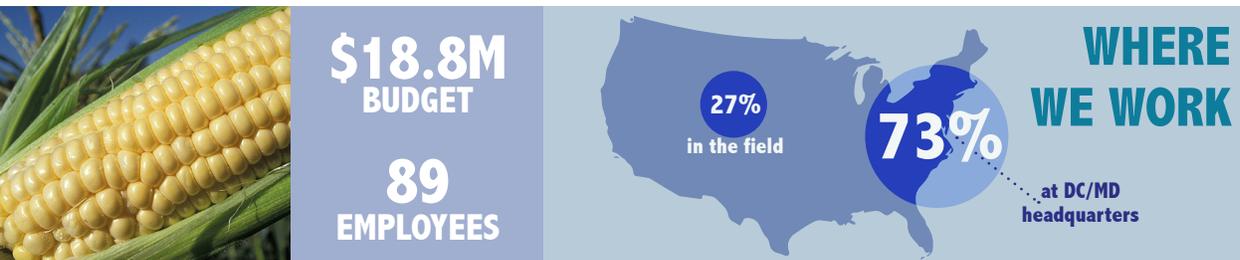
Provided **3** animal health trainings focused on highly pathogenic avian influenza surveillance and emergency response to **44** government officials representing about **39** countries

[www.aphis.usda.gov/international-services](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/international-services)



# Biotechnology

Through the Biotechnology Regulatory Services program, APHIS protects against risks to U.S. plant health by overseeing the safe import, interstate movement, and environmental release/field testing of certain genetically engineered (GE) organisms. APHIS coordinates these responsibilities along with the other designated Federal agencies as part of the Federal Coordinated Framework for the Regulation of Biotechnology.



## 2018 Highlights



Provided nearly **\$750,000** in cooperative funding to universities and other partners for critical biotechnology work, including State inspections, risk assessments, and protecting natural plant heritage



With PPQ and States, conducted more than **700** safety inspections of authorized GE field trials to protect other crops



Completed **27** virtual inspections of GE field trials after launching a new virtual inspection process



Held **4** meetings or workshops for our stakeholders and regulated community to share information and guidance helping them understand how to follow our regulatory processes



Completed **2** petitions for deregulation within time targets, bringing the total number of deregulated products to **129**



Delivered presentations to delegations from **23** countries to offer technical information and build capacity abroad for regulating biotechnology



Processed **1,562** permits and notifications for the import, interstate movement, or environmental release of regulated GE products



Authorized **10,351** locations and **4,550** sites in **45** U.S. States and Territories for the movement or field testing of GE products



Converted **40,000** pages of notification and permit records from paper to electronic versions, allowing faster response to requests for FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) and administrative records

[www.aphis.usda.gov/biotechnology](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/biotechnology)



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