Protecting the health and value of America's agricultural and natural resources

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

2019 Impact Report
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Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

**WHO WE ARE**
- 8,470 employees
- $1.7B budget
- 6 operational programs
- 7 labs and research hubs

**1 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**
- 50 states
- 4 territories
- 87% at field locations
- 13% at DC/MD headquarters
- 35 countries

**WHAT DRIVES US**
- 25+ agricultural sectors with diverse needs to serve
- 21.6M jobs depending on U.S. agriculture and related industries
- $137B in U.S. agricultural exports for the global food supply
- 900M acres of U.S. farmland to protect
- 177M 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.
For nearly 50 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. All Americans and many people throughout the world benefit from APHIS’ programs and services every day. Here are key results from our work in 2019.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Result</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>of the United States now FREE OF PLUM POX VIRUS, ending a 20-year battle with the most devastating viral disease of stone fruit worldwide</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>participants in 4 Federal-State-industry responses to simulated outbreaks of African swine fever (ASF), IMPROVING U.S. READINESS for foreign animal diseases</td>
<td>300+</td>
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<tr>
<td>value of EXPORT MARKETS PROTECTED—in the last 3 months of FY 2019 alone—by APHIS work to remove unjustified trade barriers for U.S. agricultural products</td>
<td>$90M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>passengers PROTECTED FROM WILDLIFE STRIKES TO AIRCRAFT at approximately 870 U.S. airports and military bases around the globe</td>
<td>700M+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of ANIMAL WELFARE ACT (AWA) licensees and registrants in substantial COMPLIANCE through the use of inspections, guidance, and outreach</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEALTH CERTIFICATES endorsed or issued to facilitate the safe export of U.S. animals, plants, and their products to hundreds of destinations around the world</td>
<td>954,433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>new users signed up to our Veterinary Export Health Certification System, expanding use of digitally signed certificates by 30% to IMPROVE SERVICE AND SPEED COMMERCE—with 35 countries to date now accepting these certificates</td>
<td>5,000+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>responses to farmers, ranchers, and others requesting direct control or technical assistance to REDUCE THE IMPACT OF PREDATORS on their animals, protecting more than 15.8 million head of cattle, sheep, and goats valued at over $2.5 billion</td>
<td>440,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INNOVATIONS in agricultural biotechnology authorized (deregulated) to date for field use</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
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</table>

0 incursions of the most dangerous FOREIGN ANIMAL DISEASES of livestock (African swine fever, foot-and-mouth disease)

0 establishment of the most dangerous FOREIGN PLANT PESTS and diseases

1,337 EMPLOYEES DISPATCHED to 38 emergency incidents or events, swiftly responding to pest and disease outbreaks, natural disasters, and other threats to U.S. agriculture nationwide
Plant Health

Plant Protection and Quarantine supports farmers and the environment by preventing destructive pests and diseases from entering the United States, limiting the spread of pests and diseases 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.

2019 Highlights

- Inspected and cleared 2.5 billion pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables and 1.15 billion plants from 25 countries before they were shipped to the United States
- Cleared 20,917 imported shipments containing nearly 1.7 billion plant units (cuttings, rooted plants, tissue culture, etc.) and nearly 422 tons of seeds and prevented entry of 1,119 quarantine-significant pests at U.S. plant inspection stations
- Intercepted 79,388 pests found during U.S. Customs and Border Protection inspections of 30,227 ships and more than 1.2 million cargo, mail, and express carrier shipments and took quick action to prevent those of concern from entering the United States
- Issued more than 23,000 import permits for plants and plant products and responded to over 19,400 inquiries about imports and plant health permits
- Issued 678,543 Federal phytosanitary (plant health) certificates directly or through authorized State and county cooperators to aid the export of U.S. plants and plant products to 209 international destinations
- Provided critical support—such as inspecting and certifying shipments, conducting technical negotiations, and providing online trade tools—for the export of U.S. plants and plant products valued at $86 billion
- Completed 305 risk analyses associated with imports, exports, invasive pest threats, and program requirements to support safe trade and protect American agriculture
- Conducted 217 surveys with partners in 50 States and 3 territories, detecting 13 new or re-introduced species—all of which were found before they caused significant damage
- Eliminated plum pox virus from the United States, protecting 1.3 million acres of commercial stone fruit orchards, whose crops are worth $6.8 billion with a $5 billion export value
- Allocated $66 million in funds from the Plant Pest and Disease Management and Disaster Prevention Program to cooperators across the country for 407 projects that help safeguard U.S. plant health
- Negotiated with foreign governments to release hundreds of U.S.-origin shipments of plants and plant products that were held at ports abroad due to paperwork issues or plant health concerns and issued 21,037 re-export phytosanitary certificates to keep U.S. shipments moving
- Worked with 182 International Plant Protection Convention members to adopt 8 new international standards that facilitate safe agricultural trade

WHERE WE WORK

92% in the field

8% at DC/MD headquarters

$632M BUDGET
3,158 EMPLOYEES

www.aphis.usda.gov/plant-health
Animal Health

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

2019 Highlights

Surveyed the health of backyard birds at more than 8,834 locations and tested over 9,993 diagnostic samples to prevent virulent Newcastle disease—a highly contagious and fatal bird disease—from spreading to commercial poultry, an industry valued at $46.3 billion

Performed more than 1.7 million surveillance tests for avian influenza, helping to protect our Nation’s flocks from this infectious disease

Enhanced U.S. readiness to respond to foreign animal diseases by carrying out 4 African swine fever (ASF) exercises, Federal-State-industry responses to simulated disease outbreaks involving 14 States and over 300 participants

Increased the number of National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) labs approved for ASF testing to 47—more than quadrupling U.S. lab capacity for this disease

Conducted 1,701 foreign animal disease investigations with 79 percent targeting vesicular disease, mainly due to the ongoing Senecavirus A (formerly known as Seneca Valley virus) in pigs in the United States and Canada

Monitored U.S. livestock for disease, including 630,000 tests for brucellosis; 209,608 animal inspections or treatments for cattle fever tick; 815,000 tests for cattle tuberculosis; 10,000 tests for classical swine fever with 1,550 targeted tests for ASF; 80,000 tests for swine pseudorabies; and 34,000 tests for scrapie

Provided market release of more than 120 billion doses of veterinary biologics prepared by 90 licensed manufacturers and permit holders targeting 280 animal diseases that threaten American agriculture

Endorsed 275,890 health certificates to facilitate safe animal exports and expanded use of digitally signed certificates by 30 percent, overcoming challenges to improve service and speed commerce—with over 5,000 new users joining our electronic system (the Veterinary Export Health Certification System) this year and 35 countries to date now accepting these certificates

Approved 3,156 facilities to export U.S. animal products, expanding the network of USDA-approved establishments to move these products to global markets quickly and safely

Issued 17,933 import permits for live animals, animal products, organisms, and vectors

Coordinated or supported 13 audits of U.S. export systems as requested by foreign trade partners and engaged in bilateral trade meetings with 25 countries

Enhanced our ability to electronically collect data for the national animal disease tracing system, using mobile technology to speed the import of approximately 194,841 cattle from Canada

www.aphis.usda.gov/animal-health
Wildlife Damage Management

Wildlife Services supports ranchers, farmers, wildlife, and others by exercising 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.

2019 Highlights

- Responded to **440,000** requests from farmers, ranchers, and others for direct control or technical assistance to reduce the impact of predators on their animals, protecting more than **15.8 million** head of cattle, sheep, and goats valued at over **$2.5 billion**

- Protected **378** threatened and endangered species in **39** States and **2** territories using **$11.7 million** of funding from cooperating agencies and others to support the Endangered Species Act

- Managed beaver damage on **7,030** sites in **43** States through cooperatively funded efforts, with each **$1** invested in management protecting an estimated **$45** in natural resources on average

- With USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service, selected **20** projects in **10** States for funding to target problem feral swine populations, while continuing work to reduce feral swine damage across **37** States and **3** territories

- Donated **138 tons** of goose, deer/elk, and other meat—more than **1 million** servings of protein—for people in need, making full use of this resource from wildlife damage management work

- Collected more than **6,200** samples from **42** different wildlife species for testing **8** diseases in **42** States, including **3,500** samples from invasive feral swine

- Initiated **86** new research studies to find innovative solutions to wildlife damage issues, with broad public impact—**133** articles published in **76** different venues and **216** presentations by researchers given at scientific, stakeholder, and public forums in 2019 alone

- Distributed approximately **9.4 million** oral rabies vaccination baits over **64,000 square miles** and collected samples from more than **12,000** wild animals in **18** States to reduce rabies in wildlife and prevent disease spread to people, livestock, and pets

- Deployed WS employees for a total of **1,878 days** to **8** emergency responses nationwide ranging from wildfires and flooding to agricultural or wildlife disease outbreaks

- Managed cormorant populations at **185** facilities in **3** States to protect farmed fish stock worth millions of dollars from avian depredation

- Reduced aviation hazards at more than **150** military airbases and joint civilian-military airports around the globe and marked **10 years** of voluntary deployments by **60+** wildlife biologists to numerous U.S. or coalition airbases in southwest Asia

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 licensees, registrants, and horse show participants 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.

2019 Highlights

- Conducted 9,326 AWA site inspections, assessing the health, care, and treatment of more than 1 million animals
- Found 99% of AWA licensees and registrants in substantial compliance through the use of inspections, guidance, and outreach
- Debuted the Licensing and Registration Assistant, an online self-service tool—used over 4,000 times already—to help individuals and businesses quickly see if they need to be licensed or registered under the AWA
- Issued 20 new “Animal Care Aids,” a series of one-page, easy-to-use resources designed to support AWA licensees with the care of their animals
- Issued 2,002 permits covering 6,263 dogs entering the United States (compared to 586 permits for 2,021 dogs in FY 2018) through a new online permitting system launched last year
- Worked with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to complete the final report to Congress on the 21st Century Cures Act, a report that gives an interagency road map to reduce administrative burden for more than 1,000 AWA-registered biomedical facilities while maintaining scientific integrity and humane animal care
- Delivered 5 Interagency Collaborative Animal Research Education (ICARE) Academies—a training program with HHS’ National Institutes of Health that reaches approximately 150 research institutions—to improve animal welfare at laboratories and increase compliance with Federal standards while minimizing regulatory burdens on research
- Initiated 17 investigative cases for alleged AWA violations and assessed $147,300 in penalties
- Inspected 1,210 horses at shows and exhibitions for HPA compliance
- Assessed more than $70,000 in penalties for HPA violations and disqualified 66 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 for their pets

www.aphis.usda.gov/animal-welfare
Global Trade

International Services’ team of domestic policy staff, Foreign Service officers, and foreign nationals support 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. Daily, face-to-face dialogues with foreign regulatory counterparts help overcome increased challenges for U.S. exporters from global trade conflicts.

2019 Highlights

Coordinated with other APHIS programs to help open new markets for a wide range of U.S.-origin products, such as U.S. beef and meat products to Morocco (worth up to $80 million per year); U.S. beef and bone meal to Peru (valued at $10 million annually); cattle, goats, and sheep to Turkmenistan (valued at $20 million per year); and blueberries to Vietnam (valued at $1 million per year)

Supported APHIS negotiations to resolve delays with hundreds of U.S. shipments at foreign ports, including a shipment of rice to Japan worth $11.5 million and a shipment of walnut plants to Chile worth more than $1.5 million

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

Produced 1 billion sterile Mexican fruit flies at the San Miguel Petapa facility in Guatemala to support eradication programs in California and Texas and population suppression efforts in northern Mexico

Released aerially 15 million sterile New World screwworm flies weekly to maintain a biological barrier in Panama and Colombia to protect screwworm-free areas in North and Central America

Eased future market access by building awareness of the U.S. regulatory process, hosting 350 foreign officials during 60 individual visits and working with Tuskegee University to train two groups of 43 veterinarians and government officials from 11 African countries in Sanitary/Phytosanitary (SPS) Risk Assessment

Coordinated speakers from APHIS’ Plant Protection and Quarantine program to deliver the agency’s 8th annual Plant Health Systems Analysis Course to officials representing 20 developing countries, emphasizing the best practices in plant health

Provided 4 trainings in animal health, with a focus on surveillance and emergency response for highly pathogenic avian influenza and African swine fever (ASF), to 140 government officials representing 45 countries

Supported two training courses in Vietnam for 60 veterinarians and government officials to help with ASF response efforts in that country and share best practices to prevent further disease spread in commercial and feral swine

WHERE WE WORK

$85M BUDGET
268 EMPLOYEES

in stateside offices

abroad in 28 countries

www.aphis.usda.gov/international-services
Biotechnology

Through the Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) 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.

2019 Highlights

- Published a proposed rule for the first-ever major revision of USDA’s biotechnology regulations, generating broad public interest with over 6,100 comments on the rule and projecting an estimated $9 million in annual cost savings with the rule’s implementation.
- Launched a pilot version of eFile, APHIS’ new online permitting system, to BRS customers—with 25 stakeholders participating and giving valuable feedback on the system’s development.
- Provided $870,000 in cooperative funding to universities and other partners for critical biotechnology work, including State inspections, risk assessments, and protecting natural plant heritage.
- Held 3 meetings or workshops for our stakeholders and regulated community to share information and guidance helping them understand how to follow our regulatory processes.
- With PPQ and States, conducted more than 600 safety inspections of authorized GE field trials to protect other crops.
- Completed 3 petitions for deregulation within time targets, bringing the total number of deregulated products to 132.
- Delivered presentations to over 100 visitors representing 12 countries to offer technical information and build capacity abroad for regulating biotechnology.
- Processed 1,486 permits and notifications for the import, interstate movement, or environmental release of regulated GE products.
- Authorized 10,027 locations and 3,283 sites in 51 U.S. States and territories for the movement or field testing of GE products.
- Converted 670,000 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
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