



Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

Jan. 30, 2014

Office of the
Administrator

1400 Independence
Avenue SW
Washington, DC
20250

Dear Stakeholders:

Next week when you visit the APHIS Web site, you're going to notice it looks different and hopefully better. For many months now, Web managers from across APHIS have been working on a complete re-design and we're launching the new site Monday, Feb. 3. The new APHIS Web site will more closely mirror the layout of the USDA site and make it faster and easier for you to find the information you need, whether you're searching from your computer, or on your mobile device. Ensuring the Agency makes the best use of technology to support our stakeholders is one of my top priorities as APHIS' Administrator, and the redesign of our Web site is the first step in providing you with more information and more effective ways of doing business with us.

I wanted to make you aware that the re-design is coming and encourage you to spend some time next week looking around our new site. For those of you familiar with our current site, you'll notice that many of our traditional navigation fields will remain the same. For example, you'll still be able to search for information under Animal Health, Animal Welfare, Biotechnology, International Services, Plant Health and Wildlife Damage. We've also added categories to help those who are unfamiliar with our site follow a direct path to the information they need. To this end, visitors will now be able to search by Audience under topics such as Travelers, Importers/Exporters and Producers.

We know that our Web site is a critical tool for effectively serving our customers, conducting business, and providing stakeholders with the latest news and information about what's happening in the Agency. I think we've done a good job getting ready for the launch but you may notice that some pages may still require minor fixes. If you identify any problems, you can report them at partnerships@aphis.usda.gov. And please know that our Web team is continuing to scour the site for any issues as well.

I think our new design is far more user friendly and it will make it easier for new as well as continuing customers to do business with APHIS and find what they're looking for. As a customer-service focused Agency, that's our goal and I hope you enjoy using our new site.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Shea".

Kevin Shea
APHIS Administrator