

UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION - 2004

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 38 **APPROVED AS AMENDED**

SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON PARASITIC DISEASES

SUBJECT MATTER: REPLACEMENT OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE KNIPLING BUSHLAND UNITED STATES LIVESTOCK INSECTS RESEARCH LABORATORY

DATES: OCTOBER 27, 2004

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The continuing pressures of *Rhipicephalus (Boophilus)* sp. ticks along the Texas-Mexican border is a real and measurable threat to the health of United States cattle. Practical scientific investigations have been completed by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Research Service (ARS) Knippling-Bushland United States Livestock Insects Research Laboratory in Kerrville, Texas to assist in the control and eradication of Texas Fever ticks in the United States.

Resolution:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) urges the Secretary of Agriculture to request adequate funds to construct a replacement United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Research Service (ARS) laboratory in the area of Kerrville, Texas.

RESPONSE:

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE (ARS)

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) shares the concern of the Committee that the work of the Knippling-Bushland Livestock Insects Research Laboratory, at Kerrville, Texas, not be impeded. Cattle fever remains a serious threat and the research done at Kerrville by ARS scientists is world renowned. The facilities at Kerrville are aging, and options for improving or replacing them have been limited by a lack of funds for new construction. The 108th Congress acknowledged the pressing need for ARS to update its facilities and requested the Secretary of Agriculture to formulate a comprehensive building plan for its consideration. ARS will analyze the feasibility of replacing the Kerrville facilities for potential inclusion in the Secretary's response.

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) – NO RESPONSE – 5-26-05