Texas Cattle Fever Tick Eradication Program
FY2014
Kevin Varner
District Director
USDA-APHIS-VS-SPRS
Cattle Fever Tick - Systematic Area

545,480 acres
10,979 cattle
1,379 horses (2011 census)
Cattle Fever Tick Eradication Program
Basic Activities

- 60 Mounted Patrol Inspectors / 7 Work Areas
- River Patrol
- Servicing Movements
- Eradicate Tick Infestations
Vaccine

• Five year vaccine saga---- first Cuban Vaccine, highly effective against annulatus but unable to remove “experimental” designation…..

• Large Pharmaceutical company steps up to the plate– builds a vaccine just for Texas and the Tick zone…… pen trials completed successfully…

• Unexpected adjuvant problem delays schedule for months….. Switch to water based…..

• Produce new vaccine- ready for a field safety trial next month……

• Deploy Winter / Spring 2015
Vaccine Vision

• Vaccinate all cattle in the permanent Quarantine zone each year.........

• Build a wall of vaccinated cattle--- limited by variable densities of cattle (see Cameron County !!!!)

• Combine with TAHC mandatory ID program (annual whole herd “scratching” and RFID reading / application)
Total Infestations
At the End of September

0 50 100 150 200

Free  Syst  Total

Legend: Blue = Free, Red = Syst, Green = Total
Infestations by Area
September 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Free</th>
<th>Hidalgo</th>
<th>Starr</th>
<th>Zapata</th>
<th>Webb</th>
<th>Maverick</th>
<th>Kinney</th>
<th>Val Verde</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cameron</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hidalgo</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starr</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zapata</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webb</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maverick</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinney</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Val Verde</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Nilgai Antelope
• Questions