



USAHA News Release

UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

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USAHA to host “The Future of the National Tuberculosis Program” Symposium

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For Immediate Release

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St. Joseph, MO - The United States Animal Health Association is pleased to host The Future of the National Tuberculosis Program to provide stakeholders the opportunity to address concerns and input needs on TB, on July 20-21, 2009 at the Radisson Hotel, Denver-Stapleton Plaza.

The symposium is a focused event for cattlemen, dairymen, veterinarians, regulators, diagnosticians and wildlife experts to come together in a dedicated forum to address the needs of the National Bovine Tuberculosis Program in the United States.

“As we continue to deal with TB in livestock and wildlife in the U.S., it’s important that our national program is properly structured to best address the disease in today’s challenges,” says USAHA President Donald Hoenig, and Maine State Veterinarian. “This is an opportunity for USAHA to pull key stakeholders together on a specific topic to help expedite a solution for farmers and ranchers.”

The event will feature updates from USDA on feedback from both their internal and external TB listening sessions, key experiences from states dealing with TB, and facilitated, technical breakout sessions that will provide multiple opportunities for open dialogue on priority program areas. USAHA will compile the discussion notes, including optional recommendations compiled from the meeting participants, into a comprehensive report on the meeting deliberations.

The program is set to begin at 1 p.m. on July 20th, and end at 3:30 p.m. on July 21st. Registration for the meeting is \$100.00 per person. Participants will receive a copy of the final report upon its completion. comprehensive report that will provide details of program needs to regulators, symposium participants and other interested stakeholders. See the tentative agenda for more details on the symposium.

“USAHA embarked on new strategic planning last year, and one of the results of that was to continue evolving USAHA’s efforts outside of its annual meeting,” adds Hoenig. “The Future of the National Tuberculosis Program is the type of event that allows USAHA to have a positive impact on important animal health issues.”

The meeting will be held in the Radisson Hotel Denver-Stapleton. A block of rooms has been held, at a rate of \$129.00 per night, plus tax. Reservations can be made by calling 800-333-333, and referencing

“2009 Bovine Tuberculosis Meeting.” A complementary airport shuttle is also available for transportation to the hotel.

The tentative agenda is as follows:

MONDAY, JULY 20

11:30 am – 1:00 pm Check-in/Registration

1:00 pm: General Session

Welcome and Overview

Report of USDA Listening Sessions

3:15 pm Break

3:30 pm General Session (continued)

State Perspectives and Challenges

USAHA Perceptions & Resolutions

Charge for Breakout Sessions

5:30 pm Adjourn, dinner on your own

TUESDAY, JULY 21

8:00 am – 12:15 pm

Breakout Sessions

8 Topic-specific, facilitated breakout sessions

Approximately 1 hour each, running in 2 concurrent sessions.

Proposed Topic Areas:

- Importation of Infected Cattle
- Wildlife as a Reservoir
- Diagnostic Testing and Limitations
- Surveillance and Traceability
- Modernizing Regulations
- Disease Control Approach
- Cattle Industry Changes
- Fiscal Realities

12:15 pm – Lunch (on your own)

1:30 pm Closing Session

Review

Report of Breakout sessions by facilitators

USAHA Closing Comments

3:30 pm Adjourn

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USAHA, this nation’s animal health forum for over a century, is a science-based, dues-supported, voluntary organization whose membership includes state, federal and international animal and public health agencies, allied industry and professional organizations, as well as individual members representing academia, animal owners and animal health professionals. USAHA primarily serves as a forum for communication and coordination among animal health constituents on issues of animal health and disease control, animal welfare, food safety and public health. USAHA operates with 32 species- and subject-oriented committees, and hosts an annual meeting each year with the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians.