The Food Animal Residue Avoidance Databank (FARAD), in existence since 1982, develops and maintains a unique food safety databank that provides information to veterinarians, livestock producers, and state and federal regulatory and extension specialists on avoiding both animal drug residues and environmental contaminants in meat, milk and eggs. FARAD’s databank provides information regarding the time-course of drug and chemical depletion in blood and tissues of animals following the routine use of drugs in animal agriculture, for the extra-label use of drugs in animal agriculture, and during food contamination emergencies which might arise from exposure to environmental toxins, particularly pesticides, either accidentally or intentionally introduced into the food supply. Additionally, FARAD provides rapid response assistance through both its telephone hotline and web access for inquiries concerning residue issues that affect food animal health and food product contamination. FARAD provides assistance in trade matters by maintaining databanks of foreign drug approvals and it trains veterinary students and veterinary medical residents in the principles of residue avoidance.

Congress funded FARAD at $1 million for fiscal year 2010.

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) urges the President to request and the United States Congress to fund the Food Animal Residue Avoidance Databank (FARAD) at $2.5 million annually.