



KANSAS ANIMAL HEALTH NEWS

Winter 2020

KDA Division of Animal Health

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 Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00-5:00
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USDA OFFERS FREE RFID EAR TAGS

USDA announced an allocation of free low frequency RFID ear tags to be provided for each state based on cattle inventory numbers beginning February 2020. The Kansas allocation of tags totals 287,092.

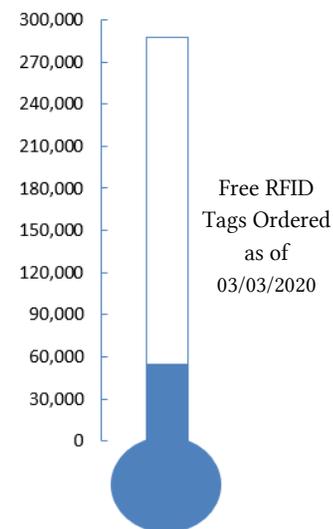
Kansas accredited veterinarians may order the tags through either the Kansas Department of Agriculture Division of Animal Health (KDAH) or USDA-APHIS staff. These tag order requests are all shipped from the nearby USDA warehouse in Kansas City. Due to anticipated demand, there is expected to be RFID tag shortages for the foreseeable future. Orders are not anticipated to ship immediately; KDAH staff recommends ordering tags early. USDA is currently increasing the number of contracted tag manufacturers with anticipation of an increased tag supply later this spring.

The RFID tags may be ordered in white and/or orange. These RFID tags will be offered as an alternative to the silver metal "Brite" and orange metal Official Calhhood Vaccination (OCV) tags. Orange metal or orange RFID OCV tags may only be used by accredited veterinarians for Brucellosis vaccination. The white RFID tags that USDA provides are targeted for use in young replacement breeding cattle.

KDAH and USDA-APHIS encourages veterinarians and producers to move from metal clip tags to RFID tags for official identification. While the metal clip served the industry for decades, the RFID technology will further enhance disease traceability and control efforts by providing electronic data to be readily stored within KDAH's internal USAHERDS database. This database is used daily by KDAH staff for animal health and disease control purposes. Disease events that took days or weeks to search through paper information can now be queried within minutes.

For additional details and to order the tags, contact:

- Karaline Mayer (karaline.mayer@ks.gov, 785-564-6606)
- Kelly McDonald (kelly.mcdonald@usda.gov, 785-228-6579)
- Lindy Trapp (lindy.trapp@usda.gov, 785-250-7830)



ADT WEBINAR MARCH 25

Over the past three months, KDAH and USDA-APHIS staff offered 12 regional vet meetings across the state. For accredited veterinarians and staff members who were unable to attend those meetings, a recorded webinar will be offered on Tuesday, March 25, 2020, 12:00-1:00 p.m. To join the webinar, log on to: <https://kansasag.zoom.us/j/864169284>.

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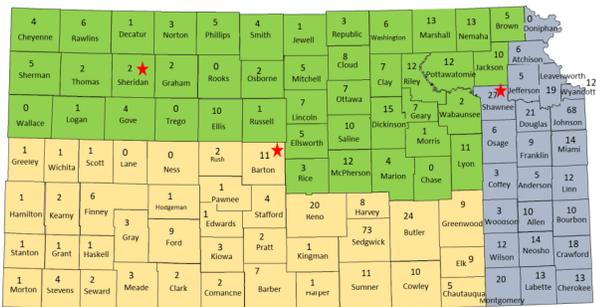
ANIMAL FACILITIES INSPECTION: PROGRAM UPDATES

STAFFING. The Animal Facilities Inspection (AFI) Program regulates companion animal facilities required to be licensed under the provisions of the Kansas Pet Animal Act. The AFI Program is currently made up of five staff members: program manager, administrative assistant, and three inspectors. Recently, the program officially added an investigator position to the staff and is currently seeking applicants.

In 2019, Inspector territories were modified to the current status:

- Chris Demel, south central and southwest Kansas
- Mark Olson, DVM, north central and northwest Kansas
- Kyleigh Keith, eastern Kansas

Animal Facility Inspection Areas



License Year 2020 Inspection Stats

October 1, 2019, through February 14, 2020

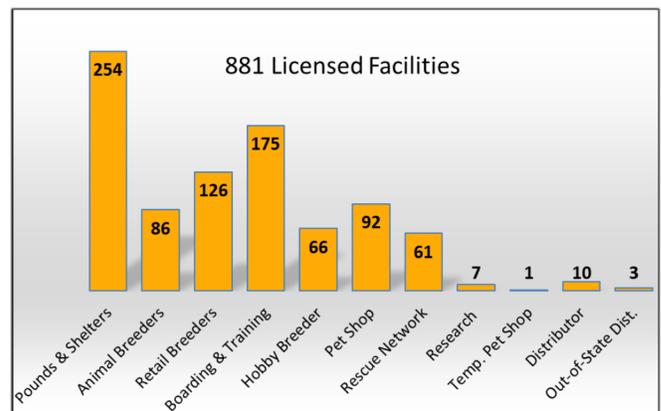


32,858 miles driven
by 3 inspectors

FIV REGULATION. On December 20, 2019, K.A.R. 9-18-23 went into effect allowing the transfer or adoption of feline immunodeficiency virus-positive (FIV-positive) cats from a licensed pet animal facility. The Animal Health Commissioner along with KSU College of Veterinary Medicine shelter medicine subject matter experts determined the public health risks associated with these cats is negligible with the proper oversight and education.

Such movements require:

- A veterinary-client-patient relationship has been established with the licensed pet animal facilities that currently houses the cats.
- The veterinarian has determined the cats are non-symptomatic FIV positive.
- A written statement by the veterinarian to the receiving entity that authorizes the relocation of the cat. The statement shall include disease symptoms, risks, and recommendations of how the cat should be housed to minimize the spread of the virus.



ADT STAFF RECEIVE EXCELLENT RATING

The KDA Division of Animal Health annually receives USDA Cooperative Agreement dollars to focus on animal disease traceability efforts. As part of the agreement, staff must complete a quota of mock traces called Trace Performance Measures (TPMs). TPMs help identify areas for systematic and skillset improvements.

In the last grant cycle, KDAH received an Excellent rating from USDA for successfully completing all assigned TPMs and for completing them in minimal time.

Upon receiving the rating result, Kansas Animal Health Commissioner Dr. Justin Smith commended the “great staff that has made traceability a priority.”

Four full-time staff members and five part-time student workers are responsible for data entry of all sources of disease traceability upon receipt at KDAH. These submissions include items such as certificates of veterinary inspection (health certificates), vaccination forms and tag distributions.

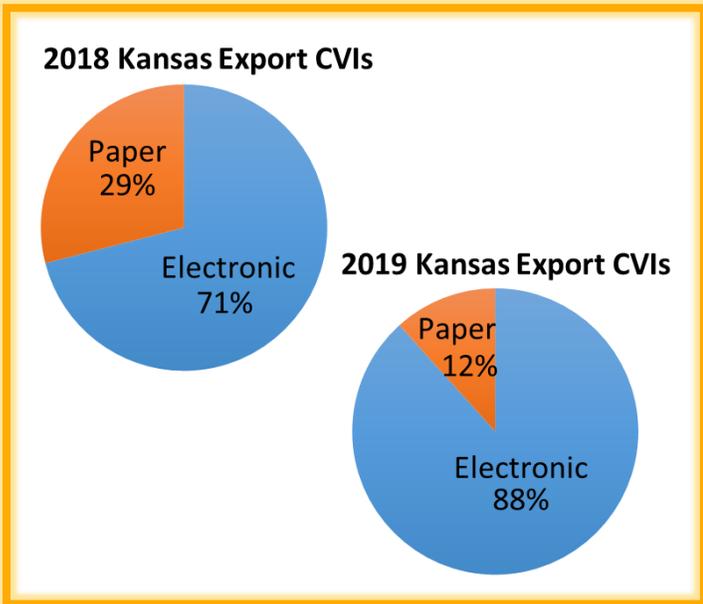
FMD EXERCISE FOCUSES ON POLICY

Each year the Kansas Department of Agriculture conducts a multi-day functional exercise simulation of a foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) outbreak. This year’s exercise, named Fortify, began with a day of information and drills. The group discussed the history and protocol for border checkpoints and permitting in the event of a statewide stop movement order. Presentations provided information on several critical facilities and programs including: Cattle-Trace, the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility, and the state’s Secure Food Supply plans.

Prior to the exercise, participants conducted a tabletop exercise in November that walked through the decision-making process that would take place if FMD were confirmed in North America and how Kansas would respond. The functional exercise took place December 17–18 at KDA in Manhattan. The state’s incident management team was activated and played out scenarios involving positive FMD tests at different premises throughout Kansas. More than 160 players from 10 states and territories, 3 Kansas counties, 10 state and federal agencies and 7 ag industry groups participated in Fortify.

KDA’s policy group and incident management team tested and practiced policies and operational plans to activate a stop movement order, review and issue milk movement permits, conduct surveillance activities, continue investigations of suspect premises, respond to positive test scenarios (including depopulation and disposal plans), and support the appraisal and indemnification process. In addition, the joint information center worked to provide factual, transparent public information and education to the public and media, including a phone bank to receive calls from the public.

These annual exercises are instrumental in expanding the state’s response plan and honing details based on new challenges and experiences each year. This continual improvement of the animal disease response plan supports the investment Kansas has made in sustaining the rigorous practice via the full-scale exercise.



TUBERCULOSIS TEST RECORDS

For veterinarians interested in logging tuberculosis test records electronically, an Excel form is available for your use. Contact Karaline Mayer, ADT Coordinator, at Karlaine.Mayer@ks.gov or 785-564-6606. If you are interested in electronically logging other data bound for KDAH, spreadsheets may be customized to meet needs of the veterinarian, producer, and KDAH.

EIA TESTING

The National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL) recently sent out the new Equine Infectious Anemia testing and laboratory guidance to accredited practitioners and EIA labs. As part of this guidance, practitioners need to be aware that effective April 15, 2020, only paper VS Form 10-11 (Coggins Forms) version **February 2018** will be accepted. Please discard all prior versions. To obtain new forms, contact Kelly McDonald at USDA-APHIS at 785-228-6579. In addition to other electronic version providers, there is a free electronic Coggins form available through USDA's online portal, VSPS.

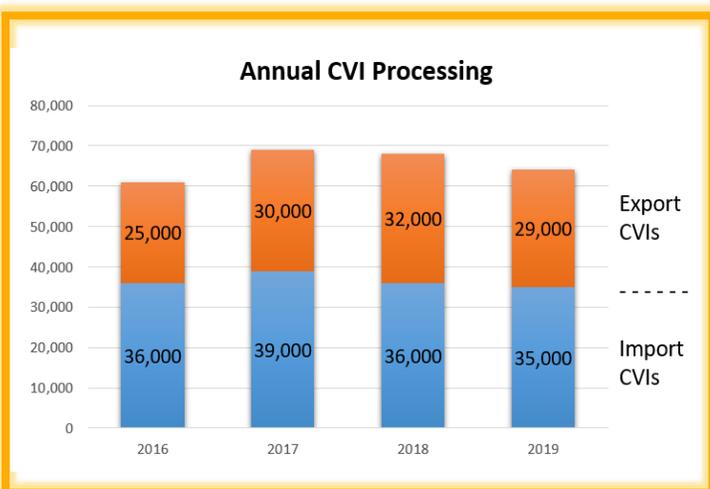
For EIA testing questions, contact Dr. Andy Hawkins at KDAH at Andy.Hawkins@ks.gov or 785-564-6601.

PULLORUM-TYPHOID TESTING

Due to continuation of the nationwide shortage of antigen needed to conduct pullorum-typhoid testing in poultry, KDAH is waiving certain poultry testing requirements for 2020. As a result, Kansas poultry owners do not need to test their exhibition birds for the pullorum disease while the waiver is in effect.

Although we still consider pullorum-typhoid testing important in maintaining pullorum-clean poultry within Kansas, pullorum disease is rare. Due to this low risk of spread of pullorum disease, and the fact that the antigen for testing will not be available, KDAH is waiving the requirement for pullorum-typhoid testing until January 1, 2021.

If you have questions, please call KDAH at 785-564-6601. We appreciate your patience and understanding and look forward to working with you all again when pullorum-typhoid antigen becomes available.



MEET THE KDAH STUDENT WORKERS!



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