

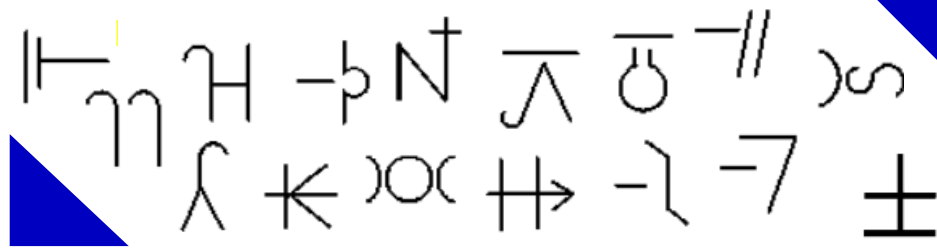


KANSAS ANIMAL HEALTH NEWS

Spring 2023

2023 Livestock Brand Renewal Window is Currently Open!

All brands in Kansas have an expiration date of April 1 and must be renewed every 5 years. If the brand record is not kept up to date with current phone numbers and email and mailing address, you will not receive your renewal. Brands that expire will become openly available to the public for registration after June 1, 2023. There are NO lifetime brands in Kansas.



New: Free Electronic CVI Available for Veterinarians

Funded, in part, by the Kansas Department of Agriculture Division of Animal Health (KDA-DAH), the VET-CVI is an electronic health certificate program offered in both mobile and desktop applications.

- It is approved for submitting certificates of veterinary inspection (CVIs) to all U.S. states.
- Connect an existing email address book for autofill options.
- There is a clone option for quick submissions.
- Once completed, it has immediate submission to state animal health officials.
- CVIs may be easily shared with clients.
- Download VET-CVI in the app store for your device or computer.



For questions about VET-CVI, contact KDA-DAH at 785-564-6601.

Kansas Division of Animal Health

1320 Research Park Dr.
Manhattan, KS 66502
Phone: 785-564-6601
Fax: 785-564-6778
Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00-5:00
agriculture.ks.gov/animalhealth



KANSAS ANIMAL HEALTH NEWS

Statewide FMD Exercise



Each December the Kansas Department of Agriculture conducts a multi-day functional exercise simulation of an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease. This year's event, named Genesis, exercised the state's response plan if faced with a case of foot-and-mouth disease in an agricultural operation in Kansas.

The functional exercise took place December 12–14 as the KDA incident management team was activated and played out the scenario involving positive FMD tests and developing response plans for the infected premises as well as a tracing system to identify other possible exposures.

More than 150 players and observers participated in the exercise, representing agriculture organizations; private industry; federal, state and local public agencies; and even animal health agencies from Nebraska, Oklahoma and Texas. Responding to a foreign animal disease will require cooperation among all of these entities in order to stop the spread of the disease and enable the industry to get back to business as quickly as possible.

KDA's policy group and incident management team developed 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.

One major theme that has emerged with during the last few years is the importance of Secure Food Supply, and enhanced biosecurity planning. KDA has worked with many operations to implement Secure Milk Supply, Secure Pork Supply, and Secure Beef Supply plans and the exercise demonstrates the importance of those planning efforts. Many industry partners have realized the importance of getting those plans written and implemented ahead of time, since getting a permit to move commodities in the heat of an outbreak will take more time than their business can afford to wait.

Each year KDA spends the months after the exercise developing tools, training, and other preparedness activities to improve the response. Lessons learned each year are described in an After Action Report and a corresponding Improvement Plan is developed to identify ways to advance the response plan. Over the year, the industry participants have also reported benefit gained from lessons learned and actions they have taken to prepare their industry for a foreign animal disease event.

These annual exercises have been 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.

KANSAS ANIMAL HEALTH NEWS

USDA Seeks Public Comment on Proposal to Strengthen Animal Disease Traceability Regulations

Source: [USDA APHIS | USDA Seeks Public Comment on Proposal to Strengthen Animal Disease Traceability Regulations](#)

WASHINGTON, January 18, 2023 – The United States Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is proposing to amend animal disease traceability regulations and require electronic identification for interstate movement of certain cattle and bison. APHIS is also proposing to revise and clarify record requirements. These changes would strengthen the Nation’s ability to quickly respond to significant animal disease outbreaks. Major animal disease outbreaks hurt our ranchers and farmers and all those who support them along the supply chain, threaten our food security, and impact our ability to trade America’s high quality food products around the world. Rapid traceability in a disease outbreak could help ranchers and farmers get back to selling their products more quickly; limit how long farms are quarantined; and keep more animals from getting sick.

Interested stakeholders may view the proposed rule in today’s Federal Register at <https://www.federalregister.gov/public-inspection/2023-00505/use-of-electronic-identification-ear-tags-as-official-identification-in-cattle-and-bison>. Beginning tomorrow, members of the public may submit comments. All comments must be received by March 22, 2023. APHIS will review all comments and address them in a final rule.

Animal disease traceability, or knowing where diseased and at-risk animals are, where they’ve been, and when, is important to ensuring a rapid response when animal disease events take place. USDA is committed to implementing a modern system that tracks animals from birth to slaughter using affordable technology that allows for quick tracing of sick and exposed animals to stop disease spread. APHIS has worked extensively with stakeholders on this issue and electronic identification and records for livestock movement emerged from these discussions as valuable goals for safeguarding animal health. APHIS decided to pursue these changes through notice and comment rulemaking to ensure transparency and maximize public participation in the process.

The proposed rule would require official eartags to be visually and electronically readable for official use for interstate movement of certain cattle and bison. It would also revise and clarify certain record requirements related to cattle, including requiring official identification device distribution records to be entered into a Tribal, State, or Federal database, and available to APHIS upon request.

The key to protecting U.S. livestock health, producers’ livelihoods, and the U.S. economy in an animal disease outbreak is swift detection, containment, and eradication of disease.



KANSAS ANIMAL HEALTH NEWS

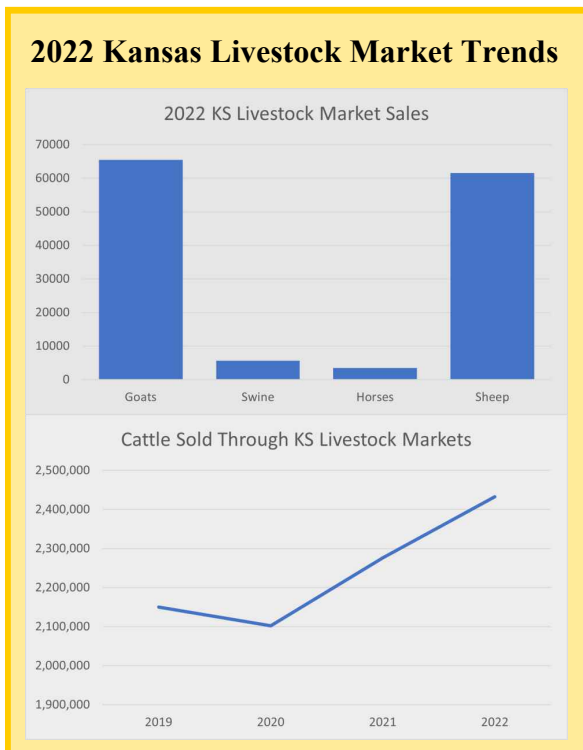
Trichomoniasis Testing Certification

Trichomoniasis (Trich) is a highly contagious venereal disease in cattle carried by a bull and transmitted to a cow during breeding. It causes pregnancy loss or abortion in the cow, prolonged calving intervals, and high open rates in infected herds, which costs livestock owners valuable income.

Trich is a reportable disease to the KDA Division of Animal Health. Kansas has regulations which address the interstate movement of bulls and cows, as well as the change-of-possession of bulls within Kansas. It requires bulls greater than 18 months of age, any non-virgin bulls, or bulls of unknown virginity status to be certified negative for Trich prior to movement (unless moved directly to slaughter).

Veterinarians offering official tests must be certified in the collection, handling, and shipping of samples. Re-certification is required every five years. If you received your renewal notice in October and have not received your new certificate please reach out to our office at 785-564-6617.

Veterinarians seeking to become Trich certified should visit the Kansas State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory Trich Certification course site: <http://www.ksvdl.org/resources/trich-certification/> to take the course.



Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Kansas

Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) has been detected in new locations nationwide in 2023, including new counties in Kansas. As we have noted throughout the past year, this viral disease appears to be spread by the migration of wild birds which continue to put Kansas' domestic birds at risk. Poultry producers should remain vigilant, reviewing their biosecurity activities to protect the health of their birds.

We encourage poultry owners to monitor their flocks. If you have birds showing symptoms of HPAI (see a list of symptoms on our website: agriculture.ks.gov/AvianInfluenza), contact your veterinarian or call KDA toll-free at 833-765-2006. Or email KDA Animal Health at KDA.HPAI@ks.gov and we will call you back.

Updated information about HPAI in the U.S. in 2022-2023 can be found here: [USDA HPAI web page](https://www.usda.gov/press-releases/2023/01/12/2023-01-12-usda-avian-influenza).



FY 22 FAD Investigations		
Disease of Concern	Species	Number of Investigations
Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD), Vesicular Stomatitis Virus (VSV)		10
VSV		11
Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)		21
Seneca Valley Virus		64
Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease		4
Total FAD FY 22 Investigations		110

Applications Now Open For Rural Practice Enhancement and Veterinary Medical Loan Repayment Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Medical Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP), authorized by the National Veterinary Medical Services Act (NVMSA), helps qualified veterinarians offset a significant portion of veterinary education debt in return for their service in certain high-priority veterinary shortage situations.

Those shortage areas can be seen in the 2023 VMLRP Shortage Situation map, which was released by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

Additionally, existing practices that are located in the designated shortage areas are eligible to apply for a Rural Practice Enhancement (RPE) grant through the Veterinary Services Grant Program (VSGP). RPE grants are for establishing or expanding veterinary practices by equipping veterinary offices; sharing in overhead costs; and/or establishing mobile veterinary facilities. VSGP was appropriated \$4 million in funding for FY 2023. **The deadline for applications is March 29, 2023, at 5:00 PM ET.**

More information on RPE grants can be found at: <https://nifa.usda.gov/program/veterinary-services-grant-program>

NIFA will host the second of two live FAQ events where interested applicants will have the opportunity to ask questions regarding VSGP applications directly to the VSGP team. The live FAQ events will be hosted on: [March 15 from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. ET](#)

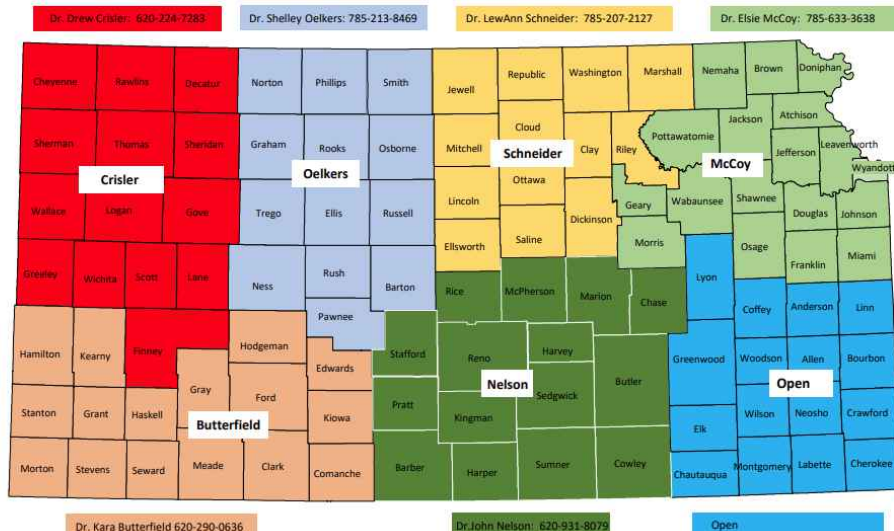


Registration is required for the live FAQ events and can be accessed by clicking on the links above.

KDA has nominated 7 regions in the state with a known shortage of food animal veterinarians.

Get to know the field veterinarian in your area!

USDA-VS/KDA Collaboration



KANSAS ANIMAL HEALTH NEWS

Record Keeping Corner

To ensure that your next tag order will be filled be sure you are submitting your vaccination charts. Charts can be sent to:

Kansas Division of Animal Health
1320 Research Park Drive
Manhattan, KS 66502
Or Email
KDA.CALFHOODVACCINATION@KS.GOV



USDA's Free RFID Tags

USDA continues distributing free low frequency RFID ear tags for the reproductive animals of the cow herd. Orders must be placed by an accredited veterinarian. Order soon as tags are limited. When placing the order, request a one-year supply. No stockpiling is allowed.

For additional details and to order tags, contact:

Garrett Girk — Garrett.Girk@ks.gov, 785-564-6606

Kelly McDonald — Kelly.McDonald@usda.gov, 785-228-6579

Lindy Trapp — Lindy.Trapp@usda.gov, 785-250-7830

Brucellosis Vaccination Spreadsheet

For veterinarians interested in logging brucellosis vaccinations electronically, an Excel form is available. Contact Garrett Girk, ADT Coordinator (Garrett.Girk@ks.gov, 785-564-6606). If you are interested in electronically logging other data bound for the KDA Division of Animal Health (KDAH), spreadsheets may be customized to meet the needs of the veterinarian, producer, and KDAH.

The new KDA-BACKTAG program is assisting Kansas livestock market veterinarians complete backtag reporting in a simple, easy to use electronic way. Currently five Kansas markets are utilizing the KDA-BACKTAG program.

If you are a livestock market veterinarian and would like more information about KDA-BACKTAG, please contact:

Garrett Girk, ADT Coordinator
Office: 785-564-6606
Email: Garrett.Girk@ks.gov

NEW KDA - BACKTAG SOFTWARE

KDA-BACKTAG is a software created by the Kansas Department of Agriculture and an outside contractor to streamline and automate your work at sale barns. This program is FREE for you!

- This is a user-friendly electronic option to record data collected from the sale barn.
- The software allows you to quickly sort based on backtag number, seller, and ticket number to write CVIs and do your billing.
- In-person training is provided to make this a feasible tool for you and your staff.
- No internet is required to run the software.
- Every step is automated to "remember your last move" through pre-filled options.
- It comes with a NEW computer with the software already installed and a lightly padded case for transportation.
- This program is supported by grant funds, making it free for Kansas livestock market veterinarians.



For questions about KDA-BACKTAG, contact the KDA Division of Animal Health at
785-564-6601

KANSAS ANIMAL HEALTH NEWS

Need an Enhanced Biosecurity Plan?

Secure Food Supply plans for continuity of business provide opportunities to voluntarily prepare before an outbreak. This will better position operations that have no evidence of infection to:

- Limit exposure of their animals through enhanced biosecurity
- Move animals to processing or another premises under a movement permit issued by regulatory officials
- Maintain business continuity for the industry, including producers, haulers, and packers during an FMD outbreak

Kansas producers lead the nation in preparedness. If you would like more information on getting a Secure Food Supply plan in place for your operation, please contact: Kelly Oliver at 785-564-6608 or Kelly.Oliver@ks.gov.



Join Our Animal Health Webinars!



Join us for bimonthly webinars focused on different aspects of the Secure Food Supply program.

To receive webinar announcements, contact Kelly Oliver at 785-564-6608 or Kelly.Oliver@ks.gov



Premises Identification Number

A National Premises Identification Number (PremID or PIN) is a confidential unique code that is permanently assigned to a single physical location. A PIN allows animal health officials to quickly and precisely identify where animals are located in the event of an animal health emergency. A PIN is required to purchase official identification tags.

To obtain a PIN, submit the registration form that can be located on the KDA website at agriculture.ks.gov/AnimalHealth — click on the blue “Premises Registration” button. Or click kansas-pin-registration-form.pdf (ks.gov)

Welcome Our New Employees & Student Workers!



Garrett Girk
ADT Coordinator



Jessica Poling
Senior Admin Assistant



Ivie Douglas
Student Employee



McKenzie Metz
Student Employee



Page Nelson
Student Employee