2012 Explanatory Notes
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

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ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Purpose Statement

The Secretary of Agriculture established the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) on April 2, 1972, under the authority of Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1953 and other authorities. The mission of the Agency is to protect the health and value of American agriculture and natural resources.

Together with its stakeholders, APHIS promotes the health of animal and plant resources to facilitate their movement in the global marketplace and to ensure abundant agricultural products and services for U.S. customers. APHIS strives to assure its stakeholders that it is on guard against the introduction or re-emergence of animal and plant pests and diseases that could limit agricultural production and damage export markets. At the same time, APHIS also monitors and responds to potential acts of agricultural bio-terrorism, invasive species, diseases of wildlife and livestock, and conflicts between humans and wildlife. The Agency also manages and resolves sanitary (animal) and phytosanitary (plant) trade barriers and addresses certain issues relating to the humane treatment of animals. Finally, APHIS ensures that biotechnology-derived agricultural products are safe for release in the environment.

APHIS' mission is carried out using three major areas of activity, as follows:

Safeguarding and Emergency Preparedness/Response

In addition to APHIS' domestic monitoring, APHIS monitors plant and animal health throughout the world and uses the information to set effective agricultural import policies to prevent the introduction of foreign plant and animal pests and diseases. APHIS and the Department of Homeland Security cooperate to ensure that these policies are enforced at U.S. ports of entry. APHIS also develops and conducts pre-clearance programs to ensure that foreign agricultural products destined for the United States do not present a risk to U.S. agriculture. The Agency engages in cooperative programs to control pests of imminent concern to the United States and to strengthen foreign plant protection and quarantine organizations. APHIS certifies plants and plant products for export to the United States and regulates imports and exports of designated endangered plant species. APHIS assists U.S. exporters and the Foreign Agricultural Service in revising foreign plant and animal import regulations to encourage and increase U.S. agricultural exports.

Should a pest or disease enter the United States, APHIS works cooperatively with other Federal, State, and industry partners to conduct plant and animal health monitoring programs to rapidly diagnose them and determine if there is a need to establish new pest or disease management programs. APHIS, in conjunction with States, industry, and other stakeholders, protects American agriculture by eradicating harmful pests and diseases or, where eradication is not feasible, by minimizing their economic impact. The Agency monitors endemic pests and diseases through surveys to detect their location and through inspection to prevent their spread into non-infested parts of the country.

The Agency maintains a cadre of trained professionals prepared to respond immediately to potential animal and plant health emergencies. Program personnel investigate reports of suspected exotic pests and diseases and take emergency action if necessary. To facilitate these efforts, APHIS develops pathway studies and thoroughly investigates the progression of outbreaks to determine the origin of plant and animal pests and diseases. APHIS also actively engages State, Tribal, and local governments, and industries to advance their emergency preparedness and response capabilities.

Through its Wildlife Services program, APHIS protects agriculture from detrimental animal predators through identification, demonstration, and application of the most appropriate methods of control. APHIS also develops methods to control animals and pests that are detrimental to agriculture, wildlife, and public safety. The Agency's regulatory structure brings the benefits of genetic research to the marketplace, while protecting against the release of potentially harmful organisms into the environment. APHIS also conducts diagnostic laboratory activities that support the Agency's veterinary disease prevention, detection, control, and eradication

programs. The Agency also provides and directs technology development in coordination with other groups in APHIS to support plant protection programs of the Agency and its cooperators at the State, national, and international levels.

Safe Trade and International Technical Assistance

Sanitary (animal) and phytosanitary (plant) (SPS) regulations can have a significant impact on market access for the United States as an exporter of agricultural products. APHIS plays a central role in resolving technical trade issues to ensure the smooth and safe movement of agricultural commodities into and out of the United States. This is done through negotiating access to new markets, preserving existing markets, and expanding existing markets. APHIS' role is to negotiate animal and plant health certification requirements, assist U.S. exporters in meeting foreign regulatory requirements, ensure requirements are proportional to risk without being excessively restrictive, and provide any necessary technical information to support the safety of U.S. agricultural products destined for foreign markets.

APHIS helps to protect the United States from emerging plant and animal pests and diseases while meeting obligations under the World Trade Organizations SPS agreement by assisting developing countries in improving their safeguarding systems. APHIS collaborates with other Federal agencies including the Foreign Agricultural Service, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the State Department, and the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, to implement technical and regulatory capacity building projects with shared resources. APHIS develops and implements programs designed to identify and reduce agricultural pest and disease threats while still outside of U.S. borders, to enhance safe agricultural trade, and to strengthen emergency response preparedness.

Animal Welfare

The Agency conducts regulatory activities to ensure the humane care and treatment of certain animals and horses as required by the Animal Welfare Act of 1966 as amended (7 U.S.C. 2131-2159), and the Horse Protection Act of 1970 as amended (15 U.S.C. 1821-1831). These activities include inspection of certain establishments that handle animals intended for research, exhibition, and sale as pets, and monitoring of certain horse shows.

Statutory Authorities

APHIS operates under the following authorities:

General:

7 U.S.C. 450	Talmadge-Aiken Act (cooperation with States)
21 U.S.C. 136-136a	User Fees
31 U.S.C. 9701	User Fees
7 U.S.C. 3291a(3)	Authority to provide technical assistance and training
7 U.S.C. 5680	Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002-reporting on SPS issues and trade barriers
7 U.S.C. 5925	Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990-authorizes funding for national honeybee pest survey
7 U.S.C. 2279g	Marketing Services; cooperative agreements

Animal Health:	
7 U.S.C. 8301-8317	The Animal Health Protection Act
49 U.S.C. 80502	28-Hour Law (feed, water, and rest for animals)
19 U.S.C. 1202, Part I, Item 100.01	Purebred animal duty-free entry
7 U.S.C. 1622	Section 203 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946
7 U.S.C. 1624	Section 205 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946
7 U.S.C. 430	Section 101(d) of the Organic Act of l944
7 U.S.C. 3801-3813	Swine Health Protection Act
7 U.S.C. 851-855	Anti-hog cholera serum and hog cholera virus
7 U.S.C. 2274	Firearms (tick inspectors)
7 U.S.C. 1901 note	Transportation of Equines to Slaughter
21 U.S.C. 151-159	Virus-Serum-Toxin Act
21 U.S.C. 113a	Authority to establish research facilities for FMD and other diseases
21 U.S.C. 618	Section 18 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act, as amended, as it pertains to the issuance of certificates of condition of live animals for export
7 U.S.C. 8401	Title II, Subtitles B and C of the Agricultural Bioterrorism Act of 2002
7 U.S.C. 8318	Section 10504 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (training of accredited veterinarians)
Plant Health:	
7 U.S.C. 7701-7772; and 7781-7786	Plant Protection Act
7 U.S.C. 1581-1611	Title III, Federal Seed Act
7 U.S.C. 2801 note; 2814	Federal Noxious Weed Act
7 U.S.C. 281-286	Honeybee Act
7 U.S.C. 2279e and 2279f	Title V of the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 (penalties for interfering with inspection animals)
16 U.S.C. 1531-1544	Endangered Species Act (plants)
16 U.S.C. 3371-3378	Lacey Act (importation or shipment of injurious mammals, birds, fish)
7 U.S.C. 8401 and 8411	Title II, Subtitle B, of the Agricultural Bioterrorism Protection Act of 2002
39 U.S.C. 3015	Alien Species Prevention and Enforcement Act of 1992
Wildlife Services:	
7 U.S.C. 426-426d	Control of predatory and other wild animals
Animal Welfare:	
7 U.S.C. 2131-2159	Animal Welfare Act
15 U.S.C. 1821-1831	Horse Protection Act

There were 6,186 permanent full-time employees and 1,818 other than permanent full-time employees as of September 30, 2010. Of the total, 1,352 full-time employees were located at headquarters. APHIS manages programs on a national basis through 2 regional offices and 465 field offices, including area offices, work stations, technical centers, and animal import centers. APHIS conducts much of its work in cooperation with State and local agencies, private groups, and foreign governments. APHIS performs work in the 50 States, Washington, D.C., Guam, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Mexico, Central America, South America, the Caribbean, Western Europe, Australia, Asia, and Africa.

Each year, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) and the Government Accountability Office (GAO) audits selected programs to examine the efficiency of the programs and operations including program results, compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and fair presentation of financial reports. Audits in which APHIS has been involved during FY 2011 include those listed below.

OIG Audits Closed

33099-08-KC Controls over APHIS Pilot Certifications (OIG issued final report September 2009 with four Recommendations. All Recommendations have been implemented, as of December 3, 2010.)

OIG Audits in Progress and/or Still Open

05099-29-AT Citrus Crop Indemnity Payments Resulting from Hurricane Wilma in Florida

24601-09-KC Food and Safety Inspection Service N60 Testing of *E-Coli*

33002-04-SF Animal Care Inspection of Problematic Dealers (Audit report issued May 14, 2010 with 14 Recommendations. Eight of the Recommendations have been implemented.)

33601-02-KC Oversight of Designated Qualified Persons Enforcing the Horse Protection Act. (Audit report issued September 3, 2010 with 13 Recommendations. APHIS is implementing the Recommendations.)

33601-12-CH Effectiveness of the Smuggling, Interdiction and Trade Compliance Unit

33701-01-AT Follow-up APHIS Implementation of the Select Agent or Toxin Regulations

50099-46-AT USDA Payments for 2005 Citrus Canker Tree Losses

50099-84-HY USDA Response to Colony Collapse Disorder

50601-01-ER USDA Controls Over Shell Egg Inspections

50601-02-ER Effectiveness of the Department's Recent Efforts to Enhance Agricultural Trade

50601-12-CH USDA's Controls over the Importation and Movement of Live Animals (Audit report issued March 31, 2008 with 21 Recommendations. 19 of the Recommendations have been implemented.)

50601-13-AT Department of Agriculture's Progress in Enhancing Agriculture Biosecurity Through Diagnostic and Reporting Networks

50601-13-CH Compliance with OIG Renewable Energy Program Audit Recommendations

50601-16-TE Controls over Genetically Engineered Animal and Insect Research (Discussion Draft Audit report issued November 2010. Official Draft report will be issued January 2011)

50601-17-TE Controls over Genetically Engineered Food and Agricultural Imports (OIG issued final report December 2008 with 3 Recommendations. USDA and APHIS have implemented 2 of the 3 Recommendations.)

GAO Audits Closed

None

GAO Audits in Progress and/or Still Open

Job Code 120759	Review of Cost-Reimbursement Contracts in Federal Agencies
Job Code 320664	Global Food Security (Audit report issued March 2010. Report requests Secretary of State work with Secretary of Agriculture to implement Recommendations.)
Job Code 360871	Coordinated Framework for Regulation of Genetically Modified Agriculture (GAO issued report November 2008. APHIS and/or USDA have provided GAO with Statement of Action detailing the corrective actions to correct identified deficiencies.)
Job Code 361087	USDA Oversight of Random Source Dog and Cat Procurement by Class B Dealers Dealers (Audit report issued September 2010. APHIS is implementing the recommendations.)
Job Code 361116	Live Animal Imports (Audit report issued November 2010, with Recommendations for USDA. APHIS is assisting with implementing the Recommendations.)
Job Code 361964	Irradiation of Food Products (Audit report issued February 2010. No significant recommendations for APHIS.)
Job Code 450489	Critical Infrastructure Protection for Pandemic Influenza
Job Code 450540	User Fee Design Agriculture (GAO issued report February 2008 USDA and/or APHIS have provided GAO with Statement of Action detailing corrective actions to address identified deficiencies.)
Job Code 120956	Agency Acquisition Savings Strategies (Audit started December 2010)
Job Code 361204	Agroterrorism Response and Recovery Efforts (Audit started May 2010)
Job Code 361223	Antibiotic Use in Food Animals (Audit started August 2010)
Job Code 540179	Aviation Safety Oversight (Audit started late summer 2010)
Job Code 290824	FDA Overseas Offices: Collaboration with other U.S.A. Agencies (Audit started January 2010)
Job Code 460617	High Containment Labs: Duplication of Federal Oversight Activities (Audit started August 2010)
Job Code 361161	Horse Welfare (Audit started February 2010)
Job Code 440936	Training of Customs of CBP Officers (Audit started November 2010)
Job Code 361249	USDA Administrative PAYGO (Audit started November 2010)
Job Code 460599	Report issued September 2010 with joint Recommendations for APHIS and CDC. Agency is still to implementing the Recommendations.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Available Funds and Staff Years
2010 Actual and Estimated 2011 and 2012

Item	Actual 2010		Estimated 2011		Estimated 2012	
	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years
Funding for Salaries and Expenses:						
Appropriation	$ 904,953,000	4,854	$ 904,953,000	4,854	$ 832,706,000	4,801
Proposed User Fees…a/	-	-	-	-	(19,500,000)	(65)
Agriculture Pest Facility in the State of Hawaii…b/	2,600,000	-	2,600,000	-	-	-
Transfers from Commodity Credit Corporation	36,116,216	56	-	-	-	-
Farm Bill, Section 10201 and 10202	50,000,000	15	55,000,000	18	55,000,000	18
H1N1 transfer from Health and Human Services	25,750,000	25	-	-	-	-
Unobligated Balances carried forward start of year	238,854,212	-	242,567,228	-	151,391,039	-
Recovery from prior years	23,162,806	-	-	-	-	-
Authority from Offsetting collections	140,505,768	1,061	140,505,768	1,061	140,927,285	1,061
Subtotal, funding	1,421,942,002	6,011	1,345,625,996	5,933	1,180,024,324	5,880
Agricultural Quarantine Inspection User Fees:						
Total Collections	512,568,490	1,504	507,447,557	1,488	515,059,270	1,488
Less: Transfer to DHS	(312,227,127)	-	(318,115,785)	-	(322,887,522)	-
AQI User Fees (APHIS)	200,341,363	1,504	189,331,772	1,488	192,171,748	1,488
Total, Salaries and Expense Available Funding	1,622,283,365	7,515	1,534,957,768	7,421	1,372,196,072	7,368
Obligations against Salaries and Expenses:						
Current Year Appropriation	837,951,346	4,854	872,203,808	4,854	811,128,956	4,801
Obligations against prior year appropriation	97,855,544	500	76,891,000	358	24,032,870	213
Obligations against Agricultural Quarantine Inspection User Fees	189,372,534	1,350	205,781,000	1,350	205,225,000	1,350
Farm Bill, Section 10201 and 10202	51,152,260	15	53,500,000	15	55,896,067	15
H1N1 from Health and Human Services	3,909,491	5	10,920,255	25	10,920,255	25
VHS Supplemental	4,889,415	10	-	-	-	-
Emergency Transfers (CCC):						
Asian Longhorned Beetle	9,891,441	6	-	-	-	-
Grasshopper	4,206,862	4	-	-	-	-
Emergency Carryover (CCC):					-	-
Asian Longhorned Beetle	14,917,282	19	18,008,445	20	-	-
Bovine Tuberculosis	2,461,715	14	2,573,933	14	-	-
Cattle Fever Tick	751,445	5	766,764	5	-	-
Emerald Ash Borer	-	-	100,495	2	-	-
Grasshopper	-	-	527,903	-	-	-
Light Brown Apple Moth	22,068,137	7	3,011,871	2	-	-
Medfly (FL, CA)	242,874	2	-	-	-	-
Mormon Cricket	-	-	267,150	2	-	-
Potato Cyst Nematode	138,422	2	-	-	-	-
Subtotal, Emergency Obligations	54,678,178	59	25,256,561	45	-	-
Subtotal, Direct Salaries and Expenses	1,239,808,768	6,793	1,244,552,624	6,647	1,107,203,148	6,404
Obligations under other USDA appropriations:						
Agricultural Marketing Service:						
for administrative and technical support	6,386,365	-	6,411,456	-	6,437,102	-
Agricultural Research Service:						
for administrative and technical support	2,591,361	-	2,601,543	-	2,611,949	-
Farm Service Agency:						
for administrative and technical support	120,099	-	120,571	-	121,053	-
Foreign Agricultural Service:						
for administrative and technical support	3,281,981	-	3,294,875	-	3,308,055	-
Forest Service:						
for administrative and technical support	459,373	-	461,178	-	463,022	-

Item	Actual 2010		Estimated 2011		Estimated 2012	
	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years
Grain Inspection Service:						
for administrative and technical support	1,141,113	-	1,145,597	-	1,150,179	-
National Appeals Divison:						
for administrative and technical support	26,618	-	26,723	-	26,830	-
Office of Departmental Management						
for administrative and technical support	981,715	-	985,572	-	989,514	-
Office of Operations						
administrative and technical support	584	-	586	-	589	-
Office of the Chief Information Officer:						
administrative and technical support	22,514	-	22,602	-	22,692	-
Office of the Secretary:						
administrative and technical support	448,092	-	449,853	-	451,652	-
Total, Agriculture Appropriations	15,459,815	-	15,520,555	-	15,582,637	-
Other Federal Funds:						
DOD: for Information Technology						
and other services and support	606,176	-	608,558	-	610,992	-
DOD, U.S. Air Force	4,361,934	-	4,379,072	-	4,396,588	-
DOD, U.S. Coast Guard	1,556,066	-	1,562,180	-	1,568,428	-
DOD, Air National Guard	1,846,637	-	1,853,892	-	1,861,308	-
DOD, U.S. Navy	4,149,470	-	4,165,772	-	4,182,436	-
DOD, U.S. Marine Corps	778,395	-	781,453	-	784,579	-
DOD, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	1,498,903	-	1,504,792	-	1,510,811	-
Department of Energy	160,241	-	160,870	-	161,514	-
DHS: for AQI and other services and support	2,167,992	-	2,176,510	-	2,185,216	-
Federal Emergency Management Agency	415,185	-	416,816	-	418,483	-
NASA, National Aeronautics and Space Administration	322,770	-	324,039	-	325,335	-
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	1,929,134	-	1,936,713	-	1,944,460	-
USDOI, Geological Survey, National Park Service						
Office of Insular Affairs	1,045,709	-	1,049,818	-	1,054,017	-
USDOI, Bureau of Land Management & Reclamation:						
for administrative and technical support	574,089	-	576,344	-	578,650	-
USDOI, Fish and Wildlife Services:						
for natural resources and endangered species	2,139,972	-	2,148,380	-	2,156,973	-
USDOT, Federal Aviation Administration	2,022,996	-	2,030,945	-	2,039,068	-
GSA: for miscellaneous services	3,352	-	3,365	-	3,378	-
Other Federal Funds	863,987	309	867,381	309	870,851	309
Total, Other Federal Funds	26,443,007	309	26,546,899	309	26,653,087	309
Reimbursements:						
Funds from States and local entities for						
wildlife services support	34,158,345	418	34,292,550	418	34,429,721	418
Import-Export User Fees	31,689,773	234	31,814,279	234	31,941,536	234
NVSL Testing Fees	402,701	-	404,284	-	405,901	-
Phytosanitary Certificate User Fees	18,532,174	85	18,604,985	85	18,679,405	85
Reimburseable Overtime	6,794,019	-	6,820,712	-	6,847,995	-
Product Certificates	808,762	-	811,939	-	815,187	-
Veterinary Diagnostics User Fees	3,342,457	-	3,355,589	-	3,369,011	-
Other User Fees	305,358	-	306,558	-	307,784	-
Other Reimbursements, Annual and No Year,						
Federal and Non-Federal	533,658	15	535,755	15	537,898	15
Subtotal, Reimburseable Salaries and Expenses	138,470,068	1,061	139,014,105	1,061	139,570,162	1,061
Total, Salaries and Expense Obligations	1,378,278,836	7,854	1,383,566,729	7,708	1,246,773,310	7,465
Buildings and Facilities:						
Current Year Appropriation	4,712,000	-	4,712,000	-	4,712,000	-
Unobligated Balances carried forward,						
start of year	9,976,435	-	6,750,319	-	6,800,986	-
Recovery from prior years	651,128	-	-	-	731,004	-
Total, Buildings and Facilities						
Available Appropriations	15,339,563	-	11,462,319	-	12,243,991	-
Obligations	8,589,244	-	8,346,337	-	7,295,690	-
Unobligated Balances carried forward						
end of year	6,750,319	-	3,115,982	-	4,948,301	-

Item	Actual 2010		Estimated 2011		Estimated 2012	
	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years
Trust Funds:						
Misc. Contributed Funds……	18,391,599	150	17,000,000	150	17,000,000	150
Unobligated Balances carried forward, start of year……	15,961,455	-	17,672,725	-	17,672,725	-
Recovery from prior years……	1,968,568	-	-	-	-	-
Total, Trust Funds Available……	36,321,622	150	34,672,725	150	34,672,725	150
Obligations……	18,648,897	150	17,000,000	150	17,500,000	150
Unobligated Balances carried forward end of year……	17,672,725	-	17,672,725	-	17,172,725	-
Total Obligations, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service……	$ 1,405,516,977	8,004	$ 1,408,913,066	7,858	$ 1,271,569,000	7,615

a/Proposed User Fees for Animal Welfare, Biotechnology Regulatory Services, and Center for Veterinary Biologics. It is anticipated that in a full year, the total amount collected would be $26 million. Allowing 3 months to implement the user fee process the collections for FY 2012 are estimated at $19.5 million, 75% of the annual amount.

b/General Provision 723 in Fiscal Year 2010 for Fruit Fly rearing facility in Hawaii.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Permanent Positions by Grade and Staff Year Summary
2010 Actual and Estimated 2011 and 2012

Grade	2010			2011			2012		
	Headquarters	Field	Total	Headquarters	Field	Total	Headquarters	Field	Total
Senior Executive Service	26	12	38	26	12	38	26	12	38
GS-15	69	62	131	69	62	131	69	62	131
GS-14	325	263	588	325	263	588	325	263	588
GS-13	267	506	773	267	511	778	267	511	778
GS-12	212	924	1,136	213	929	1,142	213	929	1,142
GS-11	106	903	1,009	108	908	1,016	108	908	1,016
GS-10	2	10	12	2	10	12	2	10	12
GS-09	112	478	590	114	483	597	114	483	597
GS-08	9	285	294	9	285	294	9	285	294
GS-07	107	537	644	109	537	646	109	537	646
GS-06	34	298	332	34	298	332	34	298	332
GS-05	18	248	266	18	248	266	18	248	266
GS-04	8	49	57	8	49	57	8	49	57
GS-03	2	8	10	2	8	10	2	8	10
GS-02	4	3	7	4	3	7	4	3	7
Other Graded Positions	32	178	210	32	178	210	32	178	210
Total Perm. Employment EOY	1,333	4,764	6,097	1,340	4,784	6,124	1,340	4,784	6,124
Unfilled Positions EOY	19	70	89	12	50	62	12	50	62
Total Permanent Positions	1,352	4,834	6,186	1,352	4,834	6,186	1,352	4,834	6,186
Staff Year Estimate	1,558	6,446	8,004	1,529	6,329	7,858	1,482	6,133	7,615

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Size, Composition and Cost of Motor Vehicle Fleet

The FY 2012 Budget Estimate proposes the disposal and replacement of 511passenger motor vehicles.

APHIS' veterinarians, animal health technicians, inspectors, plant protection and quarantine officers, wildlife biologists and other technical personnel rely upon motor vehicles to assist in their daily job activities, which entail travel between inspection sites, farms, ranches, ports, nurseries and other commercial firms. The use of Government-owned vehicles has shown to be more cost effective than having personnel use privately-owned vehicles.

To maintain the life span of the vehicle, operators are required to keep historical maintenance records and to submit the vehicle's operational data. Periodic maintenance surveys and consolidation of the vehicle fleet ensure the full use of each vehicle in the fleet.

Replacement criteria: Vehicle replacement is done in accordance with Title 41, CFR, § 102–34.280. Replacement/retirement decisions are conducted at the program level, based upon utilization, age, condition and availability of funds. Normally, passenger vehicles are not replaced unless they either have mileage of 60,000 or more, or are three years or more in age. There continues to be an effort to purchase alternative fuel vehicles.

Changes to the motor vehicle fleet. There is a planned decrease of 33 vans and 78 sport utility vehicles. There is a planned increase of 19 sedans/station wagons, 68 light trucks, and 4 medium duty vehicles. There is no planned change in the number of buses and heavy duty trucks. The total planned net decrease to the APHIS motor vehicle fleet is 20.

Replacement of motor vehicles. The Agency proposes replacing 511of the 5,208 vehicles currently in the Agency fleet. The vehicles replacement will be utilized in the field by APHIS' technical personnel. Vehicles designated for disposal meet the General Service Administration's standards by having mileage of 60,000 or more, or by being three years of age or more.

Impediments to managing the motor vehicle fleet. There are no impediments in managing the motor vehicle fleet.

Impact of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Vehicles: Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the General Services Administration (GSA) was appropriated $300 million for ". . . acquiring motor vehicles with higher fuel economy: . . ." Vehicles were purchased on a 1 for 1 replacement basis, and produced by American auto companies with whom GSA had an existing contract. The vehicles replaced were required to meet stated criteria. The new vehicles were added to the inventory of the receiving agency. The vehicles replaced were transferred to GSA who used any funds received from the sale of these vehicles to acquire additional fuel efficient vehicles. Overall, APHIS received 280 vehicles from this program. Of these, 163 were received in 2009; the remaining 117 vehicles were received in FY 2010.

The size, composition, and cost of Agency motor vehicle fleet as of September 30, 2010 are as follows:

Fiscal Year	Light Duty Vehicles					Medium/Heavy Duty Vehicles		Total	Annual
	Sedans & Station Wagons	Vans	SUVs	Light Trucks		Buses	Trucks, Vans and SUVs	Vehicles	Operating Costs
				4x2	4x4				
FY 2009	368	219	1,045	590	1,538	0	338	4,098	$11,123,042
Change from 2009	60	81	128	21	837	2	-19	1,110	$207,765
FY 2010	428	300	1,173	611	2,375	2	319	5,208	$11,330,807
Change from 2010	-3	-28	-4	-5	-6	0	9	-37	$339,925
FY 2011	425	272	1,169	606	2,369	2	328	5171	$11,670,732
Change from 2011	19	-33	-78	-42	110	0	4	-20	$350,122
FY 2012	444	239	1,091	564	2,479	2	332	5,5151	$12,020,854

The APHIS aircraft fleet consists of 7 operable aircraft for domestic plant pest and disease management programs and, 33 for the Wildlife Services (WS) programs. Of the 33 WS aircraft: 20 fixed wing and 3 helicopters are owned, 2 fixed wing and 2 helicopters are borrowed, and 6 fixed wing aircraft are rented.

APHIS aircraft are used for aerial resource and surveillance surveys, aerial application tests, methods development and testing, and equipment demonstration and testing; to control and/or eradicate destructive plant pests from attacking agricultural crops; and, to alleviate or control wildlife damage to agricultural products. Some are also used to monitor contract aircraft.

Aircraft purchases are made primarily to replace aging or inoperable aircraft. Aircraft replacement authority is provided in the Appropriations Act; however, the Agency only replaces when necessary to maintain fleet safety and efficient operating conditions. The Agency replaced two fixed wing aircraft for the WS programs in FY 2010. The Agency proposes replacing one fixed wing aircraft and one helicopter during FY 2011 for the WS programs.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Proposed Language Changes

The estimates include proposed changes in the language of this item as follows (new language is underscored; deleted language is enclosed in brackets):

Salaries and Expenses:

For necessary expenses of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, including up to $30,000 for representation allowances and for expenses pursuant to the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4085), $832,706,000, of which $2,058,000, to be available until expended, shall be available for the control of outbreaks of insects, plant diseases, animal diseases and for control of pest animals and birds ("contingency fund") to the extent necessary to meet emergency conditions; of which $8,977,000, to remain available until expended, shall be used for the cotton pests program for cost share purposes or for debt retirement for active eradication zones; of which $14,150,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for Animal Disease Traceability; of which $891,000 shall be for activities under the authority of the Horse Protection Act of 1970, as amended (15 U.S.C. 1831); of which $55,733,000, to remain available until expended, shall be used to support avian health; of which $4,474,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for information technology infrastructure; of which $154,700,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for specialty crop pests; of which; $9,068,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for field crop and rangeland ecosystem pests; of which $60,462,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for tree and wood pests; of which $3,568,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the National Veterinary Stockpile; of which up to $1,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for in the scrapie program for indemnities; of which $1,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for wildlife services methods development; of which $1,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for of the wildlife services damage management program for aviation safety; and of which $5,045,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for of the screwworm program: Provided, That no funds shall be used to formulate or administer a brucellosis eradication program for the current fiscal year that does not require minimum matching by the States of at least 40 percent: Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available for the operation and maintenance of aircraft and the purchase of not to exceed four, of which two shall be for replacement only: Provided further, That, in addition, in emergencies which threaten any segment of the agricultural production industry of this country, the Secretary may transfer from other appropriations or funds available to the agencies or corporations of the Department such sums as may be deemed necessary, to be available only in such emergencies for the arrest and eradication of contagious or infectious disease or pests of animals, poultry, or plants, and for expenses in accordance with sections 10411 and 10417 of the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8310 and 8316) and sections 431 and 442 of the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7751 and 7772), and any unexpended balances of funds transferred for such emergency purposes in the preceding fiscal year shall be merged with such transferred amounts: Provided further, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the repair and alteration of leased buildings and improvements, but unless otherwise provided the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

In fiscal year 2012, the agency is authorized to collect fees to cover the total costs of providing technical assistance, goods, or services requested by States, other political subdivisions, domestic and international organizations, foreign governments, or individuals, provided that such fees are structured such that any entity's liability for such fees is reasonably based on the technical assistance, goods, or services provided to the entity by the agency, and such fees shall be reimbursed to this account, to remain available until expended, without further appropriation, for providing such assistance, goods, or services.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Salaries and Expenses

Lead-Off Tabular Statement

Annulized Continuing Resolution, 2011	$904,953,000
Budget Estimate, 2012	832,706,000
Change in Appropriation	-$72,247,000

Summary of Increases and Decreases
(On basis of appropriation)

Item of Change	2011 CR Annual	Pay Costs	Earmark Reductions 1	Program Changes		2012 Estimated
Safeguarding and Emergency Preparedness/Response						
Animal Health Technical Services	$32,360,000	$0	-$2,751,000	$8,850,000	2a	$38,459,000
Aquatic Animal Health	6,021,000	0	-588,000	-3,172,000	2b	2,261,000
Avian Health	70,567,667	0	-134,667	-14,700,000	2c	55,733,000
Cattle Health	114,530,567	0	-2,211,667	-13,435,000	2d	98,883,900
Equine, Cervid & Small Ruminant Health	39,427,100	0	-1,024,000	-16,385,000	2e	22,018,100
National Veterinary Stockpile	3,568,000	0	0	0		3,568,000
Swine Health	25,732,666	0	-134,666	-2,510,000	2f	23,088,000
Veterinary Biologics	16,457,000	0	0	0		16,457,000
Veterinary Diagnostics	30,006,000	0	-638,000	3,843,000	2g	33,211,000
Zoonotic Disease Management	10,468,000	0	0	0		10,468,000
Subtotal, Animal Health	349,138,000	0	-7,482,000	-37,509,000		304,147,000
Agricultural Quarantine Inspection (Appropriated)	29,000,000	0	-3,000,000	0		26,000,000
Cotton Pests	23,390,000	0	0	-14,413,000	2h	8,977,000
Field Crop & Rangeland Ecosystems Pests	13,138,000	0	-1,819,000	-2,251,000	2i	9,068,000
Pest Detection	28,113,000	0	-1,357,000	0		26,756,000
Plant Protection Methods Development	21,773,000	0	-500,000	0		21,273,000
Specialty Crop Pests	150,849,000	0	-469,000	4,320,000	2j	154,700,000
Tree & Wood Pests	77,146,000	0	-1,000,000	-15,684,000	2k	60,462,000
Subtotal, Plant Health	343,409,000	0	-8,145,000	-28,028,000		307,236,000
Wildlife Damage Management	78,937,000	0	-6,734,000	-3,716,000	2l	68,487,000
Wildlife Services Methods Development	18,902,000	0	-1,790,000	-1,047,000	2m	16,065,000
Subtotal, Wildlife Services	97,839,000	0	-8,524,000	-4,763,000		84,552,000
Animal & Plant Health Regulatory Enforcement	13,983,000	0	0	3,292,000	2n	17,275,000
Biotechnology Regulatory Services	13,322,000	0	-259,000	12,072,000	2o	25,135,000
Subtotal, Regulatory Services	27,305,000	0	-259,000	15,364,000		42,410,000
Contingency Fund	2,058,000	0	0	0		2,058,000
Emergency Preparedness & Response	19,746,000	0	0	-2,000,000	2p	17,746,000
Subtotal, Emergency Management	21,804,000	0	0	-2,000,000		19,804,000
Subtotal Safeguarding and Emergency Preparedness/Response	839,495,000	0	-24,410,000	-56,936,000		758,149,000
Safe Trade and International Technical Assistance						
Agriculture Import/Export	12,604,000	0	0	1,500,000	3b	14,104,000
Overseas Technical & Trade Operations	20,176,000	0	0	600,000	3a	20,776,000
Subtotal Safe Trade and International Technical Assistance	32,780,000	0	0	2,100,000		34,880,000

Item of Change	2011 CR Annual	Pay Costs	Earmark Reductions	1	Program Changes		2012 Estimated
Animal Welfare							
Animal Welfare……	21,979,000	0	0		6,608,000	4a	28,587,000
Horse Protection……	500,000	0	0		391,000	4b	891,000
Subtotal, Animal Welfare……	22,479,000	0	0		6,999,000		29,478,000
Agency Management							
APHIS Information Technology Infrastructure…….…..	4,474,000	0	0		0		4,474,000
Physical/Operational Security…….	5,725,000	0	0		0		5,725,000
Subtotal, Agency Management……	10,199,000	0	0		0		10,199,000
Total, Available Appropriations a/ ……..……	$904,953,000	0	-$24,410,000		-$47,837,000		$832,706,000

a/ FYs 2010 and 2011 exclude the General Provision 723, which provides $2,600,000 to remain available until expended for the construction, interim operations, and necessary demolition needs for establishment of an agricultural pest facility in the State of Hawaii.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Salaries and Expenses

Project Statement by Program - Proposed Structure
(On basis of appropriation)

	2010 Actual		2011 CR Annual		Increase	2012 Estimated	
	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years	or Decrease	Amount	Staff Years
Safeguarding and Emergency Preparedness/Response							
Animal Health Technical Services	$29,686,760	92	$32,360,000	92	$6,099,000	$38,459,000	92
Aquatic Animal Health	6,011,374	3	6,021,000	3	-3,760,000	2,261,000	3
Avian Health	59,722,496	160	70,567,667	190	-14,834,667	55,733,000	139
Cattle Health	112,165,766	723	114,530,567	723	-15,646,667	98,883,900	703
Equine, Cervid & Small Ruminant Health	37,869,985	138	39,427,100	138	-17,409,000	22,018,100	112
National Veterinary Stockpile	48,130	8	3,568,000	8	0	3,568,000	8
Swine Health	25,722,750	219	25,732,666	219	-2,644,666	23,088,000	190
Veterinary Biologics	16,457,000	184	16,457,000	184	0	16,457,000	184
Veterinary Diagnostics	29,985,191	282	30,006,000	282	3,205,000	33,211,000	282
Zoonotic Disease Management	10,468,000	96	10,468,000	96	0	10,468,000	96
Subtotal, Animal Health	328,137,452	1,905	349,138,000	1,935	-44,991,000	304,147,000	1,809
Agricultural Quarantine Inspection (Appropriated)	28,947,556	303	29,000,000	303	-3,000,000	26,000,000	303
Cotton Pests	21,821,005	37	23,390,000	37	-14,413,000	8,977,000	37
Field Crop & Rangeland Ecosystems Pests	11,048,150	50	13,138,000	50	-4,070,000	9,068,000	45
Pest Detection	28,070,942	116	28,113,000	116	-1,357,000	26,756,000	116
Plant Protection Methods Development	21,704,474	223	21,773,000	223	-500,000	21,273,000	223
Specialty Crop Pests	142,601,768	573	150,849,000	573	3,851,000	154,700,000	571
Tree & Wood Pests	51,469,472	124	77,146,000	124	-16,684,000	60,462,000	118
Subtotal, Plant Health	305,663,366	1,426	343,409,000	1,426	-36,173,000	307,236,000	1,413
Wildlife Damage Management	78,424,267	534	78,937,000	534	-10,450,000	68,487,000	539
Wildlife Services Methods Development	18,893,028	164	18,902,000	164	-2,837,000	16,065,000	158
Subtotal, Wildlife Services	97,317,295	698	97,839,000	698	-13,287,000	84,552,000	697
Animal & Plant Health Regulatory Enforcement	15,445,160	154	13,983,000	132	3,292,000	17,275,000	166
Biotechnology Regulatory Services	13,284,761	81	13,322,000	81	11,813,000	25,135,000	110
Subtotal, Regulatory Services	28,729,921	235	27,305,000	213	15,105,000	42,410,000	276
Contingency Fund	1,148,003	15	2,058,000	15	0	2,058,000	15
Emergency Preparedness & Response	19,622,085	102	19,746,000	102	-2,000,000	17,746,000	101
Subtotal, Emergency Management	20,770,088	117	21,804,000	117	-2,000,000	19,804,000	116
Subtotal Safeguarding and Emergency Preparedness/Response	780,618,123	4,381	839,495,000	4,389	-81,346,000	758,149,000	4,311
Safe Trade and International Technical Assistance							
Agriculture Import/Export	12,587,229	153	12,604,000	153	1,500,000	14,104,000	157
Overseas Technical & Trade Operations	20,156,459	73	20,176,000	73	600,000	20,776,000	77
Subtotal Safe Trade and International Technical Assistance	32,743,688	226	32,780,000	226	2,100,000	34,880,000	234
Animal Welfare							
Animal Welfare	24,444,965	242	21,979,000	204	6,608,000	28,587,000	251
Horse Protection	498,024	5	500,000	5	391,000	891,000	5
Subtotal, Animal Welfare	24,942,988	247	22,479,000	209	6,999,000	29,478,000	256
Agency Management							
APHIS Information Technology Infrastructure	4,307,528	0	4,474,000	0	0	4,474,000	0
Physical/Operational Security	5,668,652	0	5,725,000	0	0	5,725,000	0
Subtotal, Agency Management	9,976,180	0	10,199,000	0	0	10,199,000	0
Unobligated Balances, end of year	56,672,020	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total, Appropriated ……a/	$904,953,000	4,854	$904,953,000	4,824	-$72,247,000	$832,706,000	4,801

a/ FYs 2010 and 2011 exclude the FY 2010 General Provision 723, which provides $2,600,000 to remain available until expended for the construction, interim operations, and necessary demolition needs for establishment of an agricultural pest facility in the State of Hawaii.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Salaries and Expenses

Project Statement by Program - Proposed Structure
(On basis of available funds)

	2010 Actual		2011 CR Annual		Increase or	2012 Estimated	
	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years	Decrease	Amount	Staff Years
Safeguarding and Emergency Preparedness/Response							
Animal Health Technical Services	$40,055,797	112	$36,917,941	107	$1,541,059	$38,459,000	92
Aquatic Animal Health	6,011,374	3	6,021,000	3	-3,760,000	2,261,000	3
Avian Health	68,828,222	190	93,194,802	220	-16,682,085	76,512,717	169
Cattle Health	117,872,901	738	116,820,539	723	-13,815,339	103,005,200	703
Equine, Cervid & Small Ruminant Health	38,793,496	138	43,969,739	138	-17,428,494	26,541,245	112
National Veterinary Stockpile	5,176,965	12	7,513,350	12	-93,681	7,419,669	12
Swine Health	25,722,750	219	25,732,666	219	-2,644,666	23,088,000	190
Veterinary Biologics	16,457,000	184	16,457,000	184	0	16,457,000	184
Veterinary Diagnostics	29,985,191	282	30,006,000	282	3,205,000	33,211,000	282
Zoonotic Disease Management	10,468,000	96	10,468,000	96	0	10,468,000	96
Subtotal, Animal Health	359,371,696	1,974	387,101,037	1,984	-49,678,206	337,422,831	1,843
Agricultural Quarantine Inspection (Appropriated)	28,947,556	303	29,000,000	303	-3,000,000	26,000,000	303
Cotton Pests	23,238,057	44	25,052,653	44	-16,075,653	8,977,000	37
Field Crop & Rangeland Ecosystems Pests	12,853,544	55	15,279,091	55	-6,211,091	9,068,000	45
Pest Detection	28,070,942	116	28,113,000	116	-1,357,000	26,756,000	116
Plant Protection Methods Development	21,704,474	223	21,773,000	223	-500,000	21,273,000	223
Specialty Crop Pests	170,248,652	729	165,144,669	660	-7,389,107	157,755,562	653
Tree & Wood Pests	70,965,685	270	106,389,400	277	-36,927,400	69,462,000	184
Subtotal, Plant Health	356,028,909	1,740	390,751,813	1,678	-71,460,251	319,291,562	1,561
Wildlife Damage Management	79,131,932	538	79,525,016	537	-10,702,105	68,822,911	541
Wildlife Services Methods Development	19,109,802	166	18,907,201	164	-2,742,201	16,165,000	159
Subtotal, Wildlife Services	98,241,734	704	98,432,217	701	-13,444,306	84,987,911	700
Animal & Plant Health Regulatory Enforcement	15,445,160	154	13,983,000	132	3,292,000	17,275,000	166
Biotechnology Regulatory Services	13,284,761	81	13,322,000	81	11,813,000	25,135,000	110
Subtotal, Regulatory Services	28,729,921	235	27,305,000	213	15,105,000	42,410,000	276
Contingency Fund	3,206,003	26	4,481,361	26	-1,303,021	3,178,340	20
Emergency Preparedness & Response	19,622,085	102	19,746,000	102	-2,000,000	17,746,000	101
Subtotal, Emergency Management	22,828,088	128	24,227,361	128	-3,303,021	20,924,340	121
Subtotal Safeguarding and Emergency Preparedness/Response	865,200,349	4,781	927,817,428	4,704	-122,780,784	805,036,644	4,501
Safe Trade and International Technical Assistance							
Agriculture Import/Export	12,587,229	153	12,604,000	153	1,500,000	14,104,000	157
Overseas Technical & Trade Operations	20,156,459	73	20,176,000	73	600,000	20,776,000	77
Subtotal Safe Trade and International Technical Assistance	32,743,688	226	32,780,000	226	2,100,000	34,880,000	234
Animal Welfare							
Animal Welfare	24,444,965	242	21,979,000	204	6,608,000	28,587,000	251
Horse Protection	498,024	5	500,000	5	391,000	891,000	5
Subtotal, Animal Welfare	24,942,988	247	22,479,000	209	6,999,000	29,478,000	256
Agency Management							
APHIS Information Technology Infrastructure	4,413,852	0	4,646,505	0	-24,000	4,622,505	0
Physical/Operational Security	5,668,652	0	5,725,000	0	0	5,725,000	0
Subtotal, Agency Management	10,082,504	0	10,371,505	0	-24,000	10,347,505	0
Total, Direct Appropriation	$932,969,530	5,254	$993,447,933	5,139	-$113,705,784	$879,742,149	4,991

	2010 Actual		2011 CR Annual		Increase	2012 Estimated	
	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years	or Decrease	Amount	Staff Years
General Provision a/	664,977	0	2,600,000	0	-2,600,000	0	0
General Provision Carryover	469,000	0	1,935,023	0	-1,935,023	0	0
Farm Bill, Section 10201 and 10202	49,486,729	15	55,000,000	15	0	55,000,000	15
Farm Bill, Section 10201 and 10202 Carryover	1,665,531	3	396,067	0	1,500,000	1,896,067	0
ARRA	669,988	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-total, Available	985,925,755	5,272	1,053,379,023	5,154	-116,740,807	936,638,216	5,006
CCC Transfers	6,715,080	6	0	0	0	0	0
CCC Carryover	47,963,098	53	45,356,500	45	-25,339,585	20,016,915	23
H1N1	3,909,491	5	21,840,509	25	-10,920,254	10,920,255	25
VHS Supplemental Carryover	4,889,415	10	0	0	0	0	0
Trust Funds	18,648,897	150	34,672,725	150	0	34,672,725	150
Total, Available	$1,068,051,736	5,496	$1,155,248,757	5,374	-$153,000,646	$1,002,248,111	5,204

a/ FYs 2010 and 2011 exclude the FY 2010 General Provision 723, which provides $2,600,000 to remain available until expended for the construction, interim operations, and necessary demolition needs for establishment of an agricultural pest facility in the State of Hawaii.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Salaries and Expenses

Project Statement by Program - Current Structure
(Comparable basis)

	2010 Actual		2011 CR Annual		Increase	2012 Estimated	
	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years	or Decrease	Amount	Staff Years
Pest & Disease Exclusion							
Agricultural Quarantine Inspection (Approp).....	$28,947,556	303	$29,000,000	303	-$3,000,000	$26,000,000	303
Cattle Ticks.....	13,148,632	114	13,157,000	114	0	13,157,000	114
Foreign Animal Disease/Foot-and-Mouth Disease.....	3,994,076	2	4,004,000	2	0	4,004,000	2
Fruit Fly Exclusion and Detection.....	60,340,306	373	62,920,000	373	-3,000,000	59,920,000	364
Import/Export.....	13,281,229	153	13,298,000	153	1,500,000	14,798,000	157
Overseas Technical & Trade Operations	16,162,383	71	16,172,000	71	600,000	16,772,000	75
Screwworm.....	25,447,208	36	27,714,000	36	-7,534,000	20,180,000	36
Tropical Bont Tick.....	416,889	2	429,000	2	-429,000	0	0
Total Pest & Disease Exclusion.....	161,738,278	1,054	166,694,000	1,054	-11,863,000	154,831,000	1,051
Plant & Animal Health Monitoring							
Animal Health Monitoring & Surveillance.....	118,989,511	886	121,667,000	886	5,455,000	127,122,000	886
Animal & Plant Health Reg. Enforcement.....	15,445,160	154	13,983,000	132	3,292,000	17,275,000	166
Avian Influenza.....	49,397,828	129	60,243,000	159	-14,700,000	45,543,000	108
Emergency Management Systems.....	15,683,426	80	15,794,000	80	-2,000,000	13,794,000	79
National Veterinary Stockpile.....	235,980	8	3,757,000	8	0	3,757,000	8
Pest Detection.....	28,070,942	116	28,113,000	116	-1,357,000	26,756,000	116
Select Agents.....	5,162,659	22	5,176,000	22	0	5,176,000	22
Total Plant & Animal Health Monitoring.....	232,985,506	1,395	248,733,000	1,403	-9,310,000	239,423,000	1,385
Pest & Disease Management							
Aquaculture.....	6,550,374	6	6,560,000	6	-3,854,000	2,706,000	6
Biological Control.....	10,427,829	105	10,467,000	105	-500,000	9,967,000	105
Brucellosis.....	9,688,851	56	9,707,000	56	-650,000	9,057,000	56
Chronic Wasting Disease.....	16,856,877	31	16,875,000	31	-14,950,000	1,925,000	7
Contingency Funds.....	1,148,003	15	2,058,000	15	0	2,058,000	15
Cotton Pests.....	21,821,005	37	23,390,000	37	-14,413,000	8,977,000	37
Emerging Plant Pests.....	124,865,816	284	158,769,000	284	-8,327,000	150,442,000	282
Golden Nematode.....	823,833	7	831,000	7	0	831,000	7
Grasshopper.....	4,631,957	34	5,578,000	34	-1,000,000	4,578,000	34
Gypsy Moth.....	5,397,207	35	5,420,000	35	-2,500,000	2,920,000	35
Imported Fire Ant.....	1,897,267	4	1,902,000	4	0	1,902,000	4
Johne's Disease.....	6,869,225	25	6,876,000	25	-5,840,000	1,036,000	5
Noxious Weeds.....	1,981,811	2	1,990,000	2	-1,990,000	0	0
Plum Pox.....	2,533,773	5	2,206,000	5	-86,000	2,120,000	5
Pseudorabies.....	2,500,084	29	2,510,000	29	-2,510,000	0	0
Scrapie.....	16,379,119	79	17,906,000	79	-2,030,000	15,876,000	79
Tuberculosis.....	16,733,722	49	16,764,000	49	-1,248,000	15,516,000	49
Wildlife Services Operations.....	77,267,267	530	77,780,000	530	-10,356,000	67,424,000	535
Witchweed.....	1,513,444	3	1,517,000	3	0	1,517,000	3
Total Pest & Disease Management.....	329,887,464	1,336	369,106,000	1,336	-70,254,000	298,852,000	1,264
Animal Care							
Animal Welfare.....	24,444,965	242	21,979,000	204	6,608,000	28,587,000	251
Horse Protection.....	498,024	5	500,000	5	391,000	891,000	5
Total Animal Care.....	24,942,988	247	22,479,000	209	6,999,000	29,478,000	256

	2010 Actual		2011 CR Annual		Increase	2012 Estimated	
	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years	or Decrease	Amount	Staff Years
Scientific & Technical Services							
Biotechnology Regulatory Services……..	13,013,786	79	13,050,000	79	11,813,000	24,863,000	108
Environmental Compliance……	2,709,747	20	2,715,000	20	0	2,715,000	20
Plant Methods Development Labs……	9,921,772	108	9,949,000	108	0	9,949,000	108
Veterinary Biologics……..……	17,297,036	184	17,325,000	184	0	17,325,000	184
Veterinary Diagnostics……	26,052,191	269	26,073,000	269	3,205,000	29,278,000	269
Wildlife Services Methods Development……..	18,622,053	162	18,630,000	162	-2,837,000	15,793,000	156
Total Scientific & Technical Services……	87,616,585	822	87,742,000	822	12,181,000	99,923,000	845
Management Initiatives							
APHIS Info. Technology Infrastructure……..……..	4,307,528	0	4,474,000	0	0	4,474,000	0
Physical/Operational Security……	5,668,652	0	5,725,000	0	0	5,725,000	0
Total Management Initiatives……	9,976,180	0	10,199,000	0	0	10,199,000	0
Unobligated Balances, end of year……	56,672,020	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total, Appropriated ……a/…….....…….....……	$903,819,023	4,854	$904,953,000	4,824	-$72,247,000	$832,706,000	4,801

a/ FYs 2010 and 2011 exclude General Provision 723 which provides $2,600,000 to remain available until expended for the construction, interim operations, and necessary demolition needs for establishment of an agricultural pest facility in the State of Hawaii.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Justification of Increases and Decreases
Salaries and Expenses

(1) A decrease of $24,410,000 from Congressionally Designated Projects.

APHIS is requesting a reduction of $24.41 million to eliminate Congressionally-designated activities from the budget. Of the $24.41 million, $13.26 million is considered pass-through funding used by APHIS to enter into contracts and cooperative agreements with State and local entities, and colleges and universities, in order to comply with the directives. The remaining $11.15 million is used by APHIS, internally, to carry out the Congressional directives for the benefit of the designated States and local entities and funds approximately 200 staff years.

(2) A net decrease of $56,936,000 and 78 staff years for Safeguarding and Emergency Preparedness/Response:

A net decrease of $37,509,000 and a decrease of 126 staff years for Safeguarding and Emergency Preparedness/Response - Animal Health.

(a) An increase of $8,850,000 for the Animal Health Technical Services program ($32,360,000 and 92 staff years available in FY 2011).

Animal Health Technical Services enhance the provision of veterinary medical services by Federal, State, Tribal, and private animal health professionals. Tools made available by the Agency for acquiring and managing information, such as mobile devices equipped with surveillance applications and standardized data management systems, improve the availability of health information vital for maintaining and improving global market access. Traceability components work together to allow producers and practitioners to find animal diseases quickly, trace their origin, and prevent their spread. Private veterinarians trained and accredited by the Agency assist producers in meeting both export requirements and disease program standards allowing U.S. animals and products to compete in the global economy. Disease transmission and spread models developed and shared by the Agency allow improved planning for animal health incidents. The Agency will use $38.459 million in FY 2012 to continue these activities. Each of the animal health programs has contributed to the requested funding level.

Animal Disease Traceability (+$8.85 million)

APHIS introduced the National Animal Identification System in 2004 to enhance the United States' capability to minimize the spread of foreign and domestic animal diseases of concern. In FY 2009, USDA collected stakeholder views regarding the program from a variety of sources (e.g., *Federal Register* announced comment periods, listening sessions, and stakeholder input). This input enabled APHIS to develop a new traceability approach.

The new traceability approach addresses many producer concerns about previous efforts to implement a national animal identification system by directing more responsibility to the State and Tribe level. Additionally, it offers basic, low-cost animal identification options that are well supported by most sectors of the industry as a starting point to increase the number of animals officially identified, particularly in the cattle sector. As a result of these principles, USDA has gained support for advancing animal disease traceability.

The improved disease traceability framework will focus where the impact of disease spread is the greatest—animals moving interstate. Rulemaking requiring official identification of livestock along with certificates that document the health of the animals (unless otherwise exempt) brings assurance that necessary levels of participation will be achieved. Unlike the previous system, this mandatory approach establishes regulations where current traceability has the greatest void, primarily in the cattle sector. While other species are included, disease program regulations for those species result in adequate traceability.

Those regulations are being maintained. For some species, such as equine, deer, and elk, disease-specific additional regulations are being developed.

There are several components that work as a system to find animal diseases quickly, trace their origin, and prevent their spread. Detecting a disease before many animals have been exposed to it limits the spread of the disease and allows for more timely eradication and management efforts. The Agency estimates that a half week delay in intervention can increase cleaning, disinfection, depopulation, and quarantine costs (on average) by $70 million, and increase total costs by $135 million, including production and trade losses related to a major disease event. Therefore, the Agency's animal disease traceability activities are crucial to minimizing and preventing damages to the U.S. livestock industry.

The vast diversity of U.S. animal agriculture has made it difficult to deploy a "single, one-size-fits-all" solution similar to that of other countries. The refocused framework relies on common standards to ensure compatibility of systems while supporting local flexibility. Tracing capability is the "end product," and the new framework establishes traceability performance standards to ensure progress is made. APHIS' objective is to decrease the amount of time to complete tracing animals, and the performance-based approach directs our efforts accordingly.

The new traceability approach addresses many concerns that Congress identified with the NAIS. Included in these concerns were the ability to identify meaningful performance standards that can measure the value of the system and that are linked to cooperator funding, developing a mandatory system, and a reliable system that has operational costs that are reasonable. The new traceability framework also meets standards that are being implemented by many of our trading partners. Implementing the traceability system will enable the U.S.'s animal product exports to remain competitive in the global market place as trade requirements increasingly require such a system to allow access to markets.

APHIS proposes an increase of $8.85 million for the refocused animal disease traceability program, providing a total of $14.15 million in FY 2012. APHIS will use $1.9 million of the requested budget to support information technology systems to administer animal identification devices, allocate location identifiers, and manage the animal disease traceability information systems. APHIS will continue to provide the premises identification systems to States and Tribes that wish to use these systems. Planned expenditures include the contract with the National Information Technology Center (NITC) to operate and maintain these tracing systems. Approximately $9.6 million of the requested budget will be used to fund cooperative agreements with States and Tribes to implement the revised traceability plan and complete the initial purchase of low-cost tags, outreach, and other implementation activities. The remaining budget will be used to support policy and program administration.

The requested increase will enable APHIS to maintain the current level of infrastructure, and to maintain the progress in premises registration and data collection and management that the program has made thus far. The proposed funding level more accurately reflects how much the program needs to carry out essential activities and retain the advances made to date. APHIS will measure overall performance by the number of significant introductions of foreign animal pests or diseases that spread beyond the original area of introduction and cause severe economic or environmental damage, or damage to the health of animals. The Agency's target for 2012 is zero introductions. By helping develop more efficient animal trace back mechanisms, equipping labs to screen tests for foreign animal diseases, building comprehensive surveillance systems, and increasing a field workforce to conduct surveillance, the Agency will be able to detect disease faster, minimize the spread of disease, and assist in keeping global trade markets open to U.S. animals and animal products. Further, an effective animal disease traceability system could aid in gaining greater market share in key export markets.

(b) A decrease of $3,172,000 for the Aquatic Animal Health program ($6,021,000 and 3 staff years available in FY 2011).

APHIS conducts activities that prevent the introduction or spread of reportable aquatic animal pathogens into farmed populations; prevent the spread of aquatic animal pathogens into wild aquatic animal populations, in collaboration with other relevant agencies and stakeholders; and, works to reduce conflicts between wildlife and aquaculture production. APHIS will use $2.261 million for these activities in FY

2012. The Aquatic Animal Health program contributed $82,000 to the Animal Health Technical Services program.

Viral hemorrhagic septicemia surveillance activities (-$3.172 million)

APHIS requests a decrease due to the effectiveness of the Federal Order that restricts movement of viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS) susceptible species out of the Great Lake States except under certain conditions. APHIS plans to use $1.561 million to support the Federal rule pertaining to movement of aquaculture products from VHS affected regions.

Currently, the bulk of aquatic animal health funding is used to support VHS related activities in the 8 States surrounding the Great Lakes. Due to the effectiveness of the Federal Order in curbing the spread of this disease outside of the affected area, APHIS will only conduct surveillance as needed since we know that VHS is already present in these States and eradication is not feasible. To become more effective in managing aquatic animal health issues in the United States (including VHS), APHIS will focus on implementing the broader National Aquatic Animal Health Plan, including the National Aquatic Animal Pathogen Testing Network.

(c) A decrease of $14,700,000 and 51 staff years for the Avian Health program ($70,567,667 and 190 staff years available in FY 2011).

The Agency conducts monitoring and surveillance activities to quickly identify, eliminate, prevent and control the spread of poultry diseases in the commercial poultry industry and live bird marketing systems of the United States. APHIS also works to further strengthen safeguards currently in place to protect against the introduction of avian influenza into the United States such as import restrictions, anti-smuggling activities, and international capacity building activities related to highly pathogenic avian influenza detection, response, and control. These activities ensure compliance with State and Federal regulations and program standards, promote and improve safe trade in poultry and poultry products, and serves as an early warning system to rapidly detect and prevent spread of avian diseases in the United States. APHIS plans to use $55.733 million for avian health activities in FY 2012. The Avian Health program contributed $1.939 million to the Animal Health Technical Services program.

Avian Influenza surveillance activities (-$14.7 million)

USDA has both an international and domestic role in controlling the spread of avian influenza and reducing its effects to the economy and public health. Internationally, USDA is working closely with organizations such as the World Organization for Animal Health, the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization, and the World Health Organization to assist highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 affected regions with disease prevention, management, and eradication activities. By helping these countries prepare for, manage, or eradicate highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 outbreaks, USDA has reduced the risk of disease spreading from overseas to the United States. Domestically, USDA has worked to protect against the introduction of highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 in the United States. Surveillance between both wild and commercial bird populations serves as an early warning system to rapidly detect and prevent spread of the disease in the United States. In the event of a detection of highly pathogenic avian influenza, State personnel will be the primary responders with additional assistance from their Federal counterparts in APHIS. APHIS and State animal health officials are working cooperatively with the poultry industry to conduct continued surveillance at breeding flocks, slaughter plants, live-bird markets, livestock auctions, and poultry dealers. The Agency strives to prevent and control H5 and H7 AI from entering and spreading in commercial and backyard poultry flocks and causing significant economic damage.

Due to the efficient use of resources, a greater knowledge of the virus, completion of one-time investments, and an assessment of the international situation, APHIS requests a decrease of $14.7 million and 51 staff years to the AI program. The number of new human cases of H5N1 indicates a more stable H5N1 situation globally. Additionally, no findings of H5N1 in several years of surveillance of wild migratory birds in North America indicates a low likelihood of intercontinental transmission. While it is still important to maintain international activity as well as wild bird surveillance to observe all of the possible pathways of the virus into the United States, program objectives can be accomplished at a reduced funding level. The

focus of the program is working with State animal health officials on surveillance of domestic poultry in order to prevent and control H5 and H7 AI from entering and spreading in commercial and backyard poultry flocks and causing significant economic damage. The program does not anticipate a negative impact on the ability to achieve this goal at a $43.604 million planned funding level in FY 2012.

(d) A decrease of $13,435,000 and 20 staff years for the Cattle Health program ($114,530,567 and 723 staff years available in FY 2011).

The Cattle Health program is designed for the rapid detection of certain devastating diseases that could affect our nation's livestock population and economy as well as the spread of any endemic cattle diseases of concern. Through partnerships with a variety of cooperators including state animal health and wildlife agencies, other governmental agencies, universities, Native American Tribes, and related livestock industries, the program protects the U.S. cattle population against significant losses by quickly locating foreign, emerging and domestic animal diseases and limiting their spread. This minimizes production losses and helps to maintain market viability. Additionally, by conducting surveillance to find animal diseases, the system also verifies and documents, for our international trading partners, that certain diseases do not exist in the U.S. animal population, thus facilitating trade. All of the surveillance plans are measured against World Organization for Animal Health Standards. Other countries use these standards to conduct evaluations of the USDA's Animal Health Programs to set import requirements. The Agency plans to use $98.884 million in FY 2012 to conduct these activities that protect cattle health in the United States. The Cattle Health program contributed $2.108 million to the Animal Health Technical Services program.

Johne's disease surveillance activities (-$4.901 million)

Johne's disease is a chronic, infectious, and usually fatal intestinal disease of cattle that also occurs in sheep, goats, and deer. The disease is widely distributed throughout the world. First discovered domestically in 1908, it is now found in all regions of the United States. The primary objectives of the Johne's activities have been to run a national demonstration herd project, and to evaluate the long-term effectiveness and feasibility of management-related disease-control measures and infection on dairy and beef cattle operations. Secondary objectives have been to provide information and materials for the education and training of private-practice veterinarians and cattle producers; and to develop and evaluate management, testing, and monitoring strategies for use in controlling Johne's disease in cattle herds.

Analysis of the National Johne's Demonstration Herd data was completed in FY 2010. Therefore, the Federal government's primary role related to the project will be concluded in FY 2011. The results of completed evaluations provide additional justification for this decrease request. Currently, approximately 20 percent of cattle herds enrolled in the Voluntary Bovine Johne's Disease Cooperative Program (VBJDCP) have a test-negative herd classification for Johne's. This level is well below the target of 30 percent. Since the VBJDCP is voluntary, the ratio of test-negative to test-positive producer participation cannot be controlled. As the disease is endemic in the United States (highly endemic in the case of the dairy industry with more than 68 percent of herds infected), truly effective control measures can only be implemented on individual premises by educated producers. This type of case-by-case intervention is already happening on the part of informed producers.

APHIS plans to use $.853 million in FY 2012 to establish a Federal role in providing disease control related guidance to States and animal owners. APHIS will no longer provide direct support and funding to the Agency's program cooperators. The Agency expects that all herds previously enrolled will continue with the management changes started under their Johne's management plans. The National Animal Health Monitoring System Dairy Study 2007 and the Johne's Disease Integrated Programs 2008 Producer Survey results support this expectation. Both the study and the survey indicate that approximately 35 percent of producers have Johne's disease control measures in place. In another survey recently conducted by the Dairy Farmers of America, 65 percent of the 9,853 member producers surveyed stated that they had control practices in place. These statistics support the belief that, if given the proper information about disease management tools, industry is willing to work towards disease control.

Screwworm – sterile fly rearing facility (-$7.534 million)

Consisting of cooperative efforts with Mexico, Panama, and other countries of Central America, the Agency has eradicated this pest south of the United States to the narrowest point in Panama and established a permanent barrier against the pest at the Panama–Columbia border. The barrier protects U.S. livestock producers against this costly pest, a parasite that can cause great damage to domestic livestock and other warm-blooded animals. The larvae of the screwworm enter through open wounds of the host animal and feed on the raw flesh.

The program has established a new sterile fly rearing facility in Panama, closer to the barrier zone. The new facility was fully operational at the end of FY 2009, and the program is ready to shift operations from the Mexico facility to the Panama facility. The facility in Panama is operating at full production capacity. The facility produces approximately 40 million sterile flies per week for release over the Darien Gap to prevent fertile screwworms in South America from moving north. The facility in Mexico will maintain one colony of sterile flies for additional capacity or in the event an emergency. APHIS will require fewer resources to achieve its goal of maintaining the biological barrier against screwworm between Central and South America at the Darien Gap. The Agency plans to use $20.18 million to continue cooperative efforts in maintaining the barrier zone.

Tuberculosis indemnities (-$1 million)

Bovine tuberculosis (TB) is a contagious, infectious and potentially deadly respiratory disease that is usually chronic and debilitating in cattle. Although cattle are considered to be the true hosts of the disease, it has been reported in several other species of both domestic and non-domestic animals, as well as in humans. The Agency continues to make significant progress, markedly decreasing the prevalence of the disease. However, the goal of eradication remains elusive as animal health officials continue to detect TB sporadically in U.S. livestock herds.

In light of difficulty in achieving eradication, APHIS is currently evaluating existing bovine TB efforts. The Agency is gathering input from the public and is developing regulations to construct activities that protect the health of U.S. livestock and is responsive, timely, and cost-effective. In addition, more herd owners are choosing the testing and removal option for infected animals versus the depopulation of their herds. Testing and removal allows herd owners to retain viable cattle under quarantine and remove only those animals that are positive for TB as identified through Federal regulation. This option is often a better economic choice for small herd owners and reduces the need for Federal indemnity. Therefore, APHIS is requesting a decrease of $1 million related to indemnities. APHIS plans to continue tuberculosis management activities, including monitoring and surveillance, testing and diagnostics, disease tracing, and wildlife disease conflict mitigation, at a funding level of $13.258 million in FY 2012.

(e) A decrease of $16,385,000 and 26 staff years for the Equine, Cervid and Small Ruminant Health program ($39,427,100 and 138 staff years available in FY 2011).

APHIS aims to monitor, control and prevent the spread of infectious, foreign, and endemic animal diseases in equine, cervid and other small ruminant herds. These populations often include both free ranging and farmed animals for purposes of commercial agriculture. The Agency assists with surveillance and disease management activities within these species groups. APHIS plans to use $22.018 million for the Equine, Cervid and Small Ruminant Health program in FY 2012. The Equine, Cervid and Small Ruminant Health program contributed $.979 million to the Animal Health Technical Services program.

Federal role in Chronic Wasting Disease surveillance activities (-$13.926 million)

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a degenerative neurological illness affecting elk and deer (cervids) in North America. APHIS' activities related to this disease include: surveillance and management in both farmed and wild populations; assistance to State agencies for quarantine of affected animals and premises; humane euthanasia and testing affected and exposed animals; and, establishment of a voluntary Herd Certification Program (HCP) in coordination with States, the farmed cervid industry, and the U.S. Animal Health Associations.

The success of the voluntary HCP is based upon cooperation and shared responsibility between the Federal government and State and local interests. Since these are local or regional disease spread issues, State and local governments should assume a more active role and better anticipate and plan for future needs. The reduction will eliminate funding provided to States and Tribes through cooperative agreements and indemnity payments for CWD affected herds. APHIS plans to use $1.826 million in FY 2012 to provide a Federal level of coordination for the voluntary Herd Certification Program.

Scrapie indemnity funding and surveillance activities (-$2.03 million)

Scrapie is a fatal, degenerative, infectious disease affecting the central nervous system of sheep and goats. The purpose of the Agency's national scrapie eradication efforts is to eradicate classical scrapie from the United States. The goal is to do so quickly and efficiently in order to open up export markets for both live animals and animal products, prevent losses in productivity, and protect the U.S. sheep and goat industry from the risk that the disease will be perceived as a human health risk or a threat to wildlife.

The cooperative efforts have reduced the prevalence of classical scrapie in the U.S. sheep population by 77 percent since 2003. As a result, the Agency has incurred lower costs for indemnity and related expenses. Due to the reduced need for indemnity, a portion of the funds was used to enhance critical operations such as: increased surveillance efforts; funds provided to States to conduct surveillance and disease investigations; genetic resistance of the national flock; and, sheep and goat traceability.
In FY 2012, the Agency would reduce the efforts that were increased in previous years by decreasing the number of surveillance samples collected and tested each year and reduce funding to States and Tribes for cooperative agreements. APHIS plans to use $15.075 million to continue disease management activities including monitoring and surveillance, testing and diagnostics, disease tracing, and continue providing indemnity as needed.

Tropical Bont Tick eradication in the Caribbean (-$.429 million)

APHIS is proposing to eliminate contributions towards Tropical Bont Tick (TBT) eradication efforts in FY 2012. The TBT activities were established to eradicate the tick from the Caribbean. Recent data suggests that eradicating TBT from the Caribbean is not a feasible goal due to the cost associated with eradication efforts and the pest's range. Several years ago, the European Union Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, and the Food and Agricultural Organization were external donors and participants in the program. However, these organizations withdrew support from the program (the last one in 2005). As the last remaining donor, the APHIS contribution did not allow the program to reach a critical threshold for eradication. APHIS and the island nation governments have shifted the strategy from eradication to surveillance and pest management activities. These activities will now be carried out by local Caribbean nations that are affected.

(f) A decrease of $2,510,000 and 29 staff years from the Swine Health program ($25,732,666 and 219 staff years available in FY 2011).

The Swine Health program protects the Nation's commercial swine herd through surveillance activities, rapid identification of diseased herds, quick response to those identified disease herds, and assists in disease prevention by educating stakeholders on how diseases are spread. These activities strengthen animal agriculture and trade by providing the information necessary to ensure trading partners and U.S. swine producers that the commercial swine herd is free of diseases of concern. For example, pseudorabies virus is a potentially severe disease of swine and other agricultural species that used to be common in the United States and cause economic hardship to producers with disease affected herds. The disease has been successfully eradicated from the commercial swine herds, and if reintroduced would be devastating to the swine industry and stakeholders. The Agency will use $23.088 million in FY 2012 to continue these activities that protect U.S. commercial swine herds.

Pseudorabies eradication efforts (-$2.51 million)

Initially started in 1978, the Agency's focus was to determine the prevalence and distribution of the pseudorabies virus in the United States and to design effective infected herd clean-up methodologies. After the analysis was completed and clean-up methodologies created, the focus turned to eradication. Following an enhanced eradication initiative launched in 1989, all States in the United States qualified as being Pseudorabies Virus (PRV)-free in 2004. Commercial swine remain free of PRV, although interaction with PRV-carrying feral swine leads to occasional cases in the commercial sector. By 2012, all States will have maintained their PRV-free status in commercial swine for eight years. The Agency's disease management activities will focus on surveillance to ensure the absence of PRV in the United States, however, the Agency no longer requires funding specific for eradication efforts. Therefore, the Agency is requested to eliminate funding for pseudorabies eradication efforts. Impacted personnel will be reassigned to other Agency animal health programs.

(g) An increase of $3,843,000 for the Veterinary Diagnostics program ($30,006,000 and 282 staff years available in FY 2011).

The National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) safeguard U.S. animal health, and contribute to public health, by ensuring that timely and accurate laboratory support is provided by a nationwide animal health diagnostic system. NVSL provides many unique functions including: providing diagnostic services, reagents, and training in world-class facilities; responding to animal health emergencies; taking an active role in managing the National Animal Health Laboratory Network; serving as an international reference laboratory; and, maintaining a well-trained and responsive staff. Additional goals of the NVSL include developing and maintaining accurate, rapid laboratory diagnostic support for national animal disease prevention, control, and eradication programs, as well as providing assistance to State and other Federal agencies and laboratories, educational institutions, and foreign governments in the diagnosis of animal diseases. APHIS will use $33.211 million in FY 2012 for the veterinary diagnostics program. The Veterinary Diagnostics program contributed $1.463 million to the Animal Health Technical Services program.

National Centers for Animal Health (+$3.843 million)

A $470 million modernization project to establish and construct the National Centers for Animal Health (NCAH) was completed in FY 2009. The NCAH is composed of APHIS' NVSL and Center for Veterinary Biologics, and the Agricultural Research Service's National Animal Disease Center. The final completed NCAH facilities will increase from 697,000 square feet to approximately 1,000,000 square feet of modern state-of-the-art facilities, representing a 43 percent increase in size over the previously occupied space. The result will be USDA's largest animal health facility providing research on livestock health, laboratory support for disease diagnosis, and product evaluation for vaccines and biologics. These facilities, and related diagnostic activities, are an integral part of providing for the health and safety of U.S. animal agriculture. As such, the NCAH plays an important role in reducing risk to, and increasing the economic viability and sustainability of, all animal agriculture including those in rural areas.

APHIS is requesting funding for recurring utility costs at the newly constructed facility. Costs include the high efficiency particulate arresting filtration system, chemical waste treatment and wastewater pre-treatment, and one-pass air handling systems with increased heating and cooling costs. The requested increase will allow the program to continue current mission critical levels of operation at the new facility. APHIS currently has $1.657 million for this requirement. The diagnostic services carried out by laboratory personnel serve several purposes including determining the prevalence of diseases in animals that ultimately allows meat products to be available to the American public, and enhancing the marketability of healthy animals and animal products domestically and globally. With this additional funding for utility costs, APHIS can use its operating budget to conduct surveillance for livestock disease prevention, process biologics licenses in a timely manner, and maintain emergency response preparedness and capacity.

A net decrease of $28,028,000 and 13 staff years for Safeguarding and Emergency Preparedness/Response – Plant Health.

(h) A decrease of $14,413,000 for the Cotton Pests program ($23,390,000 and 37 staff years available in FY 2011).

The goal of the Cotton Pests program is to eradicate the boll weevil and pink bollworm from all cotton-producing areas of the United States and northern Mexico in cooperation with States, the cotton industry, and Mexico. For decades, these two pests have cost cotton growers tens of millions of dollars each year in control costs and losses to cotton crops. APHIS will use $8.977 million in FY 2012 to continue boll weevil eradication activities in southern Texas and continue providing technical assistance to Mexico for their program in the area adjacent to the Texas Lower Rio Grande Valley. In addition, the program will continue progressing toward the eradication of pink bollworm with trapping, sterile moth releases, and pheromone applications.

Cotton Pests eradication efforts (-$14.413 million)

The Agency is nearing success, having eradicating the boll weevil from 98 percent of infested cotton acreage and having eradicated pink bollworm from 85 percent of infested cotton acreage. In FY 2010, eradication progress was delayed by severe storms and drug violence along the Texas/Mexico border. Still, the program expects nationwide eradication of both pests by the end of 2013. When eradication concludes, the program will transition to long-term surveillance to prevent the reinfestation of U.S. cotton acreage and protect the investment made in this eradication effort. As the program reaches its eradication goals, fewer resources will be required.

(i) A decrease of $2,251,000 and 5 staff years for the Field Crop and Rangeland Ecosystems Pests program ($13,138,000 and 50 staff years available in FY 2011).

The goal of the Field Crop and Rangeland Ecosystems Pests program is to assist land managers, farmers, and others in managing damage caused by certain economically significant pests and diseases that affect field crop and rangeland ecosystems. The program collects and provides information about pests that threaten these resources and partners with affected land managers to address them. APHIS will use $9.068 million in FY 2012 to conduct program activities.

Karnal Bunt regulatory activities (-$1.08 million)

The goal of APHIS's efforts regarding Karnal Bunt (KB) is to retain U.S. wheat export markets while protecting wheat production areas that are free of KB and facilitating wheat movement into domestic and international markets. The Agency has de-regulated all wheat production acres in California and Texas, and approximately 230,000 acres remain under quarantine in Arizona. The Agency expects the regulated acreage to continue declining, and does not expect to need to issue as many phytosanitary certificates for wheat exports. KB has never been detected outside the southwestern States or in exported U.S. wheat. The volume of U.S. wheat exports has remained fairly constant due to the regulatory and national survey programs that APHIS initiated in 1996. The presence of KB has not affected the volume of U.S. wheat exported as a result of APHIS' ability to certify that wheat was produced in areas where KB is not known to occur. The Agency plans to use $1.071 million to conduct survey, treatment, and regulatory activities in Arizona in FY 2012. Impacted personnel will be reassigned to other Agency plant health programs.

Contributions towards addressing Federal Noxious Weeds (-$1.171 million)

APHIS's budget proposes no funding for the Noxious Weeds program activities. APHIS will discontinue the agency's contribution to Federal Noxious Weeds (FNW) efforts. This program consists of survey and eradication projects in 15 States that address 19 FNW. Under this proposal, the primary impact would be on projects conducted on private lands. State invasive species councils and local weed management coalitions could provide assistance and expertise to FNW projects of priority concern. Currently, field activities addressing FNW are performed largely through cooperative agreements with State and local entities. Federal land management agencies would maintain responsibility for managing FNW on Federal lands. APHIS would redirect the impacted employees to other Agency regulatory and response programs. Eliminating the APHIS contribution provides a savings of $1.71 million.

(j) A net increase of $4,320,000 and a net decrease of 2 staff years for the Specialty Crop program ($150,849,000 and 573 staff years available in FY 2011).

APHIS aims to protect U.S. specialty crop production (such as fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, horticulture, and nursery crops) from existing and potential agricultural pest and disease threats. If a pest or disease is detected, the Agency prevents the spread of the pest and disease to other areas while minimizing losses within affected areas. This allows USDA and stakeholders time to develop new tools to effectively combat the agricultural threats if none currently exist, and also allows for the continued availability of specialty crop products to U.S. consumers and for international trade. APHIS will fund $154.7 million in the Specialty Crop program in 2012.

Fruit Fly Exclusion and Detection activities (-$3 million)

APHIS has both a domestic and international component that complement each other to conduct a wide range of activities to protect the health and value of American agricultural resources threatened by the establishment of exotic fruit fly populations. The Agency uses three strategies to prevent the establishment of fruit flies in the United States: 1) domestic detection, response, and prevention activities; 2) ensuring that the Mediterranean fruit fly does not move north of the State of Chiapas, Mexico; and 3) eradicating the Mexican fruit fly from the Lower Rio Grande Valley and along the U.S./Mexico border. With the requested decrease, APHIS would reduce fruit fly exclusion and detection activities in the Lower Rio Grande Valley and California, while continuing to focus efforts on the areas that present the most risk. This would include reducing funding provided to cooperators, who would be expected to increase contributions to the program. The Agency plans to use $59.92 million in FY 2012 to conduct fruit fly exclusion and detection activities. The Agency expects minimal carryover funding to be available in FY 2012, but any carryover is expected to be available to assist in the transition.

Glassy-winged Sharpshooter research and control activities (-$2.706 million)

The Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) is a vector for Pierce's Disease, which significantly threatens many California crops, including grapes, citrus, stone fruits, almonds, and alfalfa. APHIS and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) work to minimize the State-wide impact of Pierce's disease and the GWSS. Since FY 2000, APHIS and the CDFA have conducted research and control activities to reduce GWSS populations without significantly impacting agricultural production areas. The cooperative strategy is to slow or stop the spread of the GWSS while short- and long-term solutions to Pierce's disease are developed. This strategy relies upon preventing GWSS spread to new areas of California, conducting State-wide survey and detection activities, responding quickly to GWSS detections in new areas, conducting outreach efforts, and developing solutions to Pierce's disease and its vectors.

APHIS would reduce funding for research activities and trapping in lower-risk areas by $2 million in FY 2012, leaving $20.277 million planned to continue area-wide management programs in major citrus-producing areas of Fresno, Riverside, and Tulare Counties. In addition, APHIS is proposing to decrease the program by $706,000 to allow cooperators to increase cost-share contributions to the program, setting the Federal share of the program at 47 percent of the costs. It represents a consistent and reasonable

allocation of funding responsibility and allows cooperators, who also directly benefit from Federal assistance, to plan for future needs. Carryover funding is expected to be available to assist in the transition.

Phytophthora ramorum (Sudden Oak Death) regulatory and control activities (-$.276 million)

Phytophthora ramorum (P. ramorum) is a highly infectious plant pathogen that causes sudden oak death and several other plant diseases. Since FY 2002, these activities have protected the nation's landscape and safeguarded several industries from enormous potential losses. In FY 2010, APHIS continued regulatory and control activities to prevent the artificial spread of *P. ramorum* through inter-State shipment of host plants from California, Oregon, and Washington and to reduce nursery infection levels. To achieve this goal, APHIS works with officials in the three States to establish quarantines and require nursery inspections before host plants may be shipped interstate. These activities minimize the artificial spread of *P. ramorum* through nursery shipments, while allowing the movement of healthy plants. Also in FY 2010, APHIS continued to support the implementation of best management practices in nurseries within California and Oregon. This effort will help nurseries reduce risk of *P. ramorum* introduction and establishment and, thus, artificial movement of disease. The $276,000 requested decrease will leave $5.071 million planned for regulatory and control activities in FY 2012, and will allow APHIS to fund approximately 60 percent of total anticipated/estimated program costs in California, Oregon, and Washington. State and local entities in the three States will fund the remaining 40 percent of costs. This represents a consistent and reasonable allocation of funding responsibility and also allows cooperators, who directly benefit from Federal assistance, to plan for future needs. APHIS expects no performance changes at the proposed cooperator participation level.

Light Brown Apple Moth regulatory and control activities (+$10 million)

The Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM) is a devastating invasive pest that multiplies rapidly and can attack more than 2,000 types of plants and trees throughout the United States. The potential national production loss in LBAM-risk areas ranges between $700 million and $1.6 billion dollars in value annually. Climate modeling indicates that 82 percent of counties in 33 States are at risk from LBAM establishment and spread. APHIS and the California Department of Food and Agriculture conduct statewide surveys to determine LBAM's spread, treatments and other control activities to limit its natural spread, and regulatory activities to prevent artificial spread. These activities maintain trade and interstate commerce and ensure that the program is consistent with standards for protecting human health and the environment. APHIS' continued suppression and control of LBAM has prevented significant damage in California's major agricultural production areas and safeguarded numerous industries and jobs associated with the agricultural sector. To supplement these efforts, the Agency is continuing to develop large-scale mass rearing of sterile moths. For FY 2012, APHIS requests $10 million and 7 staff years, for a total planned funding of $11.008 million, to continue program activities that in FY 2008 and FY 2009 had been conducted with emergency funds from the Commodity Credit Corporation, which are now nearly exhausted. Of the $10 million increase, APHIS will use approximately $8 million to continue developing a sterile insect technique (SIT) program and apply treatments, and $2 million to carry out State-wide survey and regulatory activities. SIT involves the mass rearing, sterilization, and release of target insect species. These insects will mate with fertile wild insects, thereby suppressing the LBAM population by reducing the reproductive capability of the wild population and, ultimately, leading to eradication. Since the insects are released as adults, which consume far less than juveniles, the negative impact from the release is inconsequential. The validity of this method has been demonstrated since the 1950s for many insect pests, including many moths. The treatments will eradicate outlying infestations and suppress the leading edges of infestations. The requested increase will enable APHIS to continue protecting fruit and vegetable production in California and the other States at risk.

Efforts to address the European Grapevine Moth (+$2.5 million)

The European Grapevine Moth (EGVM) is a significant pest of grapes. In October 2009, APHIS confirmed the first detection of EGVM in the United States in major grape production areas of northern California. Grapes, including wine grapes, table grapes and raisins, rank second among all crops produced in California, generating 10 percent of the State's $31.4 billion in farm sales. If EGVM were to spread to other areas of California, such as major agricultural areas of San Joaquin County (a portion of which was

added to the list of quarantined areas in August) the impact could be felt by nearly 12,000 grape farms. In response to the detection of the pest in California, APHIS, the California Department of Food and Agriculture, California county officials, and industry groups and affected growers initiated a cooperative effort to address it. The effort consists of intensive survey efforts to identify affected areas, regulatory compliance activities to prevent the artificial spread of the pest, and an outreach program to reach industry groups, affected growers, and residents. Affected growers are responsible for conducting suppression activities in their fields, with APHIS providing technical assistance and scientific support. Initial efforts have reduced detections of moths in affected areas from 66,000 in April to just 20 moths in August. Continued intensive survey, regulatory, and suppression efforts are needed for the next several years to ensure that the pest does not spread to new areas or begin to establish itself.

EGVM spreads slowly through natural means, but because grape growers are accustomed to shipping their products throughout the State and the rest of the country based on marketing opportunities and costs, preventing human-assisted spread of the pest is a critical component of the program. Accordingly, artificial spread through regulatory violations is the main challenge in preventing the pest from affecting new areas. Federal, State, or county officials must inspect all shipments of EGVM host products (grapes and a variety of other fruits) leaving quarantined areas. APHIS estimates that between 7,500 and 10,000 regulatory inspections were conducted during the 2010 harvest season. APHIS is requesting a total of $2.5 million for the EGVM cooperative effort to continue conducting these regulatory activities in FY 2012. These activities are currently being conducted with $16.9 million in emergency funding.

Plum Pox Virus eradication activities (-$.086 million)

Plum pox virus (PPV) is a viral disease that attacks several *Prunus* species, including peaches, apricots, plums, almonds, and nectarines, which were valued at $3.1 billion in 2009. PPV significantly reduces fruit production and quality in infected trees, and international trading partners refuse fruit from infected regions. APHIS seeks to mitigate and eradicate PPV outbreaks in the United States by regulating nursery materials, conducting field surveys, and eliminating infected trees in nurseries and orchards. The Agency completed eradication operations in Pennsylvania and Michigan in FY 2009 and continues to address an outbreak in New York. APHIS is requesting a lower appropriation to allow cooperators to increase their contributions to the program and bring the Federal level of contributions to 85 percent of the estimated total program costs, compared to 88 percent in FY 2010. At this level of cooperator participation, APHIS expects no program performance changes. The Agency plans to use $2.12 million to continue to address the outbreak in New York.

Pale Cyst Nematode eradication activities (-$2.112 million)

The pale cyst nematode (PCN) is a major pest of potato crops in cool-temperate areas and is one of the most difficult potato pests to control. APHIS, the Idaho State Department of Agriculture, and the Idaho potato industry are continuing efforts to eradicate PCN through soil survey and fumigation of infested fields (approximately 1,100 acres) in Idaho. APHIS quarantines infested fields, along with associated fields, to prevent the pest from spreading. For FY 2012, APHIS is requesting a decrease to allow cooperators to increase their program contributions. This represents a consistent and reasonable allocation of funding responsibility and allows cooperators to plan for future needs. APHIS expects no performance changes at the proposed cooperator participation level. The Agency plans to use $6.215 million in FY 2012 to continue survey, treatment, and regulatory activities in Idaho.

(k) A net decrease of $15,684,000 and 6 staff years for the Tree and Wood Pests program ($77,146,000 and 124 staff years available in FY 2011).

APHIS aims to protect forests and private working lands, as well as natural resources, from devastating agricultural pests. Numerous hardwood tree species that are native to and common throughout U.S. forests and urban landscapes are hosts to tree and wood pests such as the Asian longhorned beetle and the emerald ash borer. Among other things, trees serve as carbon sinks and water filters, making the land more resilient to climate change and enhances water resources. In addition, conserving healthy forests contributes to the economic vitality of rural communities by supporting forest related industries and recreation. APHIS, in cooperation with State and local agencies and organizations, conducts regulatory and outreach components

as part of the tree and wood pest control and eradication efforts. The Agency will use $60.462 million in FY 2012 to address tree and wood pests.

Asian Longhorned Beetle eradication activities (+$11.970 million)

The Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB) is a devastating pest of hardwood trees. It is a serious threat to forest resources nationwide, as roughly 30 percent of U.S. trees are potential ALB hosts. First detected in Brooklyn, New York, in 1996, ALB was later found in other areas of New York, as well as in Illinois, New Jersey, and, most recently, Massachusetts. APHIS has eradicated outbreaks in Illinois and in Jersey City, New Jersey, and is currently addressing outbreaks in New York, other parts of New Jersey, and Massachusetts. In FY 2011, the Agency expects to eradicate an infestation in Islip on Long Island. This will be the first ALB infested area in New York to be eradicated.

The Agency plans to use approximately $45 million in FY 2012 to continue ALB eradication efforts. Of this total, APHIS would use approximately $25 million in Massachusetts, $18 million in New York, and $2 million in New Jersey. The additional funds would be used in Massachusetts, where ALB was found in Worchester in 2008 and Boston in 2010. The Boston outbreak was small and likely detected at a very early stage, and the program has removed all the known infested trees. The Worchester infestation is larger, but APHIS has completed delimiting surveys and removed more than 28,000 trees to prevent the spread of the beetle. The increase will enable the Agency to survey an additional 8,300 acres, chemically treat an additional 9,600 acres (to protect host trees from infestation), remove an additional 1,200 trees, and replant 1,200 non-host trees in areas where trees were removed. Through these actions, the Agency will further reduce the ALB population in Massachusetts and prevent spread of the infestation.

If urban areas across the United States were infested with ALB, the estimated potential national impact would be a loss of 35 percent of the canopy cover, 30 percent of the trees and almost $815 billion in compensatory value. The total economic impact of ALB on industries in New York and New England is estimated at annual losses of $1.1 billion from the expected decline of the maple syrup industry, lost timber value, lost tourism value, and lost hardwood nursery stock and sales. In Massachusetts alone, forestry contributes at least $12 billion to the State's economy each year and tourism attributed to Massachusetts' forests generates $4.3 billion annually. Urban areas of Massachusetts have an estimated 86.6 million trees valued at $55 billion. In addition, the forests of Massachusetts provide $3 billion worth of ecosystem services (including storm-water mitigation, climate control, soil retention, protection of the fresh water supply, and aesthetics) annually. The annual contribution of forest-based manufacturing and forest-related tourism and recreation to the economies of New York and New England is $19.5 billion.

Emerald Ash Borer regulatory activities (-$24.154 million)

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an exotic forest pest that has killed millions of ash trees in the United States. First found in Michigan in 2002, it has spread to 14 additional States (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin). Because the pest attacks healthy trees, making them brittle and causing public safety hazards, infested trees must be removed. While EAB is destructive and continues to spread, no effective control tools exist. Therefore, APHIS has shifted its goal from eradication to preventing the human assisted spread and minimizing the natural spread of EAB. To accomplish this goal, the Agency conducts surveys and regulates the movement of EAB host materials such as logs, firewood, and nursery stock from affected areas. In addition to the activities previously listed, the requested funding will also allow the continued development of potentially effective control methods. As a result of this shift in strategy, the program is requesting a decrease of $20 million. In addition, the program is requesting a reduction of $4.154 million to provide a more appropriate allocation of funding between the Federal government and affected cooperators. This proposal will improve Federal and State partnerships within the EAB program by establishing an equitable allocation of responsibility. In FY 2012, the Agency plans to use $13.051 million to continue survey, regulatory, and methods development activities within the affected States.

Gypsy Moth regulatory activities (-$2 million)

The Agency's goal is to define the extent of the gypsy moth infestation and limit the pest's artificial spread beyond the infested area through regulatory activities. The effort is a Federal-State partnership that prevents the establishment of gypsy moth in areas of the United States that are not contiguous to currently regulated State and countries. APHIS is requesting a $2.5 million decrease, leaving $2.92 million to continue regulatory activities. The Agency expects cooperators to increase their contributions. This will result in a more appropriate allocation of funding responsibility and also allows cooperators who directly benefit from the Federal effort to plan for future needs based on local quarantine areas.

Sirex management activities (-$1.5 million)

APHIS initiated activities to manage the natural and artificial spread of *Sirex noctilio* (*S. noctilio*). Biological control agents were evaluated but proved too costly for rearing. In addition, the biocontrol agents were largely ineffective, as the pest spreads rapidly. Therefore, APHIS requests to eliminate funding for the pest management activities so that we may continue to address higher priority pests and diseases.

A decrease of $4,763,000 and a net decrease of 1 staff year for Safeguarding and Emergency Preparedness/Response –Wildlife Services

(l) A net decrease of $3,716,000 and an increase of 5 staff years for the Wildlife Damage Management program ($78,937,000 and 534 staff years available in FY 2011).

APHIS provides Federal leadership in managing problems caused by wildlife. The Agency recognized that wildlife is an important public resource reatly valued by the American people. By its very nature, however, wildlife is a highly dynamic and mobile resource than can damage agricultural and industrial resources, pose risks to human health and safety, and affect other natural resources. The Agency strives to develop and use wildlife damage management strategies that are biologically sound, environmentally safe, and socially acceptable. The Agency also strives to reduce damage caused by wildlife to the lowest possible levels while at the same time reducing wildlife mortality. Agency biologists apply the integrated wildlife damage management approach to provide technical assistance and direct management operations in response to requests for assistance in addressing wildlife issues. APHIS will use $68.487 million in FY 2012 to continue to help resolve wildlife damage to a wide variety of resources and to reduce threats to human health and safety.

Wildlife Services Safety Program (+$1.362 million)

APHIS prevents or reduces conflicts between people and wildlife. State agencies, county and municipal governments, private homeowners, farmers, ranchers, and other property owners rely on the Agency's expertise to help prevent, minimize, or manage wildlife damage that can impact agriculture, property, natural resources, and even threaten public health and safety.

APHIS employees engage in activities using equipment and materials that pose some inherent safety hazards during the performance of their mission-related activities. Aviation, firearms, pyrotechnics, and water safety accidents in 2006 and 2007 highlighted the need for the Agency to reassess safety policy and procedures. Subject-area experts from outside of APHIS conducted a programmatic safety review to evaluate the current safety programs and recommend ways to improve employee safety. The review highlighted the need for the Agency to implement a more formal nation-wide safety program and to dedicate safety funding as an important ingredient to ensure a safer environment for employees, stakeholders, and the public.

APHIS requests an increase of $1.362 million and 5 staff years and a redirection of $638,000 from other program activities, for a total funding level of $2 million for FY 2012, to continue implementation of the recommended safety improvements within the nine operational programs that present the greatest potential safety risk for employees. The areas identified for the implementation of the safety improvements are: 1) aviation, 2) explosives and pyrotechnics, 3) firearms, 4) hazardous materials (chemical and biological), 5) immobilization and euthanasia drugs, 6) pesticides, 7) vehicles, 8) watercraft, and 9) zoonotic diseases

(diseases and parasites transmissible from wildlife to humans). Some of the safety improvements that require long-term support include providing standardized staff training programs and maintaining databases to track training certification, an inventory of drugs, and monitoring of hazardous materials. Other recommended improvements that require ongoing support include: establishing a National Aviation Coordinator for the aviation program to ensure regulatory Federal Aviation Administration compliance; improving roadside safety for vehicle operators and communication ability for remote employees; partnering of co-workers when working with explosives; ensuring local veterinary support when working with immobilization and euthanasia drugs; and maintaining the necessary personal protection equipment for employees.

APHIS is currently devoting existing resources towards implementation of the safety review recommendations. Without the additional resources, implementation of the recommendations will be delayed and will continue to require redirection of funding from program activities.

Rabies management (-$2.67 million)

APHIS will reduce operational support related to distribution of baits since costs associated with these activities can be significant, including purchasing the bait and fuel to distribute the bait by air. Cooperators requesting additional bait and distribution services beyond the reduced program level would pay for these additional activities accordingly. APHIS plans to use $21.385 million in FY 2012 to conduct rabies management activities.

Cooperator Contributions – Predator Conflicts (-$2.408 million)

APHIS continues to provide leadership in research and operational management of predator conflicts, which protects livestock while respecting the role predators play in the ecosystem. APHIS operates to prevent and reduce wildlife predation to livestock through education, technical assistance to producers, and direct predation damage management. In an effort to share more in the responsibility and costs of conducting wildlife damage management activities, APHIS requests a decrease of $2.408 million. Since wildlife issues are local or regional in nature, the decrease request will encourage a more appropriate level of responsibility among the beneficiaries of the work. APHIS expects no performance changes at the proposed cooperator participation level. APHIS plans to use $6.548 million in FY 2012 to continue providing services related to conflicts between wildlife and animal agriculture including technical advice, wild animal relocation, and if necessary wild animal removal.

(m) A decrease of $1,047,000 and 6 staff years for the Wildlife Services Methods Development ($18,902,000 and 164 staff years available in FY 2011).

APHIS' Wildlife Services' Methods Development conducts research and develops selective, effective, and socially responsible methods for the prevention and mitigation of damage caused by wildlife on agricultural production, and for the detection and prevention of wildlife diseases that may impact animal health and agricultural biosafety. Together with other agencies, producers, and industry, APHIS carries out research and methods development to prevent, control, and eliminate threats including reducing damage to timber resources caused by deer and black bears; removing beaver dams that block waterways and flood standing timber, reducing bird depredations on commercial aquaculture farms and natural fisheries, and reducing predation on livestock and wild game species. APHIS will use $16.065 million in FY 2012 to continue methods development activities.

National Wildlife Research Center (-$1.047 million)

The National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC) serves as the research arm of APHIS' Wildlife Services by providing scientific information for the development and implementation of effective, practical, and socially-acceptable methods for wildlife damage management. This helps ensure that high-quality technical and scientific information on wildlife damage management is available for the protection of crops, livestock, natural resources, property, and public health and safety.

APHIS proposes a decrease of $1.047 million and 6 staff years to allow the Agency to address other program priorities. APHIS plans to use $14.078 million in FY 2012 to continue NWRC approved research projects that address specific methods development needs for managing conflicts between people and wildlife.

An increase of $15,364,000 and 63 staff years for Safeguarding and Emergency Preparedness/Response - Regulatory Services

(n) An increase of $3,292,000 and 34 staff years for the Animal and Plant Health Regulatory Enforcement program ($13,983,000 and 132 staff years available in FY 2011).

APHIS' Animal and Plant Health Regulatory Enforcement program ensures compliance with animal and plant health related regulations through comprehensive investigations, sound enforcement actions, and strong educational efforts. Professionally trained field investigators stationed throughout the United States conduct investigations, track unresolved violation cases, and coordinate investigative efforts within APHIS and with other Federal and State agencies. A small headquarters staff coordinates enforcement actions on a national basis, reviews and processes cases for formal administrative action or civil or criminal prosecution, develops uniform penalty guidelines, collects civil penalties, and coordinates activity between APHIS and USDA's Office of General Counsel (OIG). APHIS will use $17.275 million in FY 2012 to conduct compliance and enforcement activities.

Animal welfare enforcement efforts (+$3.292 million)

APHIS requests additional funding to increase enforcement efforts against persons who violate the Animal Welfare Act (AWA). Personnel will be placed in areas of the country with high concentrations of AWA activities to allow the Agency to respond to an anticipated increase in case referrals from APHIS' Animal Welfare (AW) program. The number of referrals is expected to rise significantly in FY 2012 as AW continues to expand its coverage, resulting in additional investigations of dog dealers (both persons who breed dogs for resale and persons who acquire dogs from Class A Dog Dealers for resale). The increased investigations will focus on the problematic dog dealers.

The treatment of dogs at breeding facilities has long been a source of public concern. USDA's OIG recently issued a final audit report on APHIS' "Inspections of Problematic Dealers" that illustrates a need for increased enforcement efforts aimed at improving dealer compliance with the AWA. APHIS' ability to effectively support inspection and education efforts with timely investigations and enforcement actions is critical to the success of the overall effort to address problematic dog dealers. Enhanced inspection of dealers as a result of the OIG audit has already resulted in increased investigations and enforcement actions. During FY 2010, AW referred a total of 874 cases; an increase of 42 percent over the 613 cases referred for investigation during FY 2009. Based on preliminary data for the first quarter of FY 2011, AC will likely refer over 1,000 cases for investigation during FY 2011 (approximately 63 percent more than in FY 2009 and approximately 14 percent more than in FY 2010), putting considerable strain on existing resources that provide investigative and enforcement services for all APHIS programs. During FY 2010, 775 enforcement actions (to include official warnings, stipulated penalties, and decisions and orders) were completed under AW administered statutes and regulations, well above the 550 enforcement actions completed in FY 2009. APHIS expects these trends to continue and estimates that by FY 2012 there will be no less than 900 enforcement actions related to AW activities (an increase of more than 60 percent in just three years).

Without additional funding in FY 2012, APHIS would experience delays in the timeliness of its investigations and enforcement actions, and referrals from APHIS programs would not be investigated as quickly. This could diminish the deterrent effect for continuing unlawful behaviors and prolong animal suffering caused by violators.

(o) An increase of $12,072,000 and 29 staff years for Biotechnology Regulatory Services program ($13,322,000 and 81 staff years available in FY 2011).

APHIS' Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) oversees a science-based regulatory framework for the safe development and use of genetically engineered (GE) organisms. Over the past two decades, APHIS has provided regulatory analysis and oversight on more than 31,000 field trials of GE crops and organisms at nearly 240,000 sites. APHIS has also evaluated and granted non-regulated status to 81 GE organisms. These approved GE organisms account for more than 90 percent of soybean, 80 percent of corn and 80 percent of cotton adopted and grown by farmers in the United States. The rapid adoption and broad use of agricultural biotechnology has brought on a tremendous growth in APHIS' workload in terms of the number and complexity of applications received. The program works toward strengthening biotechnology regulation while enhancing compliance and improving the petition process for nonregulated status, and working toward the prevention of unauthorized releases and providing a choice of crop for growers. APHIS will use $25.135 million to oversee the safe introduction of GE organisms (through importation, interstate movement, and field release) that may post a risk to plant health.

Enhance biotechnology regulatory services (+$12.072 million)

The requested increase will support the Department's strategic goal to "Help America promote agricultural production and biotechnology exports as America works to increase food security." This funding will allow APHIS to address four critical areas: assuring efficient regulatory approvals by improving and expanding the high-quality risk and environmental analyses required to address complex regulatory decisions; improving and expanding compliance oversight to domestic, regulated field trials and emergency response and safeguarding capabilities; strengthening trade-related initiatives related to asynchronous approvals of GE products; and, enhancing transparency of regulatory processes. These initiatives will all help maintain coexistence of GE and conventional and organic crops while meeting the need of both grower and consumer choices.

Increased risk and environmental analyses – The review time for petition requests received by APHIS to deregulate new GE products has increased over the years. The petitions include requests for new traits, such as thermal stable corn for improved ethanol production, soybeans containing heart healthy oils, and faster growing trees for efficient biofuel production. APHIS anticipates this trend will continue into the future. In addition, public participation in the deregulation process has increased. For example, APHIS received approximately 100 comments per deregulation petition during the public comment period in 2008. In 2009, APHIS received approximately 5,000 comments per deregulation, and in one case, received 145,000 comments. While the workload and complexity of the petition process has increased over the past three years, the number of APHIS staff involved in the petition process has remained relatively stable. The petition process can take one to three years to complete depending on the complexity of the GE product under consideration and the extent of public participation. The petition process itself includes a variety of inputs including in-depth environmental analyses, definition of critical habitats for threatened and endangered species, cooperation with companies and other Federal agencies, and Federal Register notices and the opportunity for public comment. To address these increasing demands, APHIS will use $1.688 million to hire 5 National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) specialists and 4 biotechnologists to conduct and coordinate the required analysis to support the petition review process. To expedite the NEPA review process, APHIS proposes to use $3.453 million to outsource certain environmental assessments and environmental impact statements. These documents require complicated analyses and documentation and are independent of the petition process. Timely completion of high-quality NEPA documents is important to APHIS as it relates to current and future regulatory decisions. These analyses, especially environmental impact statements, require intense analysis and documentation and can take more than a year to complete. Outsourcing these analyses to a contractor that specializes in such work will reduce the time required to complete environmental impact statements and allow APHIS to make regulatory decisions more efficiently.

APHIS will use $400,000 to address the petition process, which includes hiring 1 professional project manager and 1 technical writer. The project manager will ensure timely petition review by providing operational oversight to the petition process including comprehensive management, evaluation, and status reporting on incoming petitions. The technical writer will provide clarity and transparency of the scientific analyses by assisting in the preparation of science-based documents used to support the petition review process and translating complex scientific material for the public. APHIS expects the number of plant lines reviewed and found safe for use in the environment to increase from 81 in FY 2010 to 91 in FY 2012. Each plant line corresponds to a GE crop that is available for commercialization (although companies have not brought them all to market).

Increased compliance oversight – The number of regulated field trial locations has grown almost fivefold over the last five years while the resources available to conduct inspections of those field trials have remained relatively unchanged. APHIS will use $1.205 million to hire 3 compliance officers and to undertake additional inspections and $199,000 to cover the additional costs associated with inspecting an increased number of locations. The program will use $812,000 to increase its ability to respond to emerging technologies and issues such as GE organisms with new and novel traits. Organisms with new and novel traits include, but are not limited to, perennials and trees, transgenic animals, and plants used for biofuel production. As technology grows, applicants are also applying for larger acreage field test permits. These larger field test sites have challenged our current risk capabilities to respond to potential non-compliance events. APHIS needs to strengthen its risk assessment infrastructure by building upon its existing expertise to handle complex issues. The program will hire 2 risk assessors with experience in perennials, trees, transgenic animals, and/or biofuel production and 3 compliance officers to handle issues related to emerging technologies and the larger acreage field test permits. APHIS expects to increase the number of inspections from 528 in FY 2010 to 1,000 in FY 2012.

In conjunction with increased inspections, APHIS will develop a new function that will prepare emergency response plans for the Agency to rapidly respond to incidents involving regulated GE organisms. The key to building this readiness includes developing response plans, training and testing these response plans and protocols through emergency exercises. To ensure APHIS' ability to maintain continuity of operations during an emergency situation, the program will use $350,000 to develop response plans, coordinate, and conduct emergency field response activities with appropriate agencies and cooperators. The program will hire 1 emergency management officer to help conduct these activities.

USDA's Inspector General has identified imports as a potential vulnerability and recommended the development of a comprehensive USDA import policy for GE products and significant strengthening of the oversight of this area. APHIS will use $323,000 to hire 2 policy analysts to address import and permitting issues. For example, APHIS will begin work to enhance its port of entry inspection procedures and processes. This effort is expected to increase the confidence of trading partners, stakeholders, and the public in our regulatory system as it relates to safeguarding against risks from GE products developed in other countries. APHIS will also use $500,000 to strengthen the safeguarding system both domestically and internationally, including through the hiring of two compliance officers. As countries around the globe begin developing GE crops, the United States needs to assure that unauthorized GE materials do not establish in U.S. supply chains, potentially impacting both domestic and export markets. The compliance officers will coordinate enhanced inspection procedures and processes between APHIS and the Department of Homeland Security, Custom and Border Protection staff directed at the imports of regulated GE organisms at U.S. ports of entry. APHIS will gather and analyze intelligence on global developments and use of GE organisms. The resulting analysis will be used to target outreach activities, to inform countries who are developing novel GE crops of their regulatory obligations in the United States. Outreach activities could include bilateral meetings and workshop requiring translation of U.S. laws and regulations, regulatory guidance, and scientific literature.

APHIS also proposes to fully implement the Biotechnology Quality Management System (BQMS), first piloted in FY 2009. BQMS is expected to improve the ability of permit holders and associated service

providers to demonstrate, through recordkeeping and documented management systems, their ability to manage the safe introduction of genetically-engineered organisms into the environment. APHIS intends to oversee the BQMS program in partnership with the USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), which will most likely serve as the program's auditing body. Full implementation of the program will include inviting permit holders to participate in the program, providing outreach, educating program participants, and facilitating adequacy and surveillance audits of the permit holders' operations. As the number of program participants grows, the resources necessary to provide oversight will grow. In FY 2011, APHIS expects 10 new companies to register for the program, for a total of 20 companies participating in the program. APHIS will use $465,000 of the increase to hire 2 additional quality management specialists to support the BQMS and to support contracts and agreements with AMS and other partners.

To enhance and streamline the regulatory review process, APHIS will invest $1.077 million in information technology solutions to support additional modules for the Agency's on-line permitting system, e-Permits, through installments of different system enhancements. A first enhancement will be to redesign the system to incorporate sharing of confidential business information (CBI) data with the States and will require designing the system so that different States can have access to different CBI data. Additional enhancements will also allow program personnel to interface with the e-Permits system to conduct ad hoc queries of the application information in the database, combine inspection data with real-time weather data to monitor compliance conditions when severe weather occurs, build upon the system's global positioning system reporting capabilities, and automate the tracking and reporting of inspection and compliance activities.

To strengthen its ongoing data collection and monitoring capabilities, APHIS proposes to increase the capacity of analytical tools needed to perform inspection and compliance by using $200,000 to hire, train and support a person to serve in a specialized technical position. This position will serve as a liaison with other geographic information systems (GIS) technical experts in the Agency and across the government. This position will ensure appropriate GIS products are developed and delivered to support all biotechnology regulatory program activities.

To measure its performance, APHIS tracks the percentage of permit holders that are in compliance with all conditions; in FY 2010, 95 percent of permit holders were in compliance. With the requested funding, the program will maintain this level of performance even as field test sites encompass larger acreage and more complex permit applications requiring additional analysis. The additional funding will also allow the program to keep pace with its workload.

Trade initiatives – On the international front, APHIS needs to further develop its policy on the importation of GE organisms, including monitoring the emergence of agricultural biotechnology products throughout the world. A strong regulatory system is needed to ensure the timely and safe introduction of biotechnology products and provide agricultural production options to enhance worldwide food security. To accomplish the APHIS strategic goal of developing regulatory policies that are timely and commensurate with risk, APHIS will use $200,000 to prepare analysis to support GE organisms regulations including the development of guidance documents and analysis to support NEPA and Endangered Species Act compliance. This would include hiring 1 regulatory/policy analyst.

To help avert asynchronous approvals of GE products, APHIS will accelerate bilateral technical discussions with regulators in key export markets. Efforts would focus on jointly analyzing our regulatory processes to determine where sharing experiences and/or data could advance common approaches to risk assessment and possible work sharing options. These efforts should improve the likelihood that regulatory decisions in key countries will coincide more closely and reduce potential trade disruptions.

The potential domestic market impact and disruption of trade due to GE crop gene flow to conventional and organic crops has prompted the USDA to place high priority on appropriate coexistence policies and practices. APHIS will implement a multi-year gene flow status and trends monitoring program. This program will develop the extent, scale, and measurement of gene

flow in major agricultural regions in the United States by integrating monitoring data with geographic information on agricultural characteristics. To support this initiative, APHIS will use $1 million to initiate the design and development of a nationally consistent description of gene flow, define long-term trends and extent of gene flow, and identify major factors affecting observed gene flow.

Transparency initiatives – The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) gives the public the right to request Federal records, except those exempted and excluded. There have been an increased number of FOIA requests because of the OPEN Government Act, signed into law on December 31, 2007, and President Obama's Transparency and Open Government Memorandum distributed on January 21, 2009, promising more openness in government. Between FY 2009 and FY 2010, the number of FOIA requests on the topic of biotechnology nearly doubled. These requests require complex data searches and the retrieval, review, and cataloguing of numerous pages of documents. APHIS will use $200,000 to ensure these requests are completed according to the requirements outlined in FOIA and will withstand potential legal challenge. This includes hiring 1 FOIA specialist that will be responsible for identifying and gathering the responsive records to FOIA requests, including but not limited to, tracking requester information, cataloguing timelines and dates of records sent, appeals and reviews of the FOIA request, and working closely with the biotechnology services document control officer to ensure that proper controls and auditing techniques are in place for the FOIA document management system.

A decrease of $2,000,000 and 1 staff year for Safeguarding and Emergency Preparedness/Response - Emergency Management

(p) A decrease of $2,000,000 and 1 staff year for the Emergency Preparedness and Response program ($19,746,000 and 102 staff years available in FY 2011).

The Emergency Preparedness and Response program collaborates with State governments, local officials, and other stakeholders on early pest and disease detection and emergency response efforts. APHIS works to provide trusted models and appropriate parameters that State and Federal emergency planners can use to refine response plans, assist in the testing of State, Tribal and community level preparedness plans, and identify local resource needs as well as those for a national response. The Agency will use $19.804 million for emergency preparedness and response activities in FY 2012.

Completion of emergency management activities (-$2 million)

The Biosecurity and Biosurviellance line items were merged with Emergency Management Systems in FY 2009 to simplify administration of both programs, help them continue to progress toward detecting and responding to foreign animal disease and exotic plant pest and disease incursion in the field, and respond appropriately to emergency situations as a result of natural disasters. In realization of this goal, and since many of the projects have been completed, the Agency requests a decrease of $2 million. APHIS plans to use $12.754 million to continue supporting efforts to prevent, prepare for, detect, and respond to animal health events that may have a sudden and negative impact on the Nation's meat, poultry, and livestock exports.

(3) An increase of $2,100,000 and 8 staff years for Safe Trade and International Technical Assistance

(a) An increase of $1,500,000 and 4 staff years for the Agriculture Import/Export program ($12,604,000 and 153 staff years available in FY 2011).

APHIS facilitates safe trade while protecting the country's agricultural and natural resources from plant and animal pests and diseases. The Agency protects these resources through various safeguarding measures including regulating imports through a managed-risk approach, engaging

in the development of international standards and participating in international standard setting organizations, and resolving technical or scientific issues if a country refuses entry to agricultural exports. APHIS will use $14.104 million in FY 2012 to conduct these trade-related activities.

Implementation of the Lacey Act amendments (+$1.5 million)

APHIS requests initial funding of $1.5 million in FY 2012 to establish a dedicated program to continue implementing the 2008 Farm Bill amendments to the Lacey Act. As amended, the Lacey Act makes it illegal to import any plant—with limited exceptions—taken or traded in violation of domestic or international laws. The purpose of the 2008 amendments was to address illegal logging in other countries. Illegal logging is environmentally destructive and undermines markets for wood products produced in the United States. As such, the 2008 amendments to the Lacey Act and implementation of those provisions have strong support from a non-traditional coalition of forest industry, labor, and environmentalists. This increase will allow APHIS to enhance Lacey Act enforcement by hiring dedicated staff and developing a web-based system to collect information required under the amended Lacey Act.

Among other things, the Lacey Act requires an import declaration for imported shipments of regulated products. The declaration must contain the scientific name of the plant, value of the importation, quantity of the plant, and name of the country where the plant was harvested. The scope of the declaration requirement covers a broad range of products from lumber and wood pulp to sporting goods, pharmaceuticals, and planes. APHIS is working with a larger interagency group representing the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection, the U.S. Trade Representative, the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Council on Environmental Quality, and the U.S. Department of Commerce, to implement the new provisions. APHIS and cooperating Agencies developed an implementation plan for a phased-in enforcement process with the most complex products being added in later phases.

APHIS began phased-in enforcement of the Lacey Act in May 2009 and is currently collecting approximately 10,000 Lacey Act declarations per week. Of these, approximately 1,200 are submitted on paper forms that require significant resources to analyze and store. Electronic declarations can only be made through licensed Customs brokers at this time. APHIS would use the requested funds to hire dedicated staff for Lacey Act activities and implement a web-based system for Lacey Act declarations that could be accessed by any individual through the Internet, helping to eliminate the need for paper-based declarations. In addition to analyzing the declarations, staff would conduct outreach activities to educate the various industries and importers affected by the 2008 amendments to the Act.

(b) An increase of $600,000 and 4 staff years for the Overseas Technical and Trade Operations program ($20,176,000 and 73 staff years available in 2011).

The Overseas Technical and Trade Operations (OTTO) program works to open, expand, and retain new markets for U.S. agriculture; monitor the sanitary (animal) and phytosanitary (plant) conditions of agricultural products traded with partner countries; ensure the smooth and safe movements of agricultural commodities into and from the United States; resolve technical trade issues; and prevent the introduction of foreign animal disease into the United States. The program also coordinates assistance that APHIS provides to developing countries in building up their animal and plant health infrastructures through its International Technical and Regulatory Capacity Building (ITRCB) group. The Agency will use $20.776 million in FY 2012 to conduct these critical trade-related activities.

International technical and regulatory capacity building activities (+$.6 million)

APHIS formed the ITRCB group to coordinate capacity building projects carried out by different Agency divisions and to make sure the goals of these projects are aligned with APHIS' strategic objectives. The ITRCB group works with foreign governments on pest and disease issues and projects, including monitoring and reporting on emerging threats and enhancing regulatory infrastructures in other countries,

particularly in developing regions, to improve their ability to detect and prevent the spread of pests and diseases. Many of these projects involve improving the veterinary infrastructure of developing countries, such as training for diagnosticians and implementing disease monitoring programs. These projects increase the ability of farmers in other countries to produce healthy livestock.

APHIS has experienced a continual increase in the volume of international capacity building requests. The requested topics vary from biotechnology, regulatory processes and policy, pest risk analysis, epidemiology, wildlife control and surveillance, foreign animal disease, diagnostics, and other aspects of animal and plant quarantine and inspection. These requests come from other U.S. government agencies, foreign governments, and international organizations. Key challenges for APHIS include managing and prioritizing the volume of requests, and documenting the results of these activities to best advise decision makers about best practices and priorities for these efforts.

APHIS requests $600,000 of initial funding and 4 staff years to establish a dedicated staff to coordinate technical assistance and training to developing countries to strengthen their regulatory capacity to detect and address pests and diseases in their own regions. This effort will reduce risks of disease outbreaks in other countries, and in turn, reduce the risks of transboundary pests and diseases spreading to the United States via trade. APHIS will be better prepared to provide technical assistance in cooperation with other U.S. government agencies, including USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Department of State, and the U.S. Trade Representative. The outcome of this effort will be an increase in strategic and coordinated efforts that support worldwide availability.

The requested funding will allow APHIS to continue to respond to international requests for technical assistance while providing resources to meet the continually increasing demands. These activities are currently being funded as resources allow by the OTTO program and various plant and animal health programs (based on the requested project and activity) where applicable. With the $600,000 planned in FY 2012, APHIS projects that the number of projects coordinated in support of USDA goals will increase from 220 in FY 2010 to 235 in FY 2012.

(4) An increase of $6,999,000 and 47 staff years for Animal Welfare

(a) An increase of $6,608,000 and 47 staff years for the Animal Welfare program ($21,979,000 and 204 staff years available in FY 2011).

APHIS' Animal Welfare program carries out activities designed to ensure the humane care and treatment of animals covered under the Animal Welfare Act (AWA). These activities include inspection of certain establishments that handle animals intended for biomedical research, sold as pets at the wholesale level, transported in commerce, or used for exhibition purposes. Program personnel inspect licensed establishments to ensure compliance with the AWA. The program places primary emphasis on the inspection of facilities and records management, investigation of complaints, re-inspection of problem facilities, voluntary compliance through education, and training of inspectors. APHIS will use $28.587 million in FY 2012 to conduct Animal Welfare program activities.

Efforts to address problematic dog dealers (+$6.608 million)

USDA's Office of Inspector General (OIG) recently conducted a review of APHIS' inspections for AWA compliance, focusing on problematic dog dealers, specifically those who have committed repeat and serious violations. OIG's conclusions suggest that APHIS should shift its compliance efforts from an education focus for problematic dog dealers to an enforcement focus, improve inspection performance, and seek legislation regarding the Internet sale of dogs.

To address the concerns of the audit, APHIS developed an action plan to improve the Agency's regulation of dog dealers, particularly those who are repeat violators. While APHIS initiated implementation of the plan in 2010, additional resources are needed to further address the Agency's response to the OIG audit.

The initial investments APHIS made in FY 2010 were primarily to add to its existing enforcement workforce to reduce the current ratio of inspectors to facilities inspected and to increase the number of investigators available to conduct investigations in areas where there is intensive workload. Since the end of FY 2010, five inspectors, five Veterinary Medical Officers, and one National Enforcement Coordinator have been hired. In calendar year 2011, APHIS is planning to employ an additional two inspectors, and two Veterinary Medical Officers to combat problematic dog dealers. At the requested funding level, we estimate these efforts will result in an increase in the number of enforcement actions for Class A breeders for dogs by an additional 12 percent over the FY 2011 level. We also estimate the number of inspections of Class A licensed breeders for dogs will increase by 13 percent.

APHIS is requesting a $6.608 million increase for the Animal Welfare program to enhance inspection activities related to the findings from the OIG audit, leading to a comprehensive enforcement program. This includes staff to address concerns with animal health transportation issues; improve the quality and accuracy of documentation and evidence collected to support downstream enforcement efforts; analyze program data to support targeted enforcement activities; provide continual and timely training for inspectors; and research Internet sales.

The additional funding in FY 2012 will allow APHIS to sustain effective inspection of and compliance enforcement by problematic dog dealers and will build upon the early gains anticipated with the initial increase of funding in FY 2010. With the proposed increase, APHIS would have the funding required for full implementation of the Animal Welfare Enforcement Plan. This plan was developed in response to the OIG audit. Modifications to the technology of the Risk-Based Inspection System (RBIS) to increase the frequency of inspections of certain entities' problematic dog dealers would also be achieved. Help would also be provided to assist getting approximately 650 dogs surrendered to humane groups in the State of Iowa from four licensed breeders. Also, nine new employees would be hired for continued analysis of the programmatic effectiveness of sanctions and violations for dog dealer enforcement. The Agency will likely initially find higher non-compliance levels as new entities are inspected. With implementation of the action plan, APHIS expects to rapidly increase compliance in the out years as we work with those regulated entities to ensure that they understand requirements and expectations established through regulation. The percentage of facilities estimated to be in substantial compliance with the AWA will be 89 percent in FY 2012, and will increase to 91 percent in FY 2013, and 93 percent in FY 2014.

(b) An increase of $391,000 for the Horse Protection Program ($500,000 and 5 staff years available in FY 2011).

The Agency conducts regulatory activities to ensure the humane care and treatment of horses as required by the Horse Protection Act (HPA) of 1970, as amended (15 U.S.C. 1821-1831). APHIS enforces the HPA by prohibiting horses subjected to soring from participating in shows, sales, exhibitions, or auctions. Soring is a technique in which a trainer irritates or blisters a horse's forelegs through the injection or application of chemicals or mechanical irritants. Horse owners and trainers use this technique to gain a competitive edge

and improve their chances to win at shows. APHIS will use $891,000 in FY 2012 to conduct HPA activities.

Increase oversight of the Horse Protection Act (+$.391 million)

APHIS requests an additional $391,000 to increase oversight at the horse shows and continue foreign substance surveillance sampling. To enhance enforcement efforts, APHIS established the Designated Qualified Person (DQP) program, which was authorized by the 1976 amendment to the HPA. The program enables USDA-accredited veterinarians with equine experience, farriers, horse trainers, and other knowledgeable horsemen who have been formally trained and licensed by USDA-certified Horse Industry Organizations or associations to inspect horses for soring. There usually are 600 horse shows a year that need to be inspected by DQPs. At the current funding level, APHIS is able to attend approximately 40 horse shows each year to oversee the DQP inspections.

In August 2008, the USDA's Office of Inspector General (OIG) conducted an audit on the administration of the Horse Protection Program. The final results from the audit were published on September 30, 2010. The audit found that the DQP program for inspecting horses for soring was not adequate to ensure that horses are not being abused. The audit further stated that APHIS needed to have more oversight and direct control of the inspections. Overall, OIG recommended that APHIS seek the necessary funding from Congress for the Horse Protection Program, as the current level of funding does not enable the agency to adequately provide program oversight. Given the weaknesses in the inspection process, APHIS employees need to attend more shows to ensure that horses are inspected adequately.

At the requested funding level, APHIS would attend up to 80 horse shows each year, concentrating on those shows that present the highest potential for exposing mistreatment of large numbers of horses. APHIS would also provide additional sampling for foreign substances used in the practice of soring. The foreign substance testing program identifies foreign substances that are applied to the legs of the horses to accentuate their gait. These activities would increase enforcement of the HPA and the program's goal towards eliminating the act of soring.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Summary of Increases and Decreases - Proposed Legislation

Item of Change	2012 Current Law	2012 Program Changes	2012 President's Request
Safeguarding and Emergency Preparedness/Response…….	$758,149,000	($10,500,000)	$758,149,000
Safe Trade and International Technical Assistance……	34,880,000	0	34,880,000
Animal Welfare……..……	29,478,000	(9,000,000)	29,478,000
Agency Management……	10,199,000	0	10,199,000
Total Available…..……	$832,706,000	($19,500,000)	$832,706,000

Explanation of Proposed Legislation:

APHIS proposes legislation authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to prescribe, adjust, and collect fees to cover the costs incurred for activities related to the review, maintenance, and inspections connected to licensing activity associated with the Animal Welfare Act, Virus Serum Toxin Act, and the Plant Protection Act to the accounts that incur the costs and to remain available until expended without fiscal year limitation. Once given the authority to implement user fees for these purposes, APHIS will initiate rulemaking with a full opportunity for interested parties and the general public to offer comments before the new fees take effect.

The user fees related to the Plant Protection Act would cover the cost of providing services in connection with the regulation of organisms and products derived through biotechnology and would be paid by entities conducting regulated activities (such as field testing genetically engineered crops) or petitioning APHIS to deregulate a genetically engineered crop. Federal government agencies, accredited institutions of higher education, and nonprofit organizations would be exempted from the fees.

APHIS reviews license applications for production facilities and veterinary biological products and operates a compliance and inspection program to ensure that its regulations governing veterinary biologics as stated in the Virus-Serum-Toxin Act and related Federal regulations are met. The user fees would supplement costs incurred by APHIS for the review of these license applications. These funds would supplement the existing appropriation for the Veterinary Biologics program and allow the program to provide more timely services to license applicants.

The proposed user fee would cover the costs of licensing and registration services for entities regulated under the Animal Welfare Act. Facilities and establishments required to be registered under the Animal Welfare Act but which are not currently subject to a fee, such as research facilities, carriers, and in-transit handlers of animals, would also be subject to the fee. The money would be collected from licensees and registrants regulated under the Animal Welfare Act for licensing and registration services provided by APHIS.

The Budget request assumes a three-month delay in the receipt of fees, which would result in collections of $19.5 million in FY 2012.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Salaries and Expenses

Geographic Breakdown of Obligations and Staff Years
2010 Actual and Estimated 2011 and 2012

	FY 2010		FY 2011		FY 2012	
	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years
UNITED STATES:						
Alabama	$5,021,647	33	$5,021,647	33	$4,820,035	32
Alaska	1,373,066	4	1,373,066	4	1,040,802	4
Arizona	16,031,954	108	16,031,954	108	11,740,501	86
Arkansas	3,818,102	27	3,818,102	27	3,753,047	35
California	102,131,947	303	104,131,947	298	100,436,742	232
Colorado	85,814,137	482	85,814,137	467	83,585,272	480
Connecticut	1,967,396	12	1,967,396	12	1,634,276	8
Delaware	1,253,485	8	1,253,485	8	1,135,508	7
Florida	66,678,654	425	66,678,654	417	64,435,074	408
Georgia	13,977,222	81	13,977,222	81	13,716,066	79
Hawaii	38,308,463	341	38,308,463	336	30,648,328	250
Idaho	14,124,430	95	14,124,430	95	11,668,855	79
Illinois	12,918,435	57	12,918,435	57	6,292,161	52
Indiana	7,455,607	49	7,455,607	49	3,664,503	30
Iowa	66,334,243	408	66,334,243	400	66,993,268	429
Kansas	4,304,601	32	4,304,601	32	4,022,787	28
Kentucky	6,330,575	43	6,330,575	43	5,107,479	40
Louisiana	4,464,835	42	4,464,835	42	4,180,255	49
Maine	9,253,375	62	9,253,375	60	7,289,307	50
Maryland	277,154,998	1,560	277,154,998	1,523	270,460,706	1,623
Massachusetts	34,828,367	76	35,328,367	70	25,888,675	55
Michigan	15,742,401	91	15,742,401	91	4,460,582	81
Minnesota	19,346,357	146	19,346,357	131	15,258,937	100
Mississippi	9,754,873	70	9,754,873	70	7,188,492	64
Missouri	6,245,009	52	6,245,009	52	5,746,059	50
Montana	7,842,311	48	7,842,311	48	7,293,276	42
Nebraska	4,853,379	36	4,853,379	36	4,792,907	36
Nevada	3,356,803	20	3,356,803	20	1,954,270	15
New Hampshire	13,592,997	9	13,592,997	9	8,803,284	7
New Jersey	16,230,165	88	16,730,165	88	15,658,146	76
New Mexico	5,303,620	54	5,303,620	54	4,750,340	59
New York	25,056,282	130	25,556,282	124	21,333,928	94
North Carolina	41,498,332	246	41,498,332	231	37,758,414	298
North Dakota	4,573,334	36	4,573,334	36	3,744,491	33
Ohio	8,347,878	52	8,347,878	52	4,155,870	49
Oklahoma	4,843,040	38	4,843,040	38	5,015,742	20
Oregon	7,015,871	34	7,015,871	34	6,620,653	34
Pennsylvania	10,055,431	66	10,055,431	66	7,179,472	67
Rhode Island	495,351	2	495,351	2	505,295	2
South Carolina	4,222,673	32	4,222,673	32	4,153,370	30
South Dakota	3,593,672	20	3,593,672	20	3,012,385	20
Tennessee	5,349,568	36	5,349,568	36	4,573,731	33
Texas	65,161,726	445	66,405,582	435	53,824,349	419
Utah	5,427,928	42	5,427,928	42	5,564,264	36
Vermont	1,266,236	11	1,266,236	11	107,895	10
Virginia	5,612,195	32	5,612,195	32	4,827,380	30
Washington	10,038,776	56	10,038,776	56	9,426,524	53
West Virginia	3,343,516	23	3,343,516	23	1,956,500	18
Wisconsin	10,573,282	45	10,573,282	45	41,765	37
Wyoming	6,164,377	67	6,164,377	63	4,721,477	43

	FY 2010		FY 2011		FY 2012	
	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years
U.S. TERRITORIES:						
District of Columbia	47,433,761	181	47,433,761	177	45,285,363	151
Guam	456,076	5	456,076	5	456,076	9
Puerto Rico	11,196,075	158	11,196,075	158	11,193,330	148
Virgin Islands	90,461	0	90,461	0	90,461	0
INTERNATIONAL REGIONS						
AFRICA:						
South Africa	983,739	3	983,739	3	983,739	3
Senegal	1,161,157	3	1,161,157	3	1,161,157	2
Other	93,200	0	93,200	0	93,200	2
ASIA/PACIFIC:						
China	492,951	2	492,951	2	492,951	4
Japan	572,313	2	572,313	2	572,313	2
South Korea	406,357	1	406,357	1	406,357	2
Other	3,594,178	17	3,594,178	17	3,344,178	17
CARIBBEAN:						
Dominican Republic	3,735,766	6	3,735,766	6	3,735,766	2
Other	958,783	1	958,783	1	547,783	2
CENTRAL AMERICA:						
Guatemala	23,998,619	20	23,998,619	17	23,998,619	20
Nicaragua	744,838	2	744,838	2	744,838	6
Panama	21,844,822	5	21,844,822	5	18,844,822	4
Other	2,042,757	4	2,042,757	4	2,042,757	4
EUROPE/NEAR EAST:						
Austria	677,934	2	677,934	2	677,934	2
Belgium	748,419	2	748,419	2	748,419	5
Egypt	674,658	2	674,658	2	674,658	6
Other	1,033,101	4	1,033,101	4	1,033,101	2
NORTH AMERICA:						
Canada	685,876	3	685,876	3	685,876	6
Mexico	13,500,553	68	13,500,553	65	8,216,553	65
SOUTH AMERICA:						
Brazil	984,854	8	984,854	8	984,854	8
Chile	801,854	5	801,854	5	801,854	5
Other	2,442,741	12	2,442,741	14	2,442,741	16
Total direct obligations:	$1,239,808,768	6,793	$1,244,552,624	6,647	$1,107,203,148	6,404

Note: Total direct obligations; does not include advances and reimbursements.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Salaries and Expenses

Classification by Objects
2010 Actual and Estimated 2011 and 2012

Personnel Compensation:		2010	2011	2012
Washington, DC		89,260,363	89,397,192	86,726,898
Field		267,781,089	268,191,575	260,180,695
11	Total personnel compensation	357,041,451	357,588,766	346,907,593
12	Personnel benefits	107,116,197	107,356,603	103,696,685
13	Benefits for former personnel	769,182	772,999	1,377,377
	Total, pers. comp. & benefits	464,926,830	465,718,368	451,981,655
Other Objects:				
21	Travel & transportation of personnel	30,266,584	29,381,817	21,104,066
22	Transportation of things	1,256,053	1,244,064	2,886,376
23.1	Rent, Communications, and Utilities	14,627,200	14,444,888	16,458,037
23.2	Communication Services	69,058	68,675	366,842
23.3	Communication Services - GSA	14,876,493	14,872,784	15,475,910
24	Printing and reproduction	1,580,765	1,578,320	1,668,115
25.0	Other Services	28,489,879	28,929,663	30,959,884
25.1	Contractual Services Performed by Other Federal Agencies	58,906,181	58,523,220	73,416,401
25.2	Related Expenditures	3,784,562	3,784,343	4,165,503
25.3	Repair, Alteration or Maintenace of Equipment, Furniture or Structure	6,716,523	6,696,273	7,032,165
25.4	Contractual Services - Other	29,676,515	29,541,342	32,587,196
25.5	Agreements	241,954,194	237,692,432	133,111,540
25.6	ADP Services and Supplies	6,892,195	6,892,195	5,264,794
25.7	Miscellaneous Services	10,288,462	10,283,576	9,857,924
25.8	Fees	1,156,862	1,155,843	516,043
26	Supplies and materials	56,101,970	54,608,187	53,635,128
31	Equipment	28,188,922	27,412,258	23,127,273
32	Land & Structure	1,236,520	1,211,818	1,077,770
41	Grants, Subsidies & Contributions	45,779,256	40,976,608	14,589,926
42	Indemnity/Compensation	3,280,551	3,279,684	2,593,817
43	Int. & Div	182,437	176,459	50,241
45	Special Payments	298,805	298,807	51,542
	Total, other objects	585,609,987	573,053,256	449,996,493
Total direct obligations		$1,050,536,817	$1,038,771,624	$901,978,148
Position Data:				
Average Salary, ES positions		$163,397	$165,685	$168,004
Average Salary, GS positions		$85,915	$85,915	$85,915
Average Grade, GS positions		10.40	10.40	10.40

Note: Total direct obligations does not include advances and reimbursements or Agricultural Quarantine Inspection User Fees.

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

New Budget Structure Proposal

APHIS receives its funding through 45 individual line items. Many of these line items are associated with a specific animal or plant pest or disease, which restricts the Agency's ability to adjust rapidly or efficiently to new or emerging situations. The rapid speed of commerce and globally connected markets require increased flexibility in Federally-coordinated responses to new agricultural threats. Changing to a commodity-based structure (such as cattle, and trees and forests) for many programs would: (1) improve APHIS' ability to address new and emerging issues quickly, and (2) allow the Agency to maximize its use of existing resources by focusing resources within similar programs to address the most significant problems and achieve the most significant results. It also would provide a more transparent, comprehensible arrangement of programs whose consolidation would result in improved business practices and overall savings - a priority for the Administration.

Moving from specific animal disease line items to commodity “Health” lines integrate the activities needed to address the health concerns for each commodity. Currently, APHIS funds animal health surveillance activities from its Animal Health Monitoring and Surveillance (AHMS) line and response activities from specific disease lines. APHIS' ability to strategically and efficiently manage program activities would improve if the Agency was able to change the emphasis of its activities between surveillance and response more seamlessly.

In two instances, APHIS has already successfully combined specific pest and disease line items into one broader, more comprehensive line item to provide for more flexibility and efficiency. The Agency consolidated line items for the Boll Weevil and Pink Bollworm programs into a line item called "Cotton Pests." This allowed APHIS to use the same resources to conduct multiple pest program activities within the cotton fields as well as rapidly address any pest re-emergence, since a formal request for shifting of resources was no longer necessary. APHIS was able to make similar gains in efficiency when the Citrus Canker program changed to the Citrus Health Response Program.

Approving the budget restructure request would reduce the number of APHIS line items from 45 to 29. The new budget structure would enable APHIS to become more nimble in its ability to address requirements under the Agency's authorities and better aligns the Agency with the current state of world agriculture and the economy.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
Proposed Budget Restructure
FY 2012

Current Line Item		Proposed Line Item
		Safeguarding and Emergency Preparedness/Response
Aquaculture/Veterinary Serivces portion including Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia		Aquatic Animal Health
Avian Influenza, and portions of Animal Health Monitoring and Surveillance (AHMS), including: National Poultry Improvement Plan, portion of Foreign Animal Disease/Foot and Mouth Disease (FAD/FMD), Portion of Operations		Avian Health
Cattle Fever Tick, Screwworm, Brucellosis, Johne's, portion of Tuberculosis and portions from AHMS, including: Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, portion of AHMS Operations		Cattle Health
Tropical Bont Tick, Scrapie, Chronic Wasting Disease, portion of TB, portions of AHMS, including: Slaughter horse, portion of AHMS/FAD/FMD, and portion of Operations		Equine, Cervid & Small Ruminant Health *(Includes: Sheep, Goat, Cervid, & Equine)*
Pseudorabies, and portions of AHMS, including: Pseudorabies, Classical Swine Fever, Trichanae, FAD and FMD Garbage Feeding, portion of Operations		Swine Health
Portions of AHMS, including: portion of AHMS/FAD/FMD, portion of Operations		Zoonotic Disease Management
Portions of AHMS, including: Animal Disease Traceability, Veterinary Accreditation, Emergency Managment Systems modeling, and a portion of all Veterinary Services Programs		Animal Health Technical Services
Veterinary Biologics		Veterinary Biologics
Veterinary Diagnostics, portions of AHMS, including: National Animal Health Laboratory Network; Portions of Veterinary Services Disease Surveillance Programs		Veterinary Diagnostics
National Veterinary Stockpile		National Veterinary Stockpile
Wildlife Services Operations, Aquaculture/Wildlife Services		Wildlife Damage Management
Wildlife Services Methods Development, Portion of Environmental Compliance		Wildlife Services Methods Development
Agricultural Quarantine Inspection (Appropriated)		Agricultural Quarantine Inspection (Appropriated)
Cotton Pests		Cotton Pests
Emerging Plant Pests (EPP)/Karnal Bunt, Grasshopper, Imported Fire Ant, Witchweed, Noxious Weeds		Field Crop & Rangeland Ecosystem Pests
Fruit Fly Exclusion & Detection, Plum Pox, Golden Nematode and portions of Emerging Plant Pests, including: Citrus Health Response Program, Glassy Winged Sharp Shooter, *p. ramorum*, Light Brown Apple Moth, Pale Cyst Nematode, Miscellaneous Pests, European Grapevine Moth		Specialty Crop Pests

Current Line Item		Proposed Line Item
Gypsy Moth and portions of Emerging Plant Pests, including: Asian Longhorned Beetle, Emeral Ash Borer, Sirex		Tree & Wood Pests
Pest Detection		Pest Detection
Plant Methods Development Laboratories, Biological Control, Portion of Environmental Compliance		Plant Protection Methods Development
Animal & Plant Health Regulatory Enforcement		Animal & Plant Health Regulatory Enforcement
Biotechnology Regulatory Services, Portion of Environmental Compliance		Biotechnology Regulatory Services
Emergency Management Systems, Select Agents, Portion of Avian Influenza		Emergency Preparedness & Response
Contingency Fund		Contingency Fund
		Safe Trade and International Technical Assistance
Overseas Technical and Trade Oerations, FAD/FMD		Overseas Technical and Trade Oerations
Import/Export		Animal Agriculture Import/Export
		Animal Welfare
Animal Welfare		Animal Welfare
Horse Protection		Horse Protection
		Agency Management
APHIS Information Technology Infrastructure		APHIS Information Technology Infrastructure
Physical/Operational Security		Physical/Operational Security

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Salaries and Expenses

Summary of Recovery Act Funding

Program/Project/Activity	2010 Actual	2011 CR Annual	2012 Estimated
Restoration of Island Biodiversity……	$697,974	$0	$0
Total Appropriated……	$697,974	$0	$0

Project Statement - Recovery Act
(On basis of available funds)

	2010 Actual		2011 CR Annual		Increase	2012 Estimated	
	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years	or Decrease	Amount	Staff Years
Restoration of Island Biodiversity….	$651,600	10	$28,374	0	$0	$0	0
Total Appropriated……	$651,600	10	$28,374	0	$0	$0	0

Program Implementation Activities:

The planned duration of the project was one year with a desired outcome of restoration of islands through the eradication of non-native introduced mammals (rabbits, marmots, and foxes). APHIS located, captured, and where possible, relocated non-native species. APHIS successfully restored the habitat of four islands. APHIS received the funding from the Department of Interior's Fish and Wildlife Services in April of 2010. The initial project plan was for the work to be completed in one year from the receipt of the funding. The project was completed in early FY 2011, less than 9 months from APHIS' receipt of the funding.

Performance Measures:	Performance Data		
	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Target
Number of Islands restored ……	N/A	4	N/A
Number of Jobs created or saved ……	N/A	10	N/A

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

STATUS OF PROGRAM

PEST AND DISEASE EXCLUSION

Current Activities: Through the programs in this component, APHIS works to safeguard U.S. animal and plant resources against the introduction of foreign disease and pests, while allowing the United States to meet its international trade obligations. These activities include monitoring animal and plant health throughout the world and using this information to set effective agricultural import policy. In addition, APHIS conducts offshore risk reduction activities, such as eradication of certain high-risk pests and diseases in foreign countries. APHIS uses predictive analysis to determine changes in risk to U.S. agriculture. APHIS also conducts pre-departure inspections of passenger baggage destined for the U.S. mainland and foreign commodity pre-clearance programs for specific products. In conducting these programs, APHIS works closely with multilateral organizations, such as the International Office of Epizootics, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture, and the International Atomic Energy Agency. Through these organizations, we promote effective disease surveillance overseas and gain access to information on animal health issues worldwide.

Selected Examples of Recent Progress:

1. Agricultural Quarantine Inspection

Through the Agricultural Quarantine Inspection (AQI) program, APHIS and the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Bureau of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) work to safeguard U.S. agricultural and natural resources from the introduction of invasive pests and diseases. The AQI program encompasses a variety of activities designed to address the agricultural pest risks posed by international travel and trade. In carrying out the AQI mission, APHIS conducts the following activities to prevent the entry of foreign pests and diseases in the United States: assesses the risks associated with international trade and specific imported agricultural products and develops regulatory import policies to protect the health of U.S. agriculture and ecosystems; conducts off-shore risk reduction activities including pre-departure inspections of passenger baggage destined for the U.S. mainland from Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and other Pacific and Caribbean islands and foreign commodity pre-clearance programs for specific products; trains agricultural inspectors and detector dog teams to work at U.S. ports of entry; fumigates arriving containers and cargo; validates treatments; inspects and quarantines imported plant propagative materials; conducts trade validation and compliance activities to prevent smuggling through the Smuggling Interdiction and Trade Compliance (SITC) program; and provides the scientific support necessary to carry out these activities and those carried out by CBP.

APHIS collects AQI User Fees under the authority of The Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to recover costs for services provided by APHIS and the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Customs and Border Protection (CBP) in connection with preclearance or the port-of-entry arrival of commercial vessels, trucks, loaded railroad cars, and aircraft, as well as international passengers entering the United States from a foreign destination. APHIS receives appropriated funding for pre-departure inspections of passenger baggage and cargo from Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

Cooperative Program Management

APHIS works with CBP to ensure the safety of the United States, its food production, and its ecosystems through inspections of international passenger baggage, cargo, and conveyances. To ensure the effectiveness of inspection policies in FY 2010, APHIS and CBP conducted 10 quality assurance reviews

with two preclearance reviews in Nassau and Freeport Bahamas and a follow-up review in El Paso, Texas. The results of these reviews revealed a need to place more emphasis on referring passengers for secondary inspections for agricultural items at airports and for motor vehicles at land border ports. The reviews have found that with increasing experience among CBP inspectors, the program is making improvements in cargo clearance. The reviews occasionally found errors in the collection and reporting of operational data and made recommendations on ways to make improvements. In addition, the program improved on-the-job training for canine teams by using additional scents for the dog to react to that are specific to its port's operations.

Inspections and Pest Interceptions

In FY 2010, approximately 145 million passengers and pedestrians entered the United States by air, vehicle, ship, or on foot. Agricultural inspectors inspected the baggage of approximately 27 million (19 percent) of these travelers. This baggage is inspected either manually, with x-ray technology, or with detector dogs. In addition, inspectors cleared approximately 55,000 ships and two million cargo shipments, intercepting approximately 107,000 pests (a 27 percent increase from FY 2009). Of the travelers inspected in FY 2010, 96 percent of international air passengers, 97 percent of southern border vehicles, and 94 percent of northern border vehicles were found to be in compliance with agriculture quarantine regulations.

Pre-Departure Inspections

APHIS' pre-departure efforts facilitate travel between Hawaii and Puerto Rico and the continental United States while maintaining the highest level of agricultural security. When program personnel identify a commodity that poses a specific risk, they take immediate action to prevent the entry of materials that could harbor the pest or disease in question. This action could prevent significant damage to the country's agricultural industry and negate the need for costly control and eradication programs. In FY 2010, APHIS inspected the baggage of almost 15 million passengers before they left Hawaii and Puerto Rico and intercepted more than 300,000 prohibited items and reportable pests (i.e., quarantine-significant pests that must be reported to Federal or State authorities). APHIS tracks the effectiveness of its pre-departure program by measuring the percent of passengers in compliance with agriculture quarantine regulations. In FY 2010, the target was 97.2 percent and the actual compliance rate was 97.3 percent.

Pre-Clearance Inspections

APHIS conducts commodity pre-clearance programs in 28 countries to minimize pest and disease risks outside the United States and allow perishable products to reach markets with minimal delay. In FY 2010, irradiation treatments continued attracting interest as a significant phytosanitary treatment for pre-cleared fruits and vegetables. Irradiation allows for the treatment of delicate tropical fruits and increases the variety of these fruits available in the United States. It can also replace treatments that may have harmful effects on the environment such as methyl bromide.

APHIS cooperates with the U.S. Department of Defense to inspect military passenger baggage and equipment before it returns from overseas. This equipment can harbor various agricultural pests. In FY 2010, APHIS participated in military pre-clearance operations in 15 locations: the Azores, Djibouti, El Salvador, England, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Jamaica, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Spain, Turkey, and the United Kingdom. In addition, APHIS also greatly increased preclearance capacity within the U.S. Central Command by certifying additional bases to oversee military pre-clearance and the large drawdown in troops from Iraq in FY 2010. APHIS trains and provides technical advice to military inspectors and trainers for the inspection of returning cargo, vehicles, and passengers from Afghanistan, Iraq, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, and Qatar.

Smuggling Interdiction and Trade Compliance (SITC)

SITC prevents the entry and distribution of prohibited and noncompliant products that may harbor exotic plant and animal pests and diseases. Its officials analyze and identify potential smuggling pathways, conduct product traces, and coordinate with investigative organizations to increase compliance with APHIS' regulatory requirements. SITC also notifies CBP about potential agricultural risks at the ports of entry. In FY 2010, SITC made 1,385 seizures in commerce locations. Those seizures totaled 631,028 pounds of prohibited and/or restricted plants and plant products, meat and meat products, and dairy products. These products were valued at approximately $667,000. SITC continues to seek methods to enhance its ability to protect U.S. agricultural resources by preventing smuggling. In addition, SITC initiated 22 recalls, leading to the seizure of 347,037 pounds of prohibited plant and animal products worth approximately $282,000. Items seized through recalls included animal products from countries affected with avian influenza, exotic Newcastle disease, and bovine spongiform encephalopathy. In total, SITC seized approximately $1 million worth of prohibited products, resulting in the issuance of 317 violations. During special operations carried out at ports-of-entry in conjunction with CBP, SITC made an additional 4,016 agricultural seizures that involved 477,040 pounds of prohibited plants and plant products, meat and meat products, and dairy products.

Plant Inspection Stations

APHIS recognizes that importations of nursery stock and other propagative plant materials can serve as significant pathways for invasive pests and diseases. To reduce the risks associated with such imports, the Agency requires that certain imported plant materials enter the United States through one of 17 plant inspection stations, located at ports of entry throughout the country at major international airports and seaports and at major crossings along the U.S.-Mexican border. APHIS inspectors and identifiers at these stations inspect shipments to ensure that imported plants do not harbor pests and diseases of regulatory significance. In addition, they enforce the rules and regulations that apply to the import and export of plant species protected by the Endangered Species Act and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. In FY 2010, Agency inspectors at plant inspection stations cleared 27,000 imported shipments containing more than 2 billion plant units (cuttings, whole plants, or other propagative materials) and nearly 3 million kilograms of seeds. Through these inspections, they intercepted almost 4,000 reportable pests (i.e., those that are quarantine significant pests that must be reported to local, State, and national agencies).

Plant Germplasm Quarantine

APHIS' Plant Germplasm Quarantine Program (PGQP) is the largest plant quarantine program in the United States. It conducts quarantine screening of imported plant germplasm to prevent pathogens from entering our food supply. In FY 2010, the PGQP released from quarantine 83 grass clones, 71 pome fruits, 36 potato clones, 13 lots of potato true seed, 218 rice seed accessions, 10 *Ribes (*a genus of about 150 species of flowering plants native to the Northern Hemisphere), 36 stone fruit clones, 138 stone fruit seedlings, 24 sugarcanes, 16 sweet potatoes, and 3 woody ornamentals. For seven of these 11 crops, the number of releases increased over the number of releases for the previous year. Also in FY 2010, APHIS processed the last rice seed accession (increasing a seed collection) of the backlog of thousands of rice introductions stored by USDA's Agricultural Research Service in Colorado since the 1990s. New crops included bamboo and horse chestnuts. The program added new pathogen detection procedures for cherry and sugarcane viruses and apple viroids. In addition, new pathogens were detected in potato and sugarcane. New program initiatives included efforts to standardize potato pathogen testing worldwide, and experiments with cryotherapy to eliminate pathogens from imported plants by storing germplasm in ultra-low temperatures.

Risk Analysis and Scientific Support

The Plant Epidemiology and Risk Analysis Laboratory (PERAL) at APHIS' Center for Plant Health Science and Technology develop pest risk analyses and epidemiological approaches to pest exclusion. In FY 2010, PERAL completed 207 risk analyses associated with imports, exports, invasive pest threats, and programmatic requirements. Highlights of this work include analyses to open, expand, or maintain export markets for 24 U.S. commodities. PERAL also evaluated 76 new pests for potential risk to U.S. agriculture and completed 19 risk analyses for imports covering 27 different country-commodity combinations.

Phytosanitary Export Certification

APHIS facilitates the export of agricultural shipments through EXCERPT, a database containing plant health import requirements for more than 200 countries. APHIS provides export certifications to U.S. exporters to help ensure that U.S. products meet other countries' requirements. More than 2,700 authorized certification officials can access countries' certification requirements on-line. Once the requirements are verified, the certification officials inspect the materials. If all import requirements are met, a phytosanitary certificate will be issued. These certificates facilitate the entry of commodities into foreign markets and represent approximately $25 billion in trade annually. In FY 2010, APHIS, State, and County officials issued more than 500,000 Federal export certificates for agricultural shipments. Also in FY 2010, APHIS continued implementing its Phytosanitary Certificate Issuance and Tracking (PCIT) database, which allows exporters to apply for certificates, schedule inspections, and pay the applicable certification fees on-line. Approximately 80 percent of all certificates were issued in the PCIT system in FY 2010. APHIS also enabled PCIT to collect State and county cooperator fees in addition to the USDA fees for phytosanitary certificates. Participating States/Counties reported that they save up to a week of staff hours each month by allowing APHIS to handle, collection and remittance of the fees for certificates issued by the States/Counties on APHIS behalf. Currently, 26 States and 10 counties are taking advantage of this feature in PCIT. PCIT also enables APHIS to capture export application information, document inspection and certification information, print an original phytosanitary certificate on secure paper, and generate export reports. Discussions are still ongoing with international counterparts regarding the possibility of exchanging phytosanitary certificates electronically.

2. Cattle Fever Ticks

The APHIS Cattle Fever Tick program works to prevent the reinfestation of the Southeastern United States by this pest through surveillance, curative measures, and maintaining a permanent quarantine zone along the southern border of Texas. Two species of cattle fever ticks, responsible for transmitting the causal agents of the foreign animal disease *bovine babesiosis*, were officially eradicated from 14 southern states and a portion of southern California, with the exception of the permanent quarantine zone along the Rio Grande between Texas and Mexico. Today, the permanent quarantine zone extends approximately 500 miles from Del Rio, Texas, to the Gulf of Mexico, ranging from ¼ mile to 10 miles in width. The program functions under authorities and guidance of State and Federal regulations.

Essential activities of the program include range inspections of all premises located inside the quarantine zone and treatments for infested livestock and wildlife when ticks are discovered. APHIS mounted patrol inspectors, known as tick riders, carry out horseback river patrols to apprehend stray or smuggled cattle, horses, and other livestock, and thus prevent the introduction of cattle fever ticks into the United States from Mexico. During FY 2010, APHIS horseback river patrols along the U.S.-Mexican border apprehended a total of 57 Mexican cattle and horses compared to 155 in FY 2009, representing a 63 percent decrease. Out of the 44 cattle apprehended, 28 were infested with cattle ticks. Two out of the 13 horses apprehended were infested with cattle ticks.

There had been a significant increase in the number of infested premises identified in both the permanent quarantine zone and the free areas in the past 5 years. However, the situation improved during FY 2010 in

both the quarantine zone and free areas. During FY 2010, there were 90 newly infested premises recorded, which represents an approximate 38 percent decrease from FY 2009. The largest decrease in the number of infested premises occurred in the free area, where only 22 new infestations were recorded during FY 2010 in comparison to 61 during FY 2009. Of the 90 infested premises recorded during FY 2010, 26 were attributed to tick-infested deer. These outbreaks, especially in the free areas, can be linked to the commingling of livestock with free ranging wildlife that perpetuate tick populations, or wildlife maintaining populations of fever ticks in the absence of livestock.

These outbreaks have precipitated the continued implementation of temporary quarantines of herds in Starr, Hidalgo, Maverick, Dimmit, Webb, and Zapata counties, which are outside the permanent quarantined area. Premises and livestock, including deer herds held on commercial hunting ranges, within the temporary quarantined area must be systematically inspected and treated, and movement of all livestock from the quarantined areas must be controlled.

The increased number of wildlife animals serving as alternate hosts of cattle ticks within the permanent quarantined area continues to aggravate eradication efforts and surveillance activities, as the program is limited to two strategies for controlling ticks on wildlife animals. The first strategy is using corn feeders that are medicated with an anti-parasitic drug to eradicate ticks on wildlife. The use of medicated corn is discontinued 60 days before, and then restarted after the Texas hunting season. Treatments are discontinued to ensure there are no public health concerns. To maintain a continuous yearlong tick treatment schedule, APHIS has been employing an alternate strategy: treated rollers attached to feeders. The treated rollers applies acaricide to the head and neck of the deer as they feed on corn, and deer self-treat other portions of their bodies during grooming behaviors. APHIS continues to monitor both strategies for reducing tick infestation in wildlife populations.

Introduction of resistant populations of cattle fever ticks from Mexico could prevent the program from reaching its goals. Experience in other countries, such as Australia, has indicated that once established in a tick population, acaricide resistance is impossible to eliminate. During FY 2010, APHIS continued working with USDA's Agricultural Research Service, the Food and Drug Administration, and animal health product companies to pursue and develop other treatment options. In the future, the evaluation and use of tick-inhibiting vaccines in the program may serve as effective acaricide alternatives.

3. Foreign Animal Diseases and Foot-and-Mouth Disease

The Foreign Animal Diseases (FADs) and Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) program supports APHIS' mission of protecting U.S. agricultural health by increasing the capacity of developing countries to manage animal health issues within and along their borders. The program detects and controls outbreaks of global FADs by 1) participating in cooperative animal disease eradication programs, 2) conducting animal health capacity building activities to enhance diagnostic capabilities in developing trading partners, and 3) improving nations' responses to outbreaks and eradication of emerging endemic diseases. These activities address disease threats at the source and help prevent the diseases from spreading.

South America

The vast livestock populations and diverse wildlife species of South America are a potential reservoir of FADs, most notably FMD. The ability of FMD to spread quickly through live animals or contaminated products poses a risk of substantial economic loss if transmitted to the United States. To minimize the risk, APHIS worked with cooperators in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, and Venezuela to control and eradicate FMD in FY 2010. Additionally, APHIS provided technical support to international organizations working to eradicate FMD from the Western Hemisphere, such as the Inter-American Group for FMD Eradication, the Pan-American FMD Center, and the Food and Agriculture Organization. In FY 2010, the areas of highest concern included parts of the Andean region (especially Ecuador, Venezuela, Colombia and Bolivia) and the poverty-stricken Chaco region (particularly Paraguay and parts of Bolivia). In the Andean region, APHIS prioritized Ecuador and Venezuela, where there is a high probability of movement

of infected animals or product into areas free of disease, and Colombia, where recent gains in its animal health status are threatened by borders with high risk countries. The extreme poverty of the Chaco, combined with large populations of animals and porous borders, contributes to illegal trans-boundary movement of livestock.

In FY 2010, APHIS activities supported the control and eradication of FMD in the Andean and Chaco regions and the western hemisphere. APHIS provided direct technical support through foreign service nationals in the affected countries, cooperative agreements, as well as development of educational outreach, capacity building and training opportunities. In Ecuador, APHIS supported the 2010 vaccination campaigns, which improved the coverage rates from 90 percent to 95 percent. The pilot project area close to the vulnerable border with Colombia reached a coverage rate of 100 percent. APHIS also developed a system to issue electronic cattle movement certificates that was implemented throughout Ecuador in November 2010. Through bi-national and international engagement, APHIS reinforced the need to adopt international guidelines and practices consistent with the hemispheric FMD eradication plan. APHIS also explored opportunities with cooperators in Venezuela to increase the priority, visibility, and transparency of FMD control. In Colombia, APHIS supported those activities to exclude FMD from the high risk borders with Ecuador and Venezuela, and to quickly diagnose the disease if it does incur. In the Chaco region, APHIS assisted with FMD surveillance in high-risk areas and engaged stakeholders in the official services, the private sector, and international organizations in these efforts. This resulted in increasing the number of animals vaccinated in the region by 5 percent.

Central America

In Central America, APHIS focused on maintaining the region as free of screwworm and conducting surveillance for highly contagious diseases such as FMD. APHIS cooperated with Panama's Ministry of Agriculture to conduct FMD prevention activities in conjunction with screwworm prevention activities in Panama. As part of the outreach campaign, APHIS supported more than 27,000 visits to farms and ranches, and training to more than 21,000 agricultural students, community leaders and producers in FY 2010. APHIS collaborated in the inspection of 89,894 animals, 44,657 vehicles, and 358 boats at control points. The program intercepted and destroyed 24 illegal shipments of animal products. APHIS and Panama's Ministry of Agriculture maintain a laboratory that combines technologies to analyze all samples for vesicular diseases, avian influenza (AI), and FMD from Central America. In FY 2010, the laboratory tested 359 samples from Central America and Panama. This number is reduced in comparison to previous years because vesicular stomatitis is a cyclical disease with clinical cases peaking in 2007. None of the samples tested positive for FMD.

APHIS also collaborated with ministries of agriculture in Costa Rica, Honduras, and Nicaragua to prevent FADs in those countries by participating in cooperative foreign animal disease surveillance programs. During FY 2010, inspectors from the joint programs carried out routine active surveillance on 22,500 farms and investigated more than 600 suspicious animal disease outbreaks. All of the investigations were negative for FMD and screwworm, but 475 were positive for vesicular stomatitis, a disease clinically indistinguishable from FMD. Additionally, APHIS program inspectors detected outbreaks of rabies in cattle and Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis in horses. They also collected and tested more than 1,000 samples to monitor for classical swine fever (CSF), Newcastle disease, and AI. All tests were negative.

North America

APHIS continued to work with Canada and Mexico to standardize diagnostic procedures for FMD and other vesicular diseases, including AI and bovine tuberculosis. In addition, APHIS continued its partnership in the Mexico-U.S. Commission for the Prevention of FMD and other FADs. This Commission supports an animal health laboratory in Palo Alto, Mexico, that provides overflow capacity in case of a domestic FAD outbreak. In FY 2010, this laboratory and seven satellite laboratories tested more than 121,193 samples for diseases such as vesicular stomatitis, bovine papular stomatitis, contagious ecthyma, blue tongue, AI, Newcastle disease, West Nile virus, equine encephalitis, classical swine fever, swine

influenza, equine influenza, and others. All samples for FMD and highly pathogenic avian influenza tested negative. Also in FY 2010, the Mexican bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) surveillance program tested 12,758 samples with no positive cases of BSE detected. The laboratory also processed sample for swine influenza surveillance due to the H1N1 pandemic influenza incident in Mexico. Investigations occurred in 32 States, with 91 samples collected. Three of the samples collected tested positive for influenza, one being H1N1.

Caribbean

APHIS continued to support control and eradication of CSF on Hispaniola, which includes the Dominican Republic and Haiti. In FY 2010, the program continued vaccination of swine population in the Dominican Republic, maintaining a vaccination coverage of 85 percent in backyard swine and 90 percent in commercial farms reaching a total of 883,840 pigs. In FY 2010, three CSF outbreaks occurred. In response, the program depopulated the affected herds and vaccinated susceptible animals within a three kilometer radius. The program designed and conducted six simulation exercises on disease investigation trace-backs and trace-outs with the participation of both the field veterinarians and the regional epidemiologists. APHIS supported the installation of advanced laboratory diagnostics for CSF in the Dominican National Veterinary Laboratory and provided continued technical assistance and training to its laboratory technicians.

In Haiti, the CSF program faced two major obstacles: the earthquake and the spread of Teschen swine disease (a highly infective, viral disease of swine) from the Artibonite Valley to the majority of the country. Nevertheless, vaccination of the swine population continued and reached coverage of 60 percent of the swine population. Furthermore, the field structure for reporting outbreaks has been maintained in the wake of the earthquake, and the number of field swine diseases investigations considerably increased from 13 in FY 2009 to 65 in FY 2010. APHIS is working to improve diagnostic capabilities in Haiti with equipment to conduct conventional real time, polymerase chain reaction tests. In addition, APHIS is partnering with international organizations and other U.S. Government agencies to bolster its CSF eradication campaign.

4. Fruit Fly Exclusion and Detection

The APHIS Fruit Fly Exclusion and Detection (FFED) program and its domestic and international partners conduct a wide range of activities to protect the health and value of American agricultural resources threatened by the establishment of exotic fruit fly populations.

The program works to prevent the establishment and spread of exotic fruit flies in the United States through three strategies: 1) detecting and responding to introductions of fruit flies through trapping activities and preventing outbreaks through sterile fly release programs; 2) ensuring that Mediterranean fruit fly (Medfly) does not move north of the State of Chiapas, Mexico; and 3) eradicating the Mexican fruit fly (Mexfly) from Texas and northern Mexico along the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

In FY 2010, APHIS' long-term performance measure for the number of exotic fruit flies outbreaks in the United States had a target of two severe outbreaks per year; however the program experienced a total of three severe fruit fly outbreaks in FY 2010 (a severe outbreak is one that spreads beyond its initial square mile). Two of the severe outbreaks occurred in California, one in Los Angeles County (Oriental fruit fly) and one in Kern County (melon fruit fly). The remaining severe outbreak occurred in Florida in Palm Beach County (Medfly). The program successfully eradicated the outbreak in Florida and expects to eradicate the remaining two severe outbreaks in FY 2011.

Enhance detection and response capabilities and strengthen preventive release programs

The program's rapid response to detections has bolstered the ability of impacted growers to maintain international and interstate trade of host commodities, while avoiding costly treatments. In addition to the three severe outbreaks mentioned above, the program experienced three other outbreaks in FY 2010 (of which, two were eradicated in FY 2010 with the remaining expected to be eradicated in FY 2011). Besides the response to new outbreaks that occured in FY 2010, the program was successful in eradicating the five remaining outbreaks where responses were initiated in FY 2009 but which had not been eradicated by the end of the fiscal year. In FY 2010, the program placed a total of 485 square miles under quarantine in the United States as a result of fruit fly outbreaks. This was reduced to 258 square miles by the end of the fiscal year. The program has a target of zero detections under a preventive release program (PRP) that resulted in an outbreak; however, one outbreak in California occurred in an area covered by the PRP. APHIS cooperates with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and various county departments of agriculture in prevention, detection, control, and eradication programs of exotic fruit flies in the State of California. APHIS cooperates with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) in prevention, detection, control and eradication programs of exotic fruit flies in the State of Florida. APHIS continues to work cooperatively with FDACS to release sterile Medfly under the PRP in high risk areas. Florida's PRP continues to demonstrate success, with no Medfly detected in the PRP areas since 1998. Details relating to specific outbreaks are summarized below:

- Medfly in California: The program eradicated five Medfly outbreaks in California through the application of the sterile insect technique (SIT). The outbreaks occurred in the Escondido area of San Diego County (response was initiated in FY 2009), the San Diego area of San Diego County (response was initiated in FY 2009), the Imperial Beach area of San Diego County (response was initiated in FY 2009), the Fallbrook area of San Diego County (response in FY 2010), and the Santa Monica area of Los Angeles County (response was initiated in FY 2010).
- Medfly in Florida: The program eradicated one Medfly outbreak in the Boca Raton/Delray Beach area of Palm Beach County using SIT.
- Oriental Fruit Fly: The program eradicated one Oriental fruit fly outbreak through the use of male annihilation technique, which includes the placing of spot bait stations composed of an attractant and environmentally friendly pesticide in strategic location surrounding the detection site, in the La Verne area of Los Angeles County (response was initiated in FY 2009). The program expects to eradicate two additional Oriental fruit fly outbreaks in the North Highlands area of Sacramento County and the Pasadena/San Marino areas of Los Angeles County (response was initiated in FY 2010) in FY 2011.
- White Striped fruit fly: The program eradicated one white striped fruit fly outbreak through the use of mass trapping in the LaVerne/San Dimas area of Los Angeles County (response was initiated in FY 2009).
- Melon Fruit Fly: The program is addressing an outbreak of the melon fly in Kern County through mass trapping and expects to eradicate the outbreak in FY 2011.

APHIS and its cooperators have also detected other exotic fruit flies in FY 2010 in California that did not require regulatory action. This includes four detections of Guava fruit fly in four different areas, one Peach fruit fly detection, 17 detections of Oriental fruit flies in 13 different areas, and two detections of Mediterranean fruit flies in two different areas. In Florida, APHIS and its cooperators detected two Oriental fruit flies that did not require regulatory action. APHIS also cooperated with other State and territorial plant regulatory agencies to maintain fruit fly surveillance programs in 11 additional States and territories: Alabama, Arizona, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The program detected no new exotic fruit flies in any of these States or Territories in FY 2010.

Ensure Medfly does not move north of the State of Chiapas, Mexico

APHIS works cooperatively with Mexico, Guatemala, and Belize in the Medfly (Moscamed) program in Central America, which for the past 30 years has protected United States agriculture by preventing the northward spread of Medfly populations out of Central America. In FY 2010, the Moscamed Program strengthened and widened the Medfly-free barrier zone in Central America, which is a crucial part of the APHIS strategy to reduce the risk of Medfly outbreaks in the United States.

The Moscamed program expanded the Medfly Free Area by an additional 9,900 square kilometers (for a total of 133,065 square kilometers), eradicating Medfly from areas previously considered infested. In FY 2010, there were a total of 72 fertile Medfly captures along the barrier zone in Chiapas, Mexico, compared to 73 in FY 2009 and 328 in FY 2008. Of these, the program has controlled all outbreaks in Chiapas, with 10 still under active mitigation.

The FY 2010 successes can be attributed to the continued implementation of the program's Gradual Advance Plan (GAP), which includes new field control strategies based an enhanced understanding of the biology and ecology of the Medfly and use of geographic information system mapping. Implementation of the GAP resulted in significant reduction of wild fly populations in the Guatemala coffee production areas (coffee is a favorite host of Medfly) limiting natural spread into Chiapas, Mexico. The use of the GAP in the peaches and pear production areas of Guatemala also contributed to a reduction of Medfly outbreaks in the northern portions of Chiapas caused by the human-assisted movement of infested peaches and pears.

Eradicate Mexfly from Texas and northern Mexico along the Lower Rio Grande Valley (LRGV) and maintain the area free of reintroduction

In FY 2010, APHIS continued to cooperate with the Texas Department of Agriculture and Mexico to eradicate Mexfly in the LRGV. APHIS uses SIT to release millions of sterile Mexflies in the LRGV in both Texas and Mexico in this eradication effort.

APHIS met its target of two Mexfly free counties or municipalities being declared free of Mexfly in the LRGV in FY 2010 when Cameron County was declared free in May 2010. The program released 121 million sterile Mexflies per week in the LRGV of Texas in FY 2010. APHIS did not reach its FY 2010 target of releasing 130 million sterile Mexflies per week in the LRGV of Texas due to fungal contamination at the sterile Mexfly production facility, which hampered production numbers. This program is addressing this issue, and production will resume at the normal level in FY 2011. To supplement and provide back-up to the production of sterile Mexflies currently occurring in Texas, APHIS has renovated a previous sterile Medfly production facility in San Miguel Petapa, Guatemala, to produce sterile Mexflies. Besides serving as a back-up to the main APHIS production facility in Edinburg, Texas, this facility currently produces and ships 30 million pupae per week to support the SIT portion of the eradication program in the LRGV.

In Mexico, APHIS maintained sterile Mexfly emergence and release centers in Tamaulipas and Baja. This enabled the program to release sterile insects on Mexico's side of the border and protect citrus production in Texas and a variety of specialty crops in California. The program also maintains a trap line along the border with both California and Texas to provide an early detection tool for the northward movement of exotic fruit flies from Mexico and allows APHIS to respond to any detection quickly. However, these actions have been limited in the past year due to high security precautions because of recent illicit drug activities within the State of Tamaulipas along the international border with the United States.

5. Import/Export

The goal of the National Center for Import and Export (NCIE) is to prevent the introduction of foreign animal disease by imposing science-based import requirements as well as to open, expand, and retain new markets for U.S. agriculture by resolving animal health issues that impact trade.

The NCIE works closely with other Federal agencies, States, foreign governments, and industry in carrying out the program's dual mission of safeguarding U.S. agriculture and facilitating safe agricultural trade. APHIS animal health experts negotiate import and export protocols that are founded on sound scientific principles and fair trading practices for animals and animal products. Moreover, APHIS sets specific quarantine, testing, and other requirements under which animals and animal products can be imported or exported. This helps to ensure that global markets can be accessed, expanded, or maintained with little risk to U.S. agriculture.

Imports

APHIS received a total of 14,661 import permit applications for animal products, organisms and vectors, and select agents during FY 2010. Of the 14,611 permit applications submitted, APHIS issued 14,455 import permits.

In FY 2010, APHIS conducted the regulatory oversight for the importation of several million animals or animal products. This included more than 35,966 horses, 11.4 million live poultry, 11.9 million hatching eggs, 1.4 million commercial birds, and 4.4 million units of poultry and livestock semen and livestock embryos. Additionally, 44 million koi and goldfish were successfully imported from more than seven countries.

APHIS has also been working with other government agencies in developing and providing data for the Department of Homeland Security Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) Automated Commercial Environment (ACE)/International Trade Data System (ITDS) initiative. One of the required elements in ACE is the ability to track all permits that APHIS issues. This added control of tracking within ACE will augment APHIS' ePermits system.

APHIS conducts import risk analyses that evaluate the animal health status of countries and/or regions requesting approval to export animals and/or animal products into the United States. In FY 2010, APHIS evaluated the animal health status of multiple countries and regions, including: foot-and-mouth disease in Liechtenstein; highly pathogenic avian influenza, subtype H5N1, in the Czech Republic and Sweden; swine vesicular disease in Liechtenstein; exotic Newcastle disease in the European Union; and classical swine fever in Switzerland and Liechtenstein. APHIS also evaluated the risk of importation of sheep and goats and their products with regard to scrapie, and developed conditions for the importation of beef and sheep meat from regions that are free of foot-and-mouth disease but vaccinate against that disease.

Exports

During FY 2010, APHIS developed extensive information packages and/or responded to questionnaires from various countries in an effort to maintain or reopen export markets or expand market access. The issues and countries include: bovine spongiform encephalopathy for Brazil, Ukraine, and Pakistan; avian influenza for Argentina, Albania, Brazil, Bolivia, China, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador, European Union, Guatemala, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Libya, Mexico, Peru, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Singapore and Taiwan; equine piroplasmosis for Canada; contagious equine metritis for Brazil; rabies for Taiwan; pseudorabies for Chili and Mexico; scrapie for Jamaica; the U.S. veterinary infrastructure for Ukraine; the cattle identification and tracking system for Macao and Ukraine; U.S. poultry health, inspection and certification system for Chile and Argentina; and U.S. zoning capabilities for Canada.

APHIS successfully negotiated 24 amended protocols to expand trade markets, 11 protocols for new markets, 16 protocols to retain/maintain markets and 10 protocols to reopen the market during FY 2010. APHIS expanded, opened and maintained these markets by providing detailed technical information and data that enabled many of our trading partners to accept the animal health status of the United States, and to lift restrictions imposed because of specific animal diseases.

6. Overseas Technical and Trade Operations

The Overseas and Technical Trade Operations (OTTO) program manages foreign pest and disease threats to U.S agriculture at the points of origin. OTTO places technical experts in key overseas locations to work closely with foreign governments. These experts monitor and respond to pest and disease risks and prevent their spread to the United States. This international program also supports exports of U.S. agricultural products by resolving technical barriers to trade while continuing to safeguard domestic agriculture and natural resources.

Trade Support

Sanitary (animal) and phytosanitary (plant) (SPS) regulations can have a significant impact on market access for the United States as an exporter of agricultural products. APHIS plays a central role in resolving technical trade issues to ensure the smooth and safe movement of agricultural commodities into and out of the United States. This is done through negotiating access to new markets, preserving existing markets, and expanding existing markets. APHIS' role is to negotiate animal and plant health certification requirements, assist U.S. exporters in meeting foreign regulatory requirements, ensure requirements are proportional to risk without being excessively restrictive, and provide any necessary technical information to support the safety of U.S. agricultural products destined for foreign markets.

APHIS retained markets for U.S. products including pork to Russia worth $330 million, animal products to Ukraine worth $50 million, and U.S. Christmas trees to Mexico worth $25 million. In FY 2010, APHIS also worked to expand export markets. Some of these expanded markets include a new export protocol for live horse exports to South Africa, new conditions for equine semen to Ecuador, and new terms to the phytosanitary certificate for U.S. lumber to the Philippines. New market opportunities for U.S. producers included bovine semen and bovine embryos to the Dominican Republic worth $1 million, dairy products to Albania worth up to $5 million per year, soybean oil to China worth $340 million.

SPS activities ensure both economic and marketing opportunities for farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural food producers. Through the resolution of SPS issues, APHIS successfully negotiated 108 SPS trade issues that contributed to the opening of new markets, retention, and expansion of existing markets valued at approximately $2.4 billion in FY 2010.

Trade Facilitation

APHIS attachés posted overseas play resolve urgent problems involving U.S. shipments detained at foreign ports of entry. Shipments of U.S. commodities can be detained in foreign ports for a variety of reasons including questions about a phytosanitary or veterinary certificate, confusion over entry requirements, or concerns about recent media reports of pest or disease detections in the United States. APHIS attachés intercede to clarify, assist, and negotiate the release of these shipments. In FY 2010, APHIS attachés successfully obtained the release of more than 290 individual shipments of U.S. agricultural products worth more than $40 million. Examples of these shipments include apples to Mexico worth $200,000, pet food to Taiwan worth $434,000, almonds to Turkey worth $978,000, among others.

World Trade Organization (WTO) Notification Process

Under the Transparency provisions of the WTO SPS agreement, regulatory agencies of member countries must notify the WTO about proposed changes to existing regulations that may significantly affect international trade. These notifications are circulated by the WTO to other countries for comments. This process allows trading partners to work together to maintain or achieve market access. APHIS is actively involved in the WTO's SPS notification process in two ways. First, APHIS notifies the WTO of relevant regulatory changes that it makes via the U.S. Government's National Notification Authority, managed by USDA's Foreign Agriculture Service. APHIS also provides comments on plant and animal health

regulations published by foreign governments. Through this notification process, APHIS promotes a transparent and science-based set of rules for the international trade in agricultural and livestock products.

During FY 2010, APHIS presented 36 U.S. notifications to the WTO. This includes proposed and final rules, notices, interim rules, and emergency measures. Examples are the notification of APHIS' final rules on the importation of Hass avocados from Peru and tomatoes from Souss-Massa-Draa, Morocco, in addition to final notices of decisions to issue permits for the importation of sweet limes from Mexico, and fresh pomegranates and baby kiwi from Chile. APHIS also reviewed and commented on 33 foreign government SPS regulations reported to the WTO. These comments focused on foreign regulations that appeared to be inconsistent with WTO SPS provisions and could potentially affect U.S. exports. Examples include comments on notifications such as Ukraine's new requirements on animal import products and Thailand's notification on rules, procedures and conditions for the Importation of Wood Packaging Materials.

International Standards

Science based standards set by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) provide an important foundation for making global agricultural trade safe, predictable, and fair. The WTO formally recognizes the OIE and the IPPC as the international organizations responsible for setting animal and plant health standards to guide agricultural trade. Because of its regulatory expertise, APHIS is the lead U.S. agency for negotiating international standards on animal and plant health being developed by the IPPC and OIE. In FY 2010, the IPPC adopted two new standards regarding conditions for potatoes to be considered pest-free, and the design and operation of post-entry quarantine stations for plants. The commission for phytosanitary standards also added annexes to existing standards for phytosanitary treatments for regulated pests and diagnostic protocols for regulated pests.

Capacity Building and the APHIS International Visitor Center

APHIS helps to protect the United States from emerging plant and animal pests and diseases while meeting obligations under the WTO's SPS agreement by assisting developing countries in improving their safeguarding systems. APHIS collaborates with other Federal agencies including the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the State Department, and the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, to implement technical and regulatory capacity building projects with shared resources. APHIS develops and implements programs to assist in achieving the USDA strategic goal to protect agricultural health by minimizing major diseases and pests to ensure access to safe, plentiful, and nutritious food. These programs are designed to identify and reduce agricultural pest and disease threats while still outside of U.S. borders to enhance safe agricultural trade and to strengthen emergency response preparedness.

APHIS' International Technical Regulatory Capacity Building (ITRCB) center and the International Visitors Center (IVC) are critical in coordinating numerous technical assistance needs from overseas trading partners. In FY 2010, the IVC arranged 84 distinct programs for 453 participants. International visitors observed procedures at ports of entry, APHIS diagnostic laboratories, and APHIS domestic pest and disease surveillance and eradication programs. Officials from counterpart government ministries overseas exchanged information on biotechnology, avian influenza, disease surveillance, and risk analysis, among other topics.

APHIS provides capacity building assistance overseas in several ways. In FY 2010, APHIS formally responded to 106 requests for international technical assistance including requests for technical specialists, formal training, and funding or material. APHIS also cooperates with outside sources to meet the needs of developing countries if the Agency's resources are not available. The most common areas of interest for capacity building were the latest technologies and methods in animal and plant health, and biotechnology, such as risk analysis procedures, laboratory techniques, and bio-security.

On the plant health side, APHIS developed a "Plant Health Systems Analysis" class aimed at regulators from several African, Latin American, and Caribbean countries. APHIS also provided training for Africa and South Asia in pest risk analysis to encourage safe international trade. Additionally, APHIS provided bio-control agents for pests of economic importance to South Asia. This collaborative effort between USAID and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University provided the bio-control agents to Sri Lanka and India to help control the pest causing losses to papaya plants. On the animal health side, APHIS collaborated with FAS, Colorado State University, and Cornell University to provide training in epidemiology, risk analysis, and trans-boundary animal disease diagnostics to more than 75 international veterinary health specialists.

During FY 2010, APHIS developed partnerships with other Federal agencies in support of national security policy. APHIS initiated activities with the Department of Defense and Department of State in the area of Bio-Engagement. APHIS subject matter experts support those Agencies' activities in laboratory bio-security and epidemiology. APHIS' ITRCB team also contributed to long-term planning for building the capacity of the Ministries of Agriculture in Afghanistan and Pakistan. For example, APHIS is working with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization to assist Pakistan's Ministry of Livestock and Dairy Development in the control of foot-and-mouth disease, which causes low productivity in the country's important dairy sector.

7. Screwworm

The New World screwworm (SW) (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*) is a parasite that can cause damage to livestock and other warm-blooded animals, including humans. Animals with the screwworm parasite may die within one to two weeks from the infestation or from secondary bacterial infestations. This parasite has caused significant losses to the livestock industries of the Americas through veterinary expenses, insecticide costs, and livestock death. The last screwworm outbreak occurred in the United States in 1972.

Currently, screwworm has been eradicated from the United States, Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama. APHIS' Screwworm program prevents infestation in the United States by working with Panama, Mexico and countries in Central America to maintain a screwworm-free buffer zone within Panama north of the Darien Gap. The Darien Gap is a narrow 102 mile stretch of jungle along the border of Columbia and Panama. The gap has been successful in creating a permanent biological barrier, and is maintained through field eradication operations and prevention, surveillance, diagnosis of vesicular diseases, and continued release of sterile flies. In March 2009, the program established a new sterile fly rearing facility in Panama, closer to the region where screwworm has not been eradicated.

The facility in Panama is now operating at full production capacity. The facility produces approximately 40 million sterile flies per week for release over the Darien Gap to prevent fertile screwworms in South America from moving north. In May 2010, there was a screwworm outbreak in the Colon province of Panama resulting in 17 diagnosed screwworm cases. Consequently, the program doubled sterile fly production, and the outbreak was quickly contained and all positive cases eradicated within three weeks. With the exception of the outbreak in May 2010, there were no other cases reported during the year. APHIS maintains production of sterile flies at the Tuxtla, Mexico, facility at about 10 million flies per week as a backup facility in case of an outbreak.

8. Tropical Bont Tick

The presence of Tropical Bont Tick (TBT) and its associated diseases, heart water and dermatophilosis, in the Caribbean pose a risk to U.S. livestock production. This disease is fatal, and unexposed populations including that of the United States, are highly susceptible to infection. Death losses can reach over 50 percent in cattle and 90 percent in sheep and goats. Several years ago, APHIS and cooperators determined that eradication of TBT from the Caribbean was not a practical goal. APHIS and the island nation governments shifted the strategy from eradication to surveillance, and APHIS assists Caribbean countries

in building up veterinary infrastructure to conduct these surveillance activities. This assistance and preparation of veterinary epidemiologists will ultimately allow those countries to monitor, control and reduce TBT spread and the spread of other animal pests and diseases.

In FY 2010, APHIS continued to work with representatives from ten Caribbean countries including Barbados, Grenada, Dominica, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, St. Kitts, Nevis, Antigua, Haiti and the Dominican Republic with the goal of strengthening animal disease surveillance, emergency response capabilities, and local expertise in the region for the Amblyomma tick. In FY 2010, eight countries developed specific databases with digital mapping capabilities to identify farms in terms of location and coordinates, and nine countries developed surveillance programs for animal diseases. The TBT program also trained veterinary officials of 15 Caribbean countries in Incident Command Systems and field investigation and basic epidemiology. APHIS trained veterinary officials in a variety of countries to improve emergency preparedness response throughout the Caribbean as a whole. Out of 13 islands/countries surveyed, eight islands remain positive for TBT.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH MONITORING

Current Activities: The program activities under this component minimize agricultural production losses and export market disruptions by quickly detecting and responding to new invasive agricultural pests and diseases or other emerging agricultural health situations. The Agency updates and maintains endemic pest and disease information and monitors and conducts surveys in cooperation with States, Tribes and industry. Early detection reduces the spread of exotic pests and diseases, helps eliminate significant losses, and helps maintain pest-free status for export certification of agricultural commodities. APHIS will continue to enhance and expand monitoring and surveillance activities, including the identification of potential pathways for animal disease transmission and increasing the number and intensity of plant pest surveys throughout the United States.

Regulatory enforcement activities prevent the spread of animal and plant pests and diseases in interstate trade. These activities include inspection, surveillance, animal disease traceability, prosecution, education, and outreach. This investigative arm of APHIS strives to achieve voluntary or enforced compliance with our regulations and significantly reduces the likelihood of a foreign disease or pest introduction and the associated costs of an eradication program. The Agency also investigates alleged violations of Federal animal welfare and horse protection laws and regulations. The Agency coordinates subsequent prosecution of violators through appropriate civil or criminal procedures.

The Agency maintains a cadre of trained professionals prepared to respond immediately to potential animal and plant health emergencies. Program personnel investigate reports of suspected exotic pests and diseases and take emergency action if necessary. To facilitate these efforts, the Agency develops pathway studies and thoroughly investigates the progression of outbreaks to determine the origin of plant and animal pests and diseases.

Selected Examples of Recent Progress:

1. Animal Health Monitoring and Surveillance

APHIS conducts a series of programs to monitor and collect information on a variety of animal health issues. The Animal Health Monitoring and Surveillance (AHMS) program incorporates the areas of disease surveillance, data collection, animal traceability, and evaluation from livestock and animal handling/movement through partnerships with State animal health agencies, other governmental agencies, universities, Tribes, and related livestock industries. The AHMS program utilizes new technologies to bolster efforts and provide for more rapid detection, analysis, reporting of, and response to foreign and

domestic diseases, including significant zoonotic diseases. In FY 2010, APHIS continued to enhance animal disease surveillance and the delivery of epidemiologic services.

Animal Disease Traceability

On February 5, 2010, Secretary Vilsack set a new course for the Department's approach to animal disease traceability to strengthen the ability to successfully respond to animal diseases. The new approach directs more responsibility to the State and Tribe level. Additionally, it offers basic, low-cost animal identification options that are well supported by most sectors of the animal agriculture industry. The low cost options are a starting point to increase the number of animals officially identified.

USDA is taking deliberate and transparent steps to implement the framework for animal disease traceability. The Department conducted extensive outreach to develop the content of the proposed rule and the traceability performance standards. USDA then used the collected information from its outreach and convened a State, Tribal, and Federal Traceability Regulation Working Group. This group developed recommendations for the content of the proposed rule and the establishment of a process that supports the Secretary's direction of developing a performance-based regulation. USDA gave updates on the progress of the Traceability Regulation Working Group through the Web site, meetings, State animal health officials, and Tribal authorities. Initial recommendations from the working group include requiring animals moving interstate to be officially identified, unless otherwise exempt. Additionally, all livestock moved interstate will be accompanied by an interstate certificate of veterinary inspection or similar documentation. The working group also recommended traceability performance standards to align with the objective of an outcome-based regulation.

The new framework for animal disease traceability is designed to capitalize on previous investments. USDA has a state-of-the-art information technology system for animal disease traceability. This year the Department initiated several updates to incorporate the principles of State- and Tribal-owned data and to give States and Tribes more options for data management. For example, the premises information repository, which previously centralized the records of all producers, is being changed to allow States and Tribes to store only the information they prefer. Information in the premises repository will no longer require 12 data elements. States and Tribes can decide what elements to include. This provides States and Tribes greater flexibility to manage data under the new animal traceability framework.

Currently, 40 States and 15 Tribes use the standardized premises identification systems. The 550,000 records of farm and ranch locations in the premises registration systems will be maintained as directed by the States and Tribes. This information provides a sound foundation for the new framework.

USDA continues to build upon previous efforts. The distribution records for nearly 20 million official identification devices are recorded in the Animal Identification Management System (AIMS). More than 7 million of these devices are animal identification number (AIN) radio frequency identification tags. Additionally, there are nine manufacturers that now offer 40 different AIN 840 tags. AIMS has been integrated into a mobile information management system to facilitate on-site data capture for emergency disease investigation and response purposes and other regulatory animal disease efforts, such as bovine tuberculosis testing and for brucellosis vaccination and testing of calves. AIMS is also being expanded to support the administration of all official identification devices, including metal tags that are commonly used for cattle.

USDA continued communication with the Community Outreach Partners, which include representatives from the livestock industry, State and Federal disease traceability staff, and Tribal Nations. USDA equips the partners with the latest program information and outreach materials to help them answer questions on traceability from State and Tribal residents. USDA uses monthly conference calls and a collaborative Web site to exchange information on implementation of animal disease traceability and coverage of the program in the media.

Comprehensive Surveillance System

The APHIS comprehensive surveillance system's goal is to move away from disease-specific surveillance programs to a more comprehensive system that adds additional flexibility to actively monitor a broader list of pertinent diseases including emerging syndromes and zoonotic diseases. In FY 2010, APHIS continued implementation of its classical swine fever (CSF) surveillance as part of the Comprehensive Swine Surveillance System. The system's plan uses multiple higher risk sample streams to target appropriate samples in order to gain the same information at a lower cost than a true nationwide random sampling approach. In addition to CSF surveillance, the Agency continued integrating revised pseudorabies virus (PRV) surveillance into the Comprehensive Swine Surveillance plan through expansion of PRV surveillance to diagnostic laboratories. Select diagnostic laboratories have the ability to strategically test qualifying diagnostic sample submissions for PRV. All samples for CSF tested negative and only one non-commercial herd was found positive for PRV.

The Swine Health Protection Act allows APHIS to license facilities that feed cooked garbage to swine (feeders) and to conduct searches for unlicensed facilities feeding raw garbage to swine, a primary risk factor for numerous infectious diseases of these animals. In FY 2010, APHIS conducted 7,462 inspections of licensed premises under provisions of the Swine Health Protection Act and found 94 alleged violations. Of these alleged violations, 86 were corrected without enforcement action and 8 violations involved enforcement action. APHIS' search efforts in FY 2010 found 25,032 non-licensed facilities. Of these facilities, APHIS found 142 non-licensed feeders, all of which were either subsequently licensed or resolved without enforcement action.

Foreign Animal Disease Investigations

To prevent foreign animal disease (FAD) incursions, APHIS veterinarians, and privately practicing accredited veterinarians trained by APHIS, are continually observing animals for signs of FADs while conducting their daily activities. Any animals showing signs of an FAD are immediately referred to a veterinarian specifically trained by APHIS as a foreign animal disease diagnostician. In FY 2010, APHIS investigated 343 cases of animals presenting signs indicating possible FADs. APHIS' subsequent investigations of these 343 cases resulted in the discovery of equine piroplasmosis in Texas. APHIS and the States' additional surveillance of 2,300 horses detected positive horses located in 17 States. All positive horses were from the premises in Texas or lived in close proximity to the index premises. APHIS' required testing initiated in response to the above findings, detected unrelated equine piroplasmosis cases in 14 States. APHIS is continuing its investigations of piroplasmosis. In FY 2010, APHIS found there were no incursions of FADs in animals related to food production.

National Veterinary Accreditation Program

More than 70,000 accredited veterinarians provide our nation's first line of defense for reportable domestic and foreign animal diseases. The accredited veterinarians provide for surveillance beyond Federal and State veterinary workforces' capabilities, and examination and health certification of animals, embryos, and semen for interstate and international movement of animals. Accredited veterinarians are instrumental in increasing USDA's capability to perform competent health certifications of animals and to maintain extensive disease surveillance and monitoring. The voluntary National Veterinary Accreditation Program (NVAP) certifies private veterinary practitioners to work cooperatively with Federal veterinarians and State animal health officials. Effective February 1, 2010, APHIS made changes to recognize two species-based categories of accreditation to ensure that knowledgeable professionals were able to assist in the areas of expertise. Category I veterinarians perform accredited duties predominantly on companion animals (all animals except: food and fiber species, horses, birds, farm-raised aquatic animals, all other livestock species, and zoo animals that can transmit exotic animal diseases to livestock). Category II veterinarians are authorized to perform accredited duties on all animals. New supplemental training and renewal requirements provided increased knowledge of animal disease surveillance, prevention, zoonoses, and disaster preparedness. Accredited veterinarians will complete supplemental training through Web-based

modules, booklets, and lecture/question and answer sessions at major veterinary meetings beginning in 2011.

2. Animal and Plant Health Regulatory Enforcement

APHIS' Investigative and Enforcement Service (IES) provides support to four APHIS programs and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) at the Department of Homeland Security. IES conducted investigations of alleged violations of Federal statutes and regulations under APHIS' jurisdiction and by pursuing appropriate enforcement actions through administrative, civil, or criminal procedures. During FY 2010, APHIS initiated a total of 6,361 cases, compared to 6,022 cases initiated during FY 2009. The increase was due to an enhanced enforcement focus on problematic dog dealers. APHIS issued 1,293 warnings, collected $1,672,464 in stipulated penalties, and obtained administrative orders for the assessment of an additional $889,693 in civil penalties.

In support of its Plant Protection and Quarantine program and CBP, APHIS initiated 5,172 cases involving agricultural quarantine inspection and domestic plant health violations (including plant pests and diseases), issued 520 warnings, collected $1,376,471 in stipulated penalties, and obtained administrative orders that resulted in the assessment of an additional $175,250 in civil penalties. Based on hundreds of referrals from CBP in recent years, APHIS has conducted extensive investigations involving two companies for chronic patterns of non-compliance with agricultural hold requirements. APHIS referred both cases to USDA's Office of the General Counsel (OGC) and/or the Department of Justice (DoJ) prior to FY 2010, and as a result of the investigations, OGC and DoJ reached agreements with the offenders to resolve these two high profile cases. OGC successfully negotiated a consent decision through which the one company, a major express courier, agreed to pay a $500,000 civil penalty and implement new procedures for improving its compliance. DoJ negotiated an agreement in which the second company, an airport services provider, pled guilty to two felony counts and will pay a $1,000,000 penalty. In addition, APHIS conducted a high priority investigation involving the alleged falsification of multiple phytosanitary certificates used to import containers of apples from the State of Washington into mainland China. Agriculture officials in China reported the fraudulent certificates to U.S. officials, resulting in APHIS investigation. This investigation was of national significance because the major agricultural export market in China, (which took years to develop), was placed in jeopardy. APHIS identified a scheme through which the subject company could produce multiple fraudulent phytosanitary certificates based on inspection records generated for small amounts of fruit. APHIS had referred this case to DoJ for criminal prosecution.

In support of its Veterinary Services (VS) program, APHIS initiated action on 308 cases involving animal health violations, issued 110 warnings, collected $43,987 from 24 stipulated penalties, and obtained administrative orders that resulted in the assessment of an additional $474,450 in civil penalties. In particular, APHIS obtained administrative orders in several cases involving violations of the Commercial Transportation of Equine for Slaughter Act. In addition, APHIS also obtained four administrative orders under other VS-administered statue, totaling civil payments of $138,500, for failing to adhere to the Animal Health Protection Act

In support of its Animal Care program, APHIS initiated action on 874 cases involving animal welfare violations, issued 663 warnings, collected $233,316 in 74 stipulated penalties, and obtained administrative orders that resulted in the assessment of an additional $239,993 in civil penalties. In particular, APHIS obtained administrative orders against several exhibitors for various violations of the Animal Welfare Act (AWA). IES has been working closely with the Animal Care program activities related to problematic dog dealers. As an example of the program's efforts APHIS has worked with the Assistant United States Attorney in the Middle District of Pennsylvania to pursue criminal charges against a dog dealer with multiple and significant violations of the AWA.

In support of the Horse Protection Act (HPA), APHIS initiated 163 investigations of alleged HPA violations and developed numerous protocols and policies, including a documentation checklist for use by inspectors and criteria for determining which individuals should be charged with "entering" a sore horse in

competition. In addition, in response to OIG's audit entitled "Inspections of Problematic Dealers," APHIS developed new penalty guidelines and worksheets for use beginning October 1, 2010. These guidelines will increase the penalties for violations of the AWA.

3. Avian Influenza

APHIS has both an international and domestic role in controlling the spread of avian influenza (AI). A concern with AI is the H5N1 virus that has mutated into highly pathogenic varieties that can infect humans. The AI virus changes rapidly in nature by mixing its genetic components to form slightly different virus subtypes. Prevention and control of H5 and H7 AI will avert the possible mutations and reassortments of low pathogenic virus to its highly pathogenic form; reduce the likelihood of the virus becoming a zoonotic agent; and preserve international trade in poultry and poultry products. APHIS has taken action to prevent the accidental or intentional introduction of AI into the United States and ensure preparedness in the event of an outbreak of the disease. Domestically, the Agency is working with other Federal agencies, States, and industry to prevent the introduction of AI in U.S. commercial broilers, layers and turkeys, their respective breeders, and the live bird marketing system. Internationally, APHIS is collaborating with organizations such as the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to rapidly identify and respond to AI to prevent, control, and eradicate AI where it currently exists.

DOMESTIC EFFORTS

APHIS' major domestic activities include (1) surveillance of commercial establishments, live bird markets, and upland game birds; (2) surveillance of wild bird populations and surveillance and management of AI regulated facilities; (3) preparedness and communications; and (4) outreach and education.

Domestic Bird Surveillance and Diagnostics

There are four areas of surveillance in commercial poultry operations: meat-type chickens, meat-type turkeys, and egg-type chickens; the respective breeder flocks for those poultry sectors; upland game birds through the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP); and the live bird marketing system (LBMS). APHIS has 41 States participating in the prevention and control of AI.

From October 2009 to June 2010, APHIS and the States conducted approximately 113,221 tests for AI surveillance in the LBMS. As a result of the efforts, the incidence of low pathogenic avian influenza (LPAI) in the LBMS has been greatly reduced. The number of LBMS premises that tested positive for LPAI decreased from 4 in FY 2009 to 1 in FY 2010. The premise was depopulated, cleaned, and disinfected according to the Uniform Standards.

In support of AI detection and exclusion efforts, the Agency's Investigative and Enforcement Services staff initiated more than 4,350 cases involving alleged illegal activities at U.S. ports of entry; conducted three surveillance operations at live bird markets to identify illegal movements of poultry and poultry products that pose an AI risk; and increased resources and efforts in working with the Department of Homeland Security at ports of entry, conducting special operations to target AI affected countries.

Wild Bird Surveillance

APHIS and the States conducted surveillance for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in all four North American Flyways with corresponding activities in Canada and Mexico to ensure the goal of early detection of the disease in wild, migratory birds. During FY 2010, APHIS collected 44,286 wild bird samples nationwide. Surveillance resulted in no detections of HPAI. The National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) confirmed that 405 samples collected from 152 locations in 33 States were LPAI H5 positive and 26 samples were H7 positive. This information provides APHIS a better understanding of the low prevalence of HPAI in wild birds.

Preparedness and Communication

To address outbreaks of AI in the United States, the Egg Sector Working Group, which includes representatives of the egg industry, APHIS, the University of Minnesota, and Iowa State University developed a Secure Egg Supply plan (SES) to avoid unnecessary destruction of eggs from healthy flocks in an AI fixed control area. The SES plan is a science-based preparedness plan designed to safely move eggs and egg products from, into or within an AI control area without endangering the health of uninfected flocks. The plan also supports a continuous supply of eggs for the U.S. public, facilitates business continuity for the egg industry and their retail and food service customers, and fosters a high level of government, industry, and consumer confidence. APHIS is using the SES plan as a model to develop plans for other agricultural commodities such as milk and pigs.

Outreach and Education

The Biosecurity for the Birds program has continued to engage key audiences with its messages to raise awareness about biosecurity measures to prevent the introduction and spread of AI and other infectious poultry diseases. Interest in materials such as the bilingual calendar, DVDs and other publications remains high. The Biosecurity for the Birds program has allowed APHIS to reach targeted segments of the avian marketplace, including backyard poultry producers and pet bird owners, to educate a wide variety of people on AI and practices to reduce the threat of a HPAI introduction. The campaign is also designed to reach minority and underserved communities such as Hispanic, Vietnamese, Filipino, Native American, and Amish communities. The National FFA Organization, 4-H, and States regularly use and distribute the information.

INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS

APHIS employees overseas have responsibilities for monitoring the HPAI situation in their host countries. Many also build capacity of their host governments to detect and respond to outbreaks of AI, either through training, mentoring, or collaboration with other international entities. The Agency scaled back international efforts in FY 2010 but continues to focus on the three pillars of the original strategy: 1) preparedness and communication; 2) surveillance and detection; and 3) response and containment.

Preparedness and Communication

APHIS, in adherence to international guidelines, continues to advise the public and private sector on the risks of AI and raise awareness on the potential consequences in the social, political, economic, and public health arenas. In support of these objectives, APHIS conducted several seminars, workshops and conferences.

APHIS and the World Organization for Animal Health and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) collaborated to deliver seminars to increase awareness of the importance of maintaining biosecurity and quality assurance within the animal laboratories. Additionally, APHIS provided workshops relating biosecurity efforts and their economic benefits to the poultry sector in South East Asia and West Africa. APHIS held live bird market biosecurity workshops in the Western Hemisphere, Middle East and Africa. APHIS, in partnership with the West Africa Poultry Association, hosted a conference for veterinary leaders and policymakers, poultry industry officials, academics, and other interested parties in Bamako, Mali and Accra, Ghana.

Surveillance and Detection

APHIS has provided real time polymerase chain reaction machines and laboratory reagents to Egypt, Kenya, Senegal, Cote D'Ivoire, and Lebanon. APHIS continues to provide the logistical support for these capacities, including technical training for specialists from 32 African nations and six South East Asian countries.

Response and Containment

APHIS helped establish, and continues to sponsor, the Crisis Management Center (CMC) for Animal Health at FAO. The CMC is an emergency response branch of FAO's Emergency Center for Trans-boundary Animal Diseases, centered on the strategic goal of responding and containing the threats of disease outbreaks. This approach reduces the threat of disease outbreaks such as HPAI from becoming a pandemic.

4. Emergency Management Systems

The Emergency Management Systems program strives to enhance APHIS' emergency preparedness efforts by providing leadership, strategies, and resources for effective and expedient emergency response and continued emergency management activities.

Preparedness

Working collaboratively with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), APHIS developed strategic and concept plans that describe how the Federal departments and agencies will interact with each other during a response to a biological incident. Continued collaborations with DHS are currently focused on the development of new technologies for foot-and-mouth disease vaccines.

Response Planning and Test Exercises

In FY 2010, APHIS utilized its 26 area emergency coordinators to actively engage State, Tribal, local governments, and industries in advancing their emergency preparedness and response capabilities. APHIS also participated in 25 animal health or all-hazards test exercises in various States. In addition, APHIS developed 16 documents, guidelines and standard operating procedures to aid stakeholders in improving their planning and responses capabilities for response to foreign animal disease incidents.

Capacity Building

The National Animal Health Emergency Response Corps (NAHERC) was formed in 2001 to provide an emergency reserve of veterinary professionals to assist State and Federal responders during an animal health emergency. NAHERC volunteers become temporary Federal employees when activated. As of October 2010, 1,211 applicants have qualified for the program. Ongoing recruitment efforts include online advertising, direct mail campaigns, Agency attendance at veterinary conferences/seminars, and networking with animal health professionals.

Foreign Animal Disease Investigations

During FY 2010, APHIS and State animal health partners conducted 343 foreign animal disease (FAD) investigations. Some of the highlights are as follows:

- On December 15, 2008, the State of Kentucky confirmed that a horse stallion was positive for contagious equine metritis, a venereal disease of horses. As of September 30, 2010, 1,005 exposed or positive horses have been found in 48 States. All horses were treated, re-tested, and are now negative. A stallion imported from Denmark in 2000 has been identified as the most likely source of the outbreak.
- APHIS found vesicular stomatitis on two premises in Arizona in May of 2010. Vesicular stomatitis is a disease that causes lesions on the tongue, oral mucosa, teats, or coronary bands of cattle, horses, and swine and can be transmitted to humans. APHIS placed quarantines on both premises, but those have since been lifted.
- In October 2009, a mare on a large ranch in southern Texas tested positive for equine piroplasmosis (EP), a disease of horses that destroys red blood cells. As of October 30, 2010, a

total of 412 horses in 17 States tested positive out of more than 2,400 horses tested due to an association with the incident. APHIS found another 108 positive horses unrelated to the Texas incident in 16 States through EP testing requirements imposed by certain events, venues, or State animal health officials. Overall, 518 horses in 21 States tested positive for EP. Of the 518 EP positive horses, 458 are in permanent quarantine, 58 have been euthanized, 1 was exported, and 1 was donated to an Agricultural Research Service research program on EP.

- In April 2010, rabbit hemorrhagic disease (RHD), a viral disease that causes internal bleeding and sudden death in domesticated rabbits, was confirmed on a premises in Minnesota where a total of 25 rabbits died. No source of the outbreak could be identified, but no further cases of RHD were detected through follow-up investigation and surveillance.

Biosecurity

In FY 2010, APHIS personnel participated in hazardous waste operations and emergency response preparedness project. This project provided training and tools for employees to effectively and safely respond to requests for assistance in hazardous waste incidents. APHIS employees were also deployed to assist with the Deepwater Horizon Oil spill.

In an effort to better prepare for a zoological event, APHIS participated in the zoological facility emergency management best practices working group. The working group was designed to support emergency planning, preparedness, and response capabilities with the community of zoological facilities, particularly those APHIS regulates under the Animal Welfare Act. APHIS organized a coalition of stakeholders in support of disaster response for companion animals. This fostered the development of the National Alliance of States Agriculture and Emergency Programs (NASAAEP) by providing travel funding for one emergency planner from every State to attend the NASAAEP conference in Linthicum, MD, in September 2008 and Kansas City, MO, in December 2009. NASAAEP has grown into a not-for-profit, non-governmental organization with representation from every State as well of animal humane organizations, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Health and Human Services, American Veterinary Medical Association, and others. NASAAEP provides a forum for discussion through regular conference calls and annual meetings as well as a means of achieving consensus on issues. In FY 2010, APHIS funded the NASAAEP second National Summit on Companion Animals Emergency Management, which includes more than 145 emergency responders from 45 States as well as humane organizations, the American Veterinary Medical Association, and Federal Agencies. The goals of the summit included identifying and sharing best practices, communicating mechanisms for disaster resource mobilization, exploring opportunities for collaboration to enhance national readiness, and discussing emergency planning and preparedness initiatives among States.

APHIS also entered into an agreement with the Indian Nations Conservation Alliance to improve tribes' ability to respond to emergencies and to conduct outreach relating to animal diseases of significant concern.

5. National Veterinary Stockpile

The National Veterinary Stockpile (NVS) serves as a critical component of USDA's emergency preparedness and response efforts. The NVS serves as the primary source of materials required to respond to, control, and contain foreign animal and other significant animal disease outbreaks.

The primary goals of the NVS are to acquire countermeasures against the 17 most significant disease threats. Currently, the NVS is fully prepared to respond to an outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease, Classical Swine Fever, and Avian Influenza. The NVS business plan balances a variety of procurement options such as vendor managed contracts and just-in-time delivery contracts to increase the efficiency and maximize the effectiveness of this funding. This ability produces major economic savings including costs associated with depopulation, decontamination, disposal, indemnity; losses to owners and industry; and higher consumer costs. NVS works with State partners with an ongoing series of operation exercises.

These exercises test the deployment capabilities of NVS to deliver materials, supplies, and equipment, as needed in the event of an outbreak or multiple outbreaks.

NVS leverages strategic storage locations throughout the Nation to perform central storage activities. These strategic storage locations reduce the time for delivery and increase the effectiveness of the first responders to an incident. NVS currently has the capability to: protect a team of responders for 10 days in a high risk environment, protect up to 1,500 responders for 40 days, and, procure anti-virals to support 3,000 responders for six weeks. NVS also has contracts with companies to provide anti-viral and protective equipment for indefinite delivery and quantity in the event of a protracted emergency. This provides a cost savings as the limited shelf life materials are not acquired until needed in an emergency. The NVS established transportation and delivery contracts to ensure the materials can be delivered to an animal health incident location within 24 hours.

The NVS is currently prepared to respond to avian influenza by holding 140 million doses of avian influenza vaccine for the protection of poultry, and has guaranteed contracted access to 500 million doses. The NVS also has a roll minimizing the spread of disease through proper disposal of animals that are destroyed due to a disease outbreak. NVS has tested emergency capabilities for animal depopulation, decontamination, and disposal services in an actual incident.

6. Pest Detection

The Pest Detection program strengthens APHIS' emergency preparedness efforts through the early detection of exotic, harmful, or economically significant plant pests, pathogens, and noxious weeds. Discovering these pests before they spread prevents small outbreaks from becoming emergencies. APHIS and its State cooperators conduct surveys for pests of regulatory significance through the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) program. The CAPS program enables APHIS to maintain a comprehensive network of cooperators and stakeholders to facilitate its mission of safeguarding America's plant resources.

In FY 2010, APHIS and its State cooperators targeted 287 individual pests, pathogens, and noxious weeds in national surveys. A total of 28 pests and pathogens were detected (either through CAPS surveys or reported to APHIS) and recorded in an APHIS database as new or re-introduced to the United States. Twenty-seven of these pests (96.4 percent) were significant and listed as reportable and actionable. Examples include Sweet orange Scab (Elsinoe australis) in Texas, Lebbeck (Hibiscus) Mealybug (Nipaecoccus viridis) and Cotton Seed Bug (Oxycarenus hyalinipennis) in Florida, and European Grapevine Moth (Lobesia botrana) in California. Overall, the program detected 88.9 percent of the known significant introductions of plant pests or diseases before they spread from the area of original colonization area and caused significant economic or environmental damage, nearly meeting its target of 90 percent.

The program is continuing to develop commodity-based and resource-based surveys. These surveys enable the program to target high-risk hosts and commodities, gather data about pests specific to a commodity, and establish better baseline data about pests that were recently introduced in the United States. In FY 2010, the program and its cooperators conducted 154 commodity- and taxon-based surveys that included priority pests of national concern, with an average of six pests per survey and three surveys per State. Overall, APHIS and its cooperators budgeted for 108 surveys for high-risk pests of national concern in citrus, grape, oak, pine, small grains, and soybean commodities as well as exotic wood boring bark beetles and cyst nematodes, representing 88.5 percent of the target pests suggested for survey in the CAPS Survey Guidelines. Using a bundled approach, where multiple pests are surveyed per site, enabled the program to increase its survey capacity and greatly exceed its performance target for the number of exotic pests surveyed for in FY 2010 (the target was 41). The cost of each individual survey was estimated at $19,233, which is $3,767 below the target. In FY 2010, APHIS further broadened the bundled survey concept, and States responded favorably by bundling priority pests in their surveys with pests of State concern. In FY 2010, the program worked on new commodity-based surveys for potato, corn, and stone fruits. A corn commodity survey will be available for survey in FY 2011, while the potato and stone fruit commodity

surveys will be available in FY 2012. The program is also planning a cotton commodity survey for FY 2011.

7. Select Agents

The goal of the Select Agents program is to implement and oversee compliance with the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness Response Act of 2002. This Act enables APHIS to regulate agents or toxins deemed a threat to animals, plants, or animal/plant products (known as select agents and toxins), thereby safeguarding the health and value of U.S. agriculture.

The Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness Response Act of 2002 requires individuals or entities possessing, using, or transferring select agents or toxins to register with the appropriate Federal authority, either APHIS or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). APHIS oversees select agents that pose a significant threat to plant or animal health, and is able to monitor and track the movement of select agents by identifying and registering facilities that use select agents or toxins.

Entity Registration and Issuing of Permits

In FY 2010, there were 64 registered entities on record with APHIS' Agriculture Select Agent Program (ASAP), and two new applications for certificates of registration were submitted during the course of the year.

During FY 2010, APHIS received 100 requests for amendments and changes to certificates of registration made through CDC's Division of Select Agents (DSAT) regarding registrations, amendments, and renewals pertaining to USDA-only agents that are held by entities registered with DSAT. APHIS processed 99 of the FY 2010 requests. APHIS returned one request from FY 2010 and two requests from FY 2009 to the applicants for additional information.

APHIS processed and issued 396 select agent import permits during FY 2010. Of the 396 permits issued, 89 were new applications, 38 were amended applications, and 269 were renewed permit applications.

Collaborative Efforts

In FY 2010, APHIS continued to collaborate extensively with CDC on the National Select Agent Registry (NSAR) data system into the program's workflow, maintenance, enhancement, and development in order to achieve optimum functionality. The NSAR assists APHIS in addressing the continued increase in workload while maintaining the same program resources. There remain functionality issues in the NSAR that require APHIS to maintain its paper based process. CDC has conducted an analysis of the NSAR to determine the most cost efficient way of upgrading the system to address the known issues.

In FY 2009, APHIS implemented a pilot compliance inspection program that allows for more frequent unannounced inspections of registered entities to assist them in achieving and maintaining compliance with select agent regulations. In FY 2009, APHIS conducted 44 unannounced compliance inspections. In FY 2010, APHIS conducted 34 renewal inspections, 21 unannounced compliance inspections, 12 joint inspections with CDC, and 35 inspections involving amendments with either APHIS or CDC. When APHIS found minor deficiencies, the Agency would issue a letter to the responsible official discussing the identified noncompliance and indicated the correction required. With more serious noncompliance issues, APHIS engaged CDC to conduct joint inspections and or investigations with APHIS. If there was a significant history of non-compliance, APHIS placed the entity on a program improvement plan to both engage the senior management officials of the entity and obtain a speedy correction to the problems.

APHIS and CDC developed and delivered one workshop in June 2010 specifically tailored to the responsible officials for and within the registered entities. These workshops provided additional details and

guidance on the select agent regulatory requirements and provided a forum for more face-to-face interaction with the regulated community.

APHIS and CDC continue to collaborate in responding to GAO inquiries on the select agent program. Currently, there is one action in progress, GAO- High-Containment Laboratories: Duplication of Federal Oversight Activities (GAO 460617).

PEST AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

Current Activities: The programs within this component minimize risks to agricultural production, natural resources, and human health and safety by effectively managing agricultural pests and diseases, and wildlife damage in the United States. APHIS cooperates with States and industry to protect American agriculture by eradicating harmful pests and diseases or, where eradication is not feasible, by minimizing their economic impact. The Agency monitors endemic pests and diseases through surveys to detect their location and through inspection to prevent their spread into non-infested parts of the country.

APHIS coordinates several programs that control or eradicate plant pests and diseases, conducts risk-based management activities to prevent the spread of pests such as the glassy-winged sharpshooter, golden nematode, and gypsy moth. In both eradication and control programs, APHIS develops and enforces quarantines to restrict the movement of hazardous pests and diseases. The Agency conducts a biological control program, using natural enemies of pests, diseases, or weeds to provide cost-effective, environmentally friendly pest control for use in our programs. APHIS also conducts animal disease control and eradication programs involving testing, quarantine, treatment, and depopulation of infected animals. Examples of recent activities include continued efforts to reduce the introduction of avian influenza in live bird markets and contain tuberculosis outbreaks. APHIS' Emergency Management Systems provides plan development for foreign animal disease response, coordination of animal disease outbreaks, and maintains a national corps of emergency responders for animal disease events. The Wildlife Services program protects American agriculture from predators through identification, demonstration, and application of wildlife management measures.

Selected Examples of Recent Progress:

1. Aquaculture

APHIS' aquaculture program strives to protect domestic aquaculture production, which is worth more than $1 billion annually in the United States. APHIS conducts activities that prevent the introduction or spread of reportable aquatic animal pathogens into farmed populations; conducts activities in collaboration with other relevant agencies and stakeholders to prevent the spread of aquatic animal pathogens in farmed and wild aquatic animal populations; implements initiatives to benefit the aquaculture industry and consuming public by preventing exotic aquatic animal disease introductions; and works to reduce conflicts between wildlife and aquaculture production.

Aquatic Animal Health

During FY 2010, APHIS continued its efforts to control viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS), especially in the Great Lakes Region. VHS has caused mass mortalities in U.S. wild fish populations and has affected numerous fish species not previously known to be susceptible to the disease. This virus strain can infect farm-raised fish such as catfish, the most valuable aquaculture species in the United States, as well as salmonids. APHIS implemented cooperative agreements with 30 State agencies and 8 Tribal Nations to conduct surveillance on wild fish populations. APHIS also developed an education and outreach campaign focused on recreational and sport-fishing biosecurity issues and other means of disease transmission that are not easily controlled by regulatory activities. Additionally, APHIS completed its aquaculture related

laboratory infrastructure at the National Veterinary Services Laboratories in Ames, Iowa. This investment has allowed the Agency to perform confirmatory testing for VHS and other activities related to the aquaculture program. Additionally, APHIS began the process of developing a National Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory Testing Network. This was one of the primary recommendations of the NAAHP.

Aquaculture – Wildlife Management

In FY 2010, APHIS provided wildlife damage management assistance to aquaculture producers in 10 States. This included assistance to anglers, baitfish and crawfish producers, catfish farmers, fish hatcheries, sport fish producers for pond stocking, tribal entities, state wildlife agencies, and tropical fish producers. The Agency also managed wildlife predation and damage to aquaculture facility levees and dikes from beaver, nutria, muskrat, and river otter.

One of APHIS' major aquaculture activities is preventing cormorant damage to the catfish industry. This industry is valued at more than $455 million per year (NASS 2007) in the United States, with nearly 50 percent of catfish production occurring in Mississippi. The Agency's National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC) showed that double crested cormorant damage to the catfish industry was between $9.8 and $13 million. During FY 2010, the Agency dispersed 36,562 cormorants and moved 14 cormorant roosts from nearby aquaculture facilities. The Agency provided: training and technical assistance to catfish producers in Mississippi, the largest catfish-producing State; dispersed another 85,300 cormorants; and, moved 14 roosts to protect their catfish production areas.

The NWRC conducted 20 research projects focusing on fish-eating bird impacts to commercial and natural resources in FY 2010. These research efforts included collaborations with constituents in 15 States and Canada and with 5 universities, 4 Federal and State agencies and 1 Native American Tribal agency.

2. Biological Control

The biological control program aims to safeguard U.S. agricultural production and natural areas from economic losses and negative impacts caused by insects, other arthropods, nematodes, weeds, and diseases of concern to the Federal government, State departments of agriculture, tribal governments, and cooperators within the continental United States and on American territories. The program works with States, university and other partners to develop biological control programs for domestic programs and offshore programs targeting pests that could potentially be introduced into the continental United States and cause damage.

In FY 2010, the program continued efforts in support of implementation, transfer of developed technologies, discovery and evaluation of new biological control agents offshore and domestically, development of cost-effective rearing and monitoring systems for approved biological control agents and their hosts, collection of biological control agents from established field insectaries and laboratory colonies, and the development of educational and programmatic materials for use by APHIS and other cooperators.

The Florida Offshore Biological Control Initiative against Invasive Species is an ongoing mutual collaboration between the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences and APHIS. The program is designed to support APHIS in preventing alien invasive species from entering the United States and mitigating the post-entry damage using biological control. The program also provides information and data leading to implementation of biological control programs for established invasive species.

Selected FY 2010 projects are highlighted below:

Pink Hibiscus Mealybug

Pink Hibiscus Mealybug is a serious pest of tropical and subtropical plants. It has been present in Florida since 2002 and Texas since 2007, but successful biological control agents prevent it from causing significant damage. APHIS supports rearing operations for the biological control agents (parasitoids) in Puerto Rico and Florida. The program has released parasitoids in Florida, Texas, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, and Jamaica. This invasive species could impact 18 threatened and endangered plants in Florida, Texas, California, and Hawaii. The program also supports a Center of Excellence located at University of Puerto Rico focused on mass rearing technology for natural enemies that have already been through quarantine evaluations. The University is remodeling laboratory facilities to serve as a quarantine facility for new biological control agents under investigation.

Tropical Soda Apple

Tropical Soda Apple is a perennial, shrubby weed on the Federal noxious weed list that has been detected in a variety of southern States. It invades pastures, fields, parks and other open spaces, forming dense stands impenetrable to livestock and wildlife. The Biological Control program and cooperators at the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the University of Florida have identified biological agents, tested them for host specificity, developed rearing and release protocols, and developed a series of instructional web-based videos for farmers. The program will continue beetle releases, monitoring, and development of technology transfer materials in FY 2011.

Mile-A-Minute Weed

Mile-a-minute weed grows rapidly, scrambling over shrubs and other vegetation, blocking the foliage of covered plants from available light, and reducing their ability to photosynthesize, which stresses and weakens them. In addition, the weight and pressure of the vine causes distortion of stems and branches of covered plants. Through a cooperative agreement with the Phillip Alampi Beneficial Insect Rearing Laboratory in New Jersey the program provides weevils, *Rhinoncomimus latipes*, to interested universities, State, and Federal agencies, and recognized nature organizations. States that have new cooperative agreements for Mile-A-Minute biological control agents include Virginia, West Virginia, Delaware, New Jersey, and Rhode Island.

3. Brucellosis

Bovine brucellosis, caused by the bacteria *Brucella abortus*, is a serious infectious and contagious disease of livestock affecting both animals and humans. The main threat of brucellosis is to domestic cattle, bison, and swine herds. Humans may become infected by contact with infected animal tissues or ingestion of dairy foods made from unpasteurized milk from infected animals. The ultimate goal of the national Brucellosis Eradication Program is to establish a national disease-free designation for the United States domestic cattle and bison population and describe any areas where disease risks exist and are subsequently mitigated.

As of July 10, 2009, all 50 States were classified as Class Free for bovine brucellosis in domestic cattle and bison herds. In FY 2010, APHIS drafted an interim rule that provides for a national surveillance plan and embraces implementation of a risk-based disease management area concept in lieu of loss of State status. The draft interim rule is currently under review. APHIS has been working to develop a national surveillance sample collection strategy that demonstrates a disease-free status for the U.S. domestic cattle and bison herd. The goal of the national surveillance strategy is to conduct surveillance at a level to detect one brucellosis-affected animal in one million at a 95 percent confidence level. APHIS also equipped three additional State-Federal Brucellosis Laboratories and implemented a new standard testing protocol for bovine brucellosis slaughter surveillance.

During FY 2010, APHIS tested approximately 6.170 million head of cattle under the Market Cattle Identification (MCI) surveillance program and conducted approximately 400 epidemiologic investigations on suspicious MCI surveillance tests resulting in the disclosure of a single brucellosis-affected cattle herd. Industry conducts the Brucellosis Milk Surveillance Testing (BMST) surveillance in all commercial dairies a minimum of two times per year in Class Free States. They conducted approximately 114,620 BMSTs on 53,540 commercial dairy herds with no brucellosis-affected dairy herds disclosed. They also tested approximately 486,000 head of cattle on-farm for movement, private sale, herd certification, and show/exhibition purposes. Approximately 3.10 million calves were vaccinated for brucellosis and approximately 2,200 herds were certified as brucellosis certified-free cattle herds.

APHIS also developed a new action plan that will allow the Agency to effectively demonstrate the disease-free status of the United States. This new plan is based on National status-based program supported by a national surveillance strategy; enhances efforts to mitigate disease transmission from wildlife; enhances disease response and control measures; modernizes the regulatory framework to allow APHIS to address risks quickly; and implements a risk-based disease management area concept. Brucellosis in wildlife presents many challenges due to a variety of issues. Currently, the most significant challenge facing the brucellosis program is the presence of brucellosis in wildlife populations, in particular, the wild elk and bison populations in the Greater Yellowstone Area (GYA). To address these challenges, APHIS partners with several State and Federal agencies to conduct outreach, surveillance in wildlife, and monitoring of bison in the GYA. APHIS continues its partnership in the Interagency Bison Management Plan (IBMP), which is a plan intended to manage bison and is not intended to be a brucellosis eradication plan.

The Bison Quarantine Feasibility Study made the first successful transfer of bison from the project to a new conservation herd in February 2010. Montana's Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks released a cohort of 87 brucellosis-free Yellowstone bison that completed three phases of a quarantine process to Turner Enterprises Inc. in Bozeman, Montana. Montana's Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks will monitor the cohort for 5 years before they are moved to a final destination for conservation. A second cohort of 35 bison is scheduled to complete phases 2 and 3 of the study. If all bison remain brucellosis free, this cohort will be available for conservation purposes in 2011/2012.

Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming continued working on brucellosis issues. Idaho worked on habitat improvement to encourage elk to stay on traditional ranges and off cattle inhabited range, thus reducing the potential to transmit the disease from wildlife to livestock. Montana continues wildlife monitoring efforts through testing elk that were harvested through hunting. The State tested total of 781 elk during the 2009-10 Montana hunting season. Only 11 of these samples test positive for brucellosis. Wyoming coordinated efforts focusing on testing, prevention and education, including extensive work on a brucellosis video for State veterinarians, APHIS' Area Veterinarians in Charge, and other regulatory personnel. APHIS and the State tested more than 1,600 head of cattle in five herds pursuant to herd plans. The State also vaccinated 2,333 calf elk on 18 State feed grounds and the National Elk Refuge during winter 2010. Eighty-three percent of calf elk are classified as being vaccinated for brucellosis.

4. Chronic Wasting Disease

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy that affects deer, elk, and moose. The disease is typified by behavioral changes and chronic weight loss leading to death in susceptible animals. The CWD program goal is to eliminate, prevent, and control the disease in farmed/captive cervid production and to assist the States and Tribes in addressing CWD in free-ranging cervids.

APHIS works closely with States, Tribes, other Federal agencies, and industry stakeholders to maintain a coordinated approach to CWD. State and Federal agriculture agencies are responsible for safeguarding the health of domestic livestock. State and Tribal wildlife management agencies are primarily responsible for the management of free-ranging cervids. When native wildlife species such as deer and elk are farmed, the jurisdictional lines become more complex. Regulatory authority for captive cervids may lie with the State

agriculture agency, the State game or wildlife agency, or both depending on the individual State. In preparing for the implementation of a regulated national CWD program, many States established CWD surveillance and/or herd certification programs (HCPs) and import requirements for captive cervids.

APHIS developed a national HCP in consultation with States, the farmed cervid industry, and the United States Animal Health Association and published a rule in 2006. This CWD rule was challenged after its publication. APHIS delayed the implementation of the rule so the changes could be made. In March 2009, APHIS published a proposal to amend the CWD rule for public comment. APHIS collected and analyzed the public comments and is preparing final rule for clearance.

Under the proposed amended rule, farmed cervids moved interstate would have to be from CWD-certified herds that have met all Federal CWD-HCP requirements. The Federal CWD-HCP will include a process to review and approve existing State HCPs that meet the minimum standards of the national program for surveillance, inventory, identification, and fencing.

The following are selected accomplishments achieved during FY 2010.

Farmed cervids

In FY 2010, APHIS conducted CWD surveillance testing on approximately 20,000 farmed and captive cervids. This level of surveillance by State regulatory programs has been consistent over the years. It is anticipated to be maintained once the Federal HCP is implemented. In FY 2010, there were seven CWD positive herds. One new positive white-tailed deer herd was reported in Missouri in February 2010. An additional six existing positive elk herds are in Colorado.

Wild cervids

In 2010, APHIS provided cooperative agreement funding of nearly $5.2 million to 46 State agencies and approximately $590,000 to Native American Tribes in support of their CWD activities. In addition to an ongoing cooperative agreement with the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society, 34 individual Tribes received CWD assistance. This funding to States and Tribes provides for the testing of more than 94,000 wild cervids.

APHIS' National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC) continued to focus on the interface between free-ranging and captive cervids. NWRC is helping to increase our scientific knowledge and understanding to improve our ability to prevent and control CWD in both farmed and wild cervids. The focus of NWRC's research on the development of live-animal diagnostic tests such as rectal biopsy procedures, decontamination methods, and techniques is to improve the separation of wild cervids and prevent transmission of the disease to captive herds.

5. Cotton Pests

The cotton pest program involves boll weevil and pink bollworm, both of which cause damage to cotton crops by feeding on cotton squares, flowers, and young cotton bolls (fruiting structures susceptible to infestation by the boll weevil and pink bollworm). The role of the cotton pest program is to eradicate the boll weevil and pink bollworm from all cotton-producing areas of the United States and northern Mexico in cooperation with States, the cotton industry, and Mexico. The program has eradicated boll weevil from 98 percent of the 16 million acres of U.S. cotton at the close of FY 2010. Successful nationwide eradication of both pests is expected by the end of 2013. At that time, both programs will transition from eradication into long-term surveillance to prevent the reinfestation of U.S. cotton acreage and protect the investment made in this eradication effort.

The program eradicated boll weevil from the remaining active program area in Louisiana, however, a combination of storms, and drug-related violence across the border in Mexico hampered progress in the

remaining active zones in Texas. Hurricane Alex, and a second tropical depression in July, scattered weevils to weevil-free areas within the active area, and delayed or prevented survey and treatment operations on hostable cotton for an extended period of time. Storms have been a recurring problem in Southern and Eastern Texas, and are the primary reasons for the revision of the projected completion of the Texas program, and thus the entire U.S. program, from 2011 to 2013. Mexico, with technical assistance provided by APHIS, is conducting its own boll weevil eradication program in the area adjacent to the Texas Lower Rio Grande Valley. Due to the drug-related violence in Mexico, program operations were suspended in July, resulting in an increase in weevil populations, leading to weevil migration north into the Texas program area. APHIS and its Texas cooperators will continue addressing these issues in FY 2011.

In FY 2010, APHIS met its performance target of 85 percent of infested cotton acreage from which the pink bollworm has been eradicated. In FY 2010, the pink bollworm rearing facility in Phoenix, Arizona, produced and released approximately 23 million sterile moths per day. APHIS will continue to apply the effective technologies that are part of the program's operation (trapping, the production and release of sterile moths, the use of pheromone for mating disruption, and timely treatments) in FY 2011.

6. Emerging Plant Pests

The Emerging Plant Pests (EPP) line item provides APHIS with the infrastructure flexibility to carry out urgent plant pest and disease programs that are or have been partially funded through emergency funds.

For FY 2010, the EPP program's performance targets were that no more than 233 square miles would be infested with Asian Longhorned beetle (ALB) and the pale cyst nematode (PCN) program would reduce the PCN population by 40 percent. The ALB program did not meet its target as 248 square miles were infested at the end of FY 2010. The program had projected to find only 60 square miles infested in Massachusetts, and 75 were found. Although the infested area was larger than expected, the trees in the further reaches of the infested areas are far more lightly infested than those in the core. This indicates that the program is approaching the fringes of the infestation. The PCN program exceeded its target by reducing the PCN population by 90 percent in FY 2010. This occurred because the program was able to deregulate fields more rapidly than anticipated, almost doubling the number of acres that were under surveillance.

Citrus Health Response Program

The goal of the Citrus Health Response Program (CHRP) is to sustain the United States' citrus industry, maintain growers' access to export markets, and safeguard citrus-growing States from a variety of citrus diseases and pests. APHIS works with citrus States, industry stakeholders, universities, and USDA's Agricultural Research Service to develop and promote best practices for fruit and nursery stock to prevent or reduce disease spread. In addition, CHRP provides for early detection and rapid response to new citrus pest and disease threats. The program is currently addressing citrus canker in Florida; citrus greening and its vector, the Asian citrus psyllid (ACP), in a variety of States; and the FY 2010 detections of citrus black spot in Florida and sweet orange scab in Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi.

In FY 2010, APHIS continued to enforce regulations governing the movement of fresh citrus fruit, nursery stock, and other citrus products to prevent the spread of citrus canker and citrus greening outside quarantined areas. The States of Florida and Georgia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, two parishes in Louisiana, and two counties in South Carolina are quarantined due to the presence of citrus greening. APHIS also quarantined Alabama; Florida; Georgia; Guam; Hawaii; Louisiana; Mississippi; Puerto Rico; Texas; the U.S. Virgin Islands; three counties in South Carolina; portions of one county in Arizona; and three counties, as well as portions of another three counties, in California due to the presence of ACP. Citrus canker has not been detected outside of Florida. After examining the pathways through which canker spreads, APHIS modified its citrus canker regulations to allow the interstate movement of fresh fruit to all States if it is commercially packed and treated with a disinfectant. All packinghouses shipping fruit interstate must operate under a compliance agreement with APHIS to ensure that the fruit is properly treated. During the 2009-2010 shipping season, 17.9 million bushel cartons of fresh citrus fruit moved to

non-citrus States, a 1.6 percent decrease from the previous season. In addition, 12.4 million bushel cartons were exported compared to 12.5 million in FY 2009.

In response to ACP detections in California and other areas, APHIS and States increased surveillance and regulatory measures to reduce further spread. APHIS continued cooperative efforts with Mexico to suppress ACP populations along the U.S.-Mexico border. APHIS supported outreach in each citrus State and continued a national awareness campaign to reduce the sale and illegal interstate movement of citrus plants. APHIS' Smuggling Interdiction and Trade Compliance program's monitoring of internet citrus sales led to 51 seizures of citrus plants and seeds, and a recall of domestic citrus plants from quarantined areas.

APHIS confirmed the detection of two new citrus diseases in the United States in FY 2010: citrus black spot and sweet orange scab, both fungal diseases. Citrus black spot has been found in two Florida counties (Collier and Hendry), and sweet orange scab has been found in 11 counties in Texas, 15 parishes in Louisiana, and three counties in Mississippi. Surveys are continuing for both pests, and APHIS is quarantining the affected areas to prevent the artificial spread of the diseases.

Emerald Ash Borer

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an exotic forest pest that has infested and killed millions of ash trees in the United States since it entered the country. It was first found in Michigan in 2002 and has spread to 14 additional States (Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Maryland, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Missouri, Virginia, Kentucky, Minnesota, New York, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Tennessee). Because the pest infests and kills healthy ash trees, making them brittle and likely to cause public safety hazards, infested trees must be removed at a considerable expense to landowners and/or local governments. The goal of the EAB program is to prevent the human assisted spread and minimize the natural spread of EAB.

In FY 2010, surveys revealed EAB infestations in Iowa and Tennessee for the first time, as well as numerous detections in unregulated areas of previously affected States. Each of these detections resulted in APHIS' expansion of the area(s) quarantined for EAB, which is now 270,224 square miles. To prevent further artificial spread of the pest, the program regulates EAB host materials such as logs, firewood, and nursery stock. In FY 2010, APHIS maintained approximately 1,000 compliance agreements with businesses that dealt with host materials. These compliance agreements allow the program to efficiently regulate the treatment and movement of these host materials from quarantined areas. Regulatory personnel conducted numerous special operations, primarily associated with non-commercial firewood and logging activities. The program inspected firewood at large public venues and ferry operations, which were excellent opportunities for public outreach and education. EAB program management staff also held EAB workshops to educate State, tribal, municipal, and industry cooperators on reducing the spread of the pest.

The program continues to develop and deploy biological control agents for this pest, specifically focusing on three parasitic wasps that have been identified as having the potential to reduce EAB populations. In FY 2010, the program conducted trial releases of the wasps in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and West Virginia and increased production of the wasps from 19,000 in FY 2009 to more than 150,000 in FY 2010. This was the rearing facility's second year of production. The program also updated its EAB Biological Control Five-Year Plan and developed and distributed a set of EAB biological control release guidelines to cooperating States. The program is continuing work to refine rearing and release protocols for the wasps.

In FY 2010, the EAB program met its target for reducing the rate at which the size of the generally infested area increases. The target was set at 15 percent, and the actual EAB rate of spread was 4.2 percent. However, the program did not meet its target for the number of detections outside regulated areas. The program projected four detections outside regulated areas and recorded an actual number of 17 detections. This was likely the result of improvements in survey and detection tools available, greater familiarity with trap deployment protocols by program staff and cooperators, and increased public awareness of EAB signs

and symptoms and reporting procedures for suspect trees. As improvements in survey and detection tools allow the program to delimit the distribution of EAB in the United States, these detections are expected to decrease.

Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter

The Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) is a vector for Pierce's Disease (PD), which significantly threatens many California crops, including grapes, citrus, stone fruits, almonds, and alfalfa. Since FY 2000, APHIS and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) have conducted a research and control program to reduce GWSS populations without significantly impacting agricultural production areas. In FY 2010, APHIS continued working with the CDFA on a Statewide management program to minimize the impact of PD and its vectors, and reduce GWSS populations. This program has contained the GWSS within 10 California counties (Fresno, Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Tulare, and Ventura) where it is established. In FY 2010, APHIS and CDFA conducted area-wide management programs in major citrus-producing areas of Fresno, Kern, Riverside, and Tulare Counties. These programs were highly successful at suppressing GWSS populations and maintaining rejections of bulk citrus at low levels. These low rejection levels enabled citrus growers to comply with State regulations and move their products to packing houses for export. Overall in FY 2010, the program applied area-wide treatments to more than 24,000 citrus acres in Fresno, Kern, Riverside, and Tulare Counties. State officials continued to inspect nursery stock for GWSS life stages at originating and destination counties. Also in FY 2010, 6 GWSS interceptions occurred on nursery shipments, with 5 egg masses, 1 nymph, and 1 adult found among the shipments. This data compares to 23 interceptions in FY 2009 with 25 egg masses. These interceptions and egg mass finds prevent the GWSS establishment in non-infested areas, where mitigation efforts would be costly and time-consuming. The decrease in interceptions in FY 2010 is likely due to nurseries being very proactive in reducing their pest populations. More nurseries in GWSS infested areas treat their establishments entirely to remain below State GWSS trapping thresholds.

Asian Longhorned Beetle

The Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB) is a devastating pest of hardwood trees. It is a serious threat to forest resources nationwide, as roughly 30 percent of U.S. trees are potential ALB hosts. First detected in Brooklyn, New York, in August 1996, ALB was later found in other areas of New York, as well as in Illinois, New Jersey, and Massachusetts. APHIS has eradicated outbreaks in Illinois and in Jersey City, New Jersey, and is currently addressing outbreaks in New York, New Jersey, and Massachusetts with funding from the EPP line item. APHIS is also using emergency funding to address the Massachusetts outbreak.

The New York program covers most of Manhattan, parts of Brooklyn and Queens, and two areas of Long Island: Islip and an area along the Nassau-Suffolk County line. The program expects to eradicate the Islip infestation in 2011. This will be the first ALB infested area in New York to be eradicated. Activities in Manhattan have ended except for a final confirmation survey, which will begin in March 2011 and conclude in FY 2013. In FY 2010, the program continued treatments in Brooklyn and Queens, and conducted ground surveys throughout the infested areas of New York, except in Islip, where the final climbing confirmation surveys are concluding. As of December 1, 2010, one infested tree was found in Brooklyn; no other infested trees were detected in New York.

The New Jersey outbreak covers parts of Middlesex and Union Counties, as well as Staten Island in New York City. The program continued addressing this outbreak by conducting surveys and preventative treatments throughout the area. The second survey is scheduled to be completed in March 2011. In Staten Island, a small treatment area remains due to infested trees found in FY 2009. Treatments are scheduled to be completed in that area in 2011.

In Massachusetts, the program is continuing to delimit the infested area in Worcester County. Infested trees continue to be detected, but at much reduced numbers and lower infestation levels. In calendar year 2010, the program detected 2,250 infested trees in Massachusetts. The program had projected that it would find 5,000 infested trees in calendar year 2010, but the actual figure is far less. This is because trees in the further reaches of the infested areas are more lightly infested than those in the core, indicating that the program is approaching the fringes of the infestation.

In July 2010, APHIS and State officials confirmed an infestation in Boston involving six trees. The trees were removed, and the program surveyed nearly 43,000 host trees within 1.5 miles from the point of infestation. No additional infested trees were found. The quarantine area in portions of Norfolk and Suffolk Counties in the Boston area covers 10 square miles. As a result of the extensive ALB outreach efforts within Massachusetts and the New England States, this infestation was detected early, likely two years from its inception.

Pale Cyst Nematode (Globodera pallida)

Pale Cyst Nematode (PCN) (formerly referred to as the potato cyst nematode) is a major pest of potato crops in cool-temperate areas and is one of the most difficult potato pests to control. APHIS, the Idaho State Department of Agriculture, and the Idaho potato industry are continuing efforts to eradicate PCN through extensive soil survey and fumigation of infested fields (approximately 1,100 acres) in Idaho. APHIS has quarantined the infested fields, along with associated fields, since 2006 when the pest was first detected to prevent the spread of nematodes.

In FY 2010, the PCN program applied fumigants in the spring and fall to the infested fields to eradicate PCN, treating the remaining 1,100 acres. The program also conducted surveys in Idaho to support detection, delimiting, and eradication efforts. In FY 2010, the program achieved a 90 percent reduction in viable PCN populations as a result of eradication activities. APHIS and cooperators collected and processed more than 47,000 soil samples in 2010 -- all with negative results. Based on an intensive soil survey and release protocol, APHIS has been able to deregulate approximately 29,327 acres that were under surveillance because they were associated in some way with the infested fields (either because of location or the sharing of farm equipment or other items), leaving just 1,426 acres under quarantine or regulation. In FY 2010, APHIS also continued the national PCN detection survey in Idaho and in 17 other States focusing on seed potato acreage. The program is collecting and processing approximately 39,000 soil samples. PCN has not been detected outside of the current eradication area in Idaho or within any other State in the United States. The projected date for the eradication of this pest is FY 2013.

Phytophthora ramorum

Phytophthora ramorum (P. ramorum) is a plant pathogen that causes Sudden Oak Death and several other plant diseases. Since FY 2002, this program has protected the nation's landscape and safeguarded several industries from enormous potential losses. In FY 2010, APHIS continued a regulatory and control program to prevent the artificial spread of *P. ramorum* through inter-State shipment of host plants from California, Oregon, and Washington and to reduce nursery infection levels. To achieve this goal, APHIS works with officials in the three States to establish quarantines and require nursery inspections before host plants may be shipped interstate. These activities minimize the artificial spread of *P. ramorum* through nursery shipments, while allowing the movement of healthy plants. In FY 2010, this program worked with the nursery industry to reduce the presence of the disease in the nursery system. The program detected 22 infested nurseries in California, Oregon, and Washington, compared to 15 in FY 2009. The detections were higher in 2010 due to wetter conditions caused by higher rainfall. APHIS and State and university cooperators also found SOD in nurseries in six eastern States. When *P. ramorum* is found in a nursery outside of California, Oregon, and Washington, the nursery is placed under quarantine and all infected plant material is destroyed. Extensive surveys and traceforward and traceback activities are then conducted to ensure that the organism has been eliminated before the nursery may resume shipping plant materials. Also in FY 2010, APHIS continued to support the development, communication, and implementation of

best management practices in nurseries within California and Oregon. This effort will help nurseries reduce the risk of *P. ramorum* introduction and establishment and, thus, artificial movement of disease. This program measures performance by tracking the number of certified nurseries in the three States that fail recertification inspections by APHIS. The program did not meet its target of 12 nurseries (22 were actually found to be infested) due to wetter conditions. However, the program met its target regarding trace forward incidence, as two positive sites were traced back to a certified nursery within the regulated area. This was due to inspection programs that reduced the artificial movement of the disease.

Karnal Bunt

The goal of the Karnal Bunt (KB) program is to retain U. S. wheat export markets while protecting U. S. wheat production areas that are free of KB and facilitating wheat movement into domestic and international markets. This program provides survey and treatment options that lessen the impact of KB on affected parties and promote the flow of pertinent disease information to reassure trading partners about the safety of U. S. wheat exports. APHIS works with State cooperators to collect wheat samples at harvest or from wheat storage facilities. In addition, the program monitors the cleaning and disinfection of the equipment used to harvest, transport, or process wheat within a regulated area. The program released the remaining 17,755 acres from quarantine in Texas in FY 2010, and the remaining 17,827 acres quarantined in California in early FY 2011. In Arizona, the regulatory and eradication program is ongoing and the program removed 18,407 acres from quarantine in FY 2010, leaving 232,807 acres still under quarantine.

Sirex

APHIS continued efforts to develop a biological control program targeting *Sirex noctilio*, an exotic wood-boring wasp that attacks a variety of pine species. In FY 2010, the *Sirex* program continued field and laboratory studies to evaluate the nematode *Beddingia siricidicola*, as a biological control agent of *Sirex noctilio* and potential non-target effects from the biocontrol agent. APHIS and the U.S. Forest Service conducted a field test of the nematode in FY 2010 and are working to develop a plan for an environmental release of the agent in Syracuse, New York. In FY 2010, survey efforts focused on States at the leading edge of distribution including Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey, and Vermont.

Light Brown Apple Moth

The Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM) is an invasive pest that multiplies rapidly and can attack more than 2,000 types of plants and trees throughout the United States. The potential national production loss in LBAM-risk areas ranges between $700 million and $1.6 billion dollars in value annually. In March 2010, APHIS and the California Department of Food and Agriculture announced a major program shift from eradication to suppression and control of LBAM. The revised program involves control activities to limit LBAM's natural spread and regulatory activities to prevent artificial spread. These activities maintain trade and interstate commerce and ensure that the program is consistent with standards for protecting human health and the environment. Meanwhile, APHIS is continuing to develop a sterile moth rearing and release program to suppress the LBAM population. In FY 2010, the program continued Statewide surveys, treatments to eradicate outlying infestations and suppress the leading edges of infestations, continued regulatory enforcement, and enhanced public outreach efforts. In addition, the program carried out a national survey in 21 States plus Guam, Puerto Rico, and American Samoa. The survey found no detections outside the regulated areas in California and Hawaii (Hawaii is regulated because of the lack of data on the distribution of LBAM there). This program measures performance by tracking LBAM spread beyond the generally infested area. In FY 2010, the program found three new isolated populations in three new counties. This compares to detections found in six new counties in FY 2009 (five of the counties had new isolated populations, and the remaining county, had a single moth, which does not qualify as a new population).

Critical Invasive Pest Response (formerly referred to as Miscellaneous Pests)

The EPP line item also includes approximately $2 million to control or eradicate invasive plant pests that are not specifically identified elsewhere in the APHIS budget. In FY 2010, APHIS conducted activities to address 26 invasive pests, diseases, and weeds. Examples include European grapevine moth (EGVM), cactus moth, laurel wilt, black stem rust, and small hive beetle. APHIS used a portion of these funds to support its initial response to EGVM, a serious pest of grapes that was detected in California in fall 2009. Working with cooperators in California, the program conducted initial delimiting surveys and an outreach campaign to involve affected grape producers in treatment efforts. APHIS also removed cactus moth-infested *Opuntia* cacti from Gulf Coast States to stop the pest's westward spread into the southwestern United States and Mexico. If the moth spreads to western desert ecosystems and Mexico, more than 80 native *Opuntia* species are at risk, threatening crucial sources of food, medicine and emergency fodder, as well as affecting the arid ecosystem in this part of the world. Laurel Wilt is a disease transmitted by the Redbay Ambrosia Beetle that kills bay laurel and avocado trees. APHIS surveyed for the disease in avocado production areas in Florida, funded methods development to identify management solutions, and assisted in outreach initiatives to inform growers about the disease. Black or wheat stem rust is a serious fungal disease of wheat and barley. Scientists observed a new and more virulent strain of the fungus that can overcome resistance genes in wheat, which are in 80 percent of the world's commercial wheat varieties. Although this strain has yet to be detected in the United States, studies indicate that it will eventually arrive, significantly threatening U.S. wheat and barley production. APHIS supported the development of training to identify black stem rust and alternate hosts of the disease. APHIS also developed and distributed outreach materials to educate and inform the growing community of this serious pathogen. To compliment the national honeybee survey, scientists including APHIS and ARS along with apiary inspectors and university scientists conducted surveys for the small hive beetle to determine the pest's distribution. The information gathered from these surveys will help APHIS determine how it may contribute to honeybee health.

7. Golden Nematode

The golden nematode (GN) is one of the world's most damaging potato pests. APHIS works to prevent potatoes and other solanaceous plants from being infested with GN and to control the pest in known infested areas. GN was first detected in the United States in 1941 in Nassau County on Long Island, New York, and was subsequently found in eight other New York counties. For more than 60 years, an effective Federal and State quarantine program has confined the pest to nine counties in New York. If GN were to become widely established in U.S. potato, tomato, and eggplant production areas, annual crop losses could reach $4.8 billion. The program facilitates international and interstate agricultural shipments by strictly enforcing quarantine requirements and maintaining a risk-based management system. The cooperative State-Federal program has protected the United States and nearly all of New York State from trade restrictions. Annually, potato, tomato, and eggplant crops contribute $80 million to New York's economy and $5.7 billion to the nation's economy.

The GN program conducts an annual State-wide survey of all potato production areas in New York, enabling the export and interstate shipment of a variety of agricultural products. In FY 2010, the program collected approximately 4,000 soil samples from 1,200 acres in New York. There were no new detections of the nematode in 2010. The APHIS GN laboratory in Ithaca, New York, also provides assistance to other eastern States by examining soil samples collected by those States to confirm the absence of potato cyst nematodes.

The control of GN is achieved through the systematic growing of nematode resistant potato varieties, which is mandated by New York Department of Agriculture and Markets. APHIS conducts soil surveys to ensure the crop rotation system is effective. Development of new nematode resistant potato varieties is supported by funding from APHIS, USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS), New York State, and Cornell University. Growers now have 46 nematode resistant potato varieties from which to choose – with a new variety, "Red Maria," introduced this year.

Currently, approximately 5,700 acres are regulated in the State of New York, of which 136 are infested with a second GN strain, known as race (Ro) 2, which was first detected in 1995. There are currently no potato varieties that have full resistance to Ro2. Efforts are underway to increase the number of potato varieties that are resistant to both races, Ro1 and Ro2. Use of resistant varieties is preferable to chemical nematicides, which have several negative aspects. Cornell University and ARS are continuing research to develop Ro2 resistant varieties and will be testing several in FY 2011. In FY 2010, after soil sampling to determine where treatments were needed, the program fumigated three potato fields infested with live GN race Ro2. Fumigation will reduce the population below detection levels. With the combined efforts of crop rotation, resistant varieties, and appropriate best management practices, a field could be declared eradicated over a certain time period (still being determined).

Additionally, APHIS prevents GN movement by strictly enforcing regulations that require cleaning of all equipment that comes into contact with soil in infested areas. The program works cooperatively with growers and the State to ensure farm equipment, potato shipments and all regulated articles are treated and certified to prevent nematode spread while allowing production to continue with minimal interruption. In FY 2010, the program exceeded its target for regulatory treatments by conducting regulatory treatments on 1,121 pieces of used farm and construction equipment.

In FY 2010, the program continued the process of deregulating crop land that is eligible under the new U.S.-Canada Guidelines on Surveillance and Phytosanitary Action for Potato Cyst Nematodes. This bilateral agreement outlines phytosanitary and survey requirements for continued and safe trade of seed potatoes between both countries. It also addresses deregulation protocols that need to be followed by each country and its respective cyst nematode programs. Special intensive soil surveys for the purpose of deregulation began on land in upstate New York began in FY 2009 and continued in FY 2010.

8. Grasshopper and Mormon Cricket

This program helps Federal, State, and private landowners in 17 western States manage grasshopper and Mormon cricket damage on rangeland by providing information about population levels, conducting treatments where possible, and providing technical assistance. Although grasshoppers and Mormon crickets are natural components of the rangeland ecosystem, their populations can reach outbreak levels and cause serious economic losses to U.S. agricultural resources, especially when accompanied by a drought. Grasshoppers feed on grass, and can also devastate crops such as alfalfa, wheat, barley, and corn, which are already under stress during a drought. The value of these losses is based on many factors, including the economic use of available forage or crops; grasshopper species; age and density present; rangeland productivity and composition; accessibility and cost of alternate forage; and weather patterns. Despite the best land management efforts, grasshopper infestations often cover vast acreage, and landowners may need Federal support to control them. The Plant Protection Act requires that APHIS pay for the full cost of treatments on Federal lands, 50 percent of treatment costs on State lands, and one-third of treatment costs on private lands.

The program conducts surveys to determine the extent of grasshopper infestations and the need for suppression treatments. These surveys are conducted in the spring to identify possible treatment areas and in the fall to determine which areas may have high populations the next year. Based on the large number of grasshoppers present at the end of the summer of 2009, widespread outbreaks were expected in FY 2010 especially in the Great Plain States of Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming. The program conducted follow-up surveys to pinpoint areas that would have outbreaks and worked with State and Federal land managers and private landowners to address them where needed through treatments conducted with emergency funds. In FY 2010, APHIS treated 1.3 million acres of rangeland, which protected forage on 2.2 million acres. The grasshopper and Mormon cricket program met its performance target for FY 2010 of conducting surveys in all 17 States affected by these insects.

9. Gypsy Moth

Gypsy Moth is a destructive insect of trees and shrubs. The goal of the program is to prevent and limit human-assisted spread beyond the quarantine area through an active regulatory program. In FY 2010, APHIS and its State cooperators continued to conduct survey activities for both Asian and European gypsy moth to detect and delimit any isolated populations. As part of these efforts, the program deployed approximately 244,000 traps nationwide. Asian gypsy moth (AGM) is not established in the United States, and FY 2010 survey activities resulted in no new detections of this pest. APHIS assembled a technical working group in January 2010 to recommend actions for addressing the FY 2009 AGM detections in California. Based on the working group's recommendations, the program continued trapping at higher levels around the detections and nearby port.

The European gypsy moth (EGM) is established in all or parts of 19 eastern States and the District of Columbia. APHIS and State cooperators conduct regulatory activities within the quarantine area to prevent the human-assisted spread of the pest. These efforts include inspection, treatment, and certification of regulated articles such as logs, nursery stock, and mobile homes for movement from quarantine to non-quarantine (non-infested) areas. Outdoor household articles, such as lawn furniture, are also regulated.

The EGM also spreads each year by natural movement into areas bordering the quarantined zone. APHIS monitors the transition zone along the 1,200 mile-long border of the quarantine area to ensure that newly infested areas are added to the quarantined zone and regulated effectively. In FY 2010, two new counties (both in Ohio) were found to be infested and added to the quarantined area. This action allows APHIS and State cooperators to ensure that businesses and residents in the newly infested areas comply with regulations designed to prevent long-distance spread of the pest.

To address a particularly high-risk pathway for AGM, the program continued cooperative offshore risk-reduction activities with the Russian Department of Forestry and Department of Quarantine. Vessels departing for the United States from nine Russian ports are inspected for gypsy moth, and those found to have egg masses are cleaned before they leave the port. In FY 2010, ship inspection and cleaning began in South Korea and Japan as well. APHIS monitors the effectiveness of those efforts through DNA analysis of all AGMs detected on ships and land in the United States. APHIS expects ship inspections to begin in China in 2012.

10. Imported Fire Ant

Imported Fire Ant (IFA) are a major public nuisance because of their ferocious sting and aggressive behavior, and the damage they can inflict on several agricultural commodities. The IFA program works to prevent the human-assisted spread of IFA by enforcing the Federal quarantine and working with infested States to regulate host materials such as nursery stock and soil-moving equipment. APHIS evaluates the efficacy of regulatory treatments for preventing IFA spread and works with States, industry, and other Federal agencies to develop insecticides and biological control agents. The IFA infests more than 320 million acres in Puerto Rico and the following 14 States: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia. Each of these States/territories is under Federal quarantine.

In FY 2010, the program conducted several regulatory blitzes (concentrated efforts to inspect host materials in a certain area over a short period of time) to ensure that regulated articles leaving the quarantine area had been properly treated accordance to APHIS regulations. These regulations, which require that host materials from infested areas be certified free of IFA, are the primary method of preventing the pest's spread. APHIS coordinated the blitzes with North Carolina and Tennessee (States on the leading edge of the infestation). In addition, APHIS and its cooperators continued a biological control project using several species of phorid flies. With the successful establishment of multiple species of these flies, it is expected that they should reduce IFA populations and allow native ants to compete for resources, thus helping to restore ecological balance. USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) continued exploration for

additional fly species and development of rearing and release techniques. Since the spring of 2002, 117 releases involving three species of phorid flies have been completed or scheduled with several releases in each of the 14 States/territory under Federal quarantine. Two species of flies are established in the southeastern States and have spread over more than 50 percent of the fire ant regulated area. Phorid flies cover approximately 270,000 square miles. The program plans to release a fourth species in calendar year 2011, and ultimately plans to introduce a total of six to eight species of flies.

In FY 2010, APHIS met the performance target of no IFA infestations outside of regulated areas that could be attributed to regulated articles infested with fire ants. APHIS expects to maintain the zero infestation level for the future.

11. Johne's Disease

Johne's disease is a chronic, infectious, and usually fatal intestinal disease of cattle that also occurs in sheep, goats, and deer. It is widely distributed throughout the world. First discovered domestically in 1908, it is now found in all regions of the United States. Based on a survey of environmental samples, the 2007 National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS) Dairy study found that approximately 68 percent of U. S. dairy farms are affected by Johne's disease. The goal of the Johne's Disease Program, through the Voluntary Bovine Johne's Disease Control Program (VBJDCP), has been to contain and reduce the prevalence of Johne's disease in the United States through voluntary certification of test-negative herds and disease management to help herds achieve disease freedom.

There is no effective treatment for Johne's disease. Cattle in infected herds usually belong in one of four categories: (1) infected animals that are clinically sick, shedding large numbers of bacteria; (2) infected animals with no signs of disease, but shedding bacteria; (3) infected animals that are not shedding; and (4) non-infected animals. Nationally, the cost of Johne's disease to dairy producers has been estimated at $200 million per year in lost milk production, veterinary costs, and early culling of livestock. Johne's disease costs in beef herds are undetermined.

In cooperation with States, affected industries, and producers, APHIS recently updated a National Johne's Disease Strategic Plan to help reduce the prevalence of the disease in the United States. The revised strategic plan proposes to continue the VBJDCP, which provides testing guidelines for States to use to identify cattle herds at low risk for Johne's disease infection. However, it also recommends that APHIS shift its focus to nationally coordinated education efforts, research and field study projects. By adjusting its focus from field support to education and research priorities, APHIS can leverage minimal resources to provide maximum benefit to cooperators.

In FY 2010, 49 States and Puerto Rico were in compliance with national program standards, with the program goal being 50 States enrolled. The program did revise the Uniform Program Standards for the VBJDCP, which changed how herds are classified and made compliance with the herd management portion of the program easier. The NAHMS 2007 study showed that 35 percent of dairy herds either participated in a custom Johne's disease control program or participated in the VBJDCP. In FY 2010, VBJDCP enrollment numbers declined for a second time since the program's inception. By the end of the reporting period for FY 2010, 5,041 herds were enrolled in the program compared to the program's peak of more than 8,500 herds in FY 2007.

FY 2010 was the last year APHIS supported the national demonstration project. In FY 2003, the program implemented pilot studies focusing on current testing schemes and control methods in each region of the country. Sixteen States were involved in this project, encompassing 63 dairy herds and 23 beef herds. To date, 25 papers have been published in peer reviewed journals, and 119 presentations have been made as a result of these studies. In addition, the herd demonstration projects have resulted in 183 producer or veterinary seminars and 15 papers in non-peer reviewed publications. At least nine additional projects have been started using national demonstration herds as the setting for additional studies. The last year of funding for data collection for the national Johne's disease demonstration herd project was in FY 2009. APHIS continued supporting data analysis and publishing the results in conclusion in FY 2010.

12. Noxious Weeds

The Noxious Weed program works with State cooperators to contain or eradicate noxious weed infestations. In addition, it provides these cooperators with national guidance on weed management policy by developing control methods and conducting environmental assessments of treatment options. APHIS also evaluates weeds for potential addition to the Federal Noxious Weeds (FNW) list.

In FY 2010, APHIS responded to new infestations of Mile-a-minute weed *(Mikania micrantha*) in Florida and Branched broomrape *(Orobanche ramose)* in California. The program worked to eradicate other weeds such as Benghal dayflower and tropical soda apple in southern States; hogweed and goatsrue in New York; giant salvinia and hydrilla in Arizona, California, Louisiana, and Texas; Japanese dodder in California; hydrilla in Kansas; cogongrass in Tennessee; and onionweed in Arizona. APHIS also continued working with the Nez Perce Bio-Control Center in Idaho in FY 2010 to provide technology transfer workshops, and biological control agents to cooperators. The program targeted eight weed species, including yellow star thistle, spotted knapweed, and purple loosestrife.

In addition, APHIS revised the weed regulations by clarifying the weed regulation process, adding a treatment requirement for niger and cumin seeds, and adding regulations for seven new species. APHIS added the following species to the FNW: prickly acacia *(Acacia nilotica)*, found in the Caribbean; mistflower (*Ageratina riparia*), found in Hawaii; capeweed *(Arctotheca calendula)*, found in California; false caper *(Euphorbia terracina)*, found in California; British yellowhead *(Inula britannica)*, found in Michigan; Stemless thistle *(Onopordum acaulon)* and Illyrian thistle (*Onopordum Illyricum)*, found in California; maidenhair creeper *(Lygodium flexuosum)*, which is not known to exist in the United States; and old world climbing fern *(L. microphyllum)*, found in Florida. In addition, the lab revised the Pest Risk Analysis tool used to evaluate weed invasiveness. This tool, which supports decision-making and rulemaking, will soon be ready for program use. A manuscript describing the tool and the validation process is under review before being published in a scientific journal.

APHIS continued working with the Federal Interagency Committee for the Management of Noxious and Exotic Weeds to create partnerships to address invasive weeds. In 2010, APHIS funded projects in five States involving giant hogweed, wavyleaf basket grass, common crupina , hydrilla, fireweed, and Miconia. The program also assisted the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in its DNA barcode program, which involves sequencing genes from grass species and developing barcodes to allow for quick identification.

To measure progress, this program tracks acres infested and treated for several weed species, including cogongrass in Mississippi and tropical soda apple in Alabama. Full season data on this prorgam's measures will be available in January.

13. Plum Pox

Plum Pox Virus (PPV) is a viral disease that attacks several Prunus species, including peaches, apricots, plums, and nectarines, and seriously threatens the nation's stone fruit industry, which was valued at $1.4 billion in 2009. PPV significantly reduces fruit production and quality in infected trees, and international trading partners refuse fruit from infected regions. The program seeks to mitigate and eradicate PPV outbreaks in the United States by regulating nursery materials, conducting field surveys, and eliminating infected trees in nurseries and orchards. In FY 2010, the program addressed outbreaks in New York and continued monitoring in Pennsylvania and Michigan, after declaring eradication in both States in 2009.

In New York, crews collected and processed 250,746 samples from orchard and homeowner surveys in Monroe, Niagara, Orleans, and Wayne Counties. The program conducted additional orchard surveys in the Finger Lakes area, the Hudson Valley, and on the production sites located on Long Island. The surveys resulted in continued detections in Niagara County, where 2 growers had infected trees in their orchard

blocks. One of the positive sites was located on a previously positive farm in Niagara County. The other detection was a new infected site detected within 3 miles of the closest positive site. In response to these finds, the program has removed all trees that were infected or in the buffer zone and is continuing intensive survey in these areas as well as areas in Orleans and Wayne counties where PPV positive trees were found within the last three years.

In Pennsylvania, crews collected and processed 75,769 samples with no positive results from orchards, nurseries, and homeowner sites within 25 miles of the last known infected sites as well as other areas of the State. In Michigan, the program collected and processed 13,395 samples with no positive results. These FY 2010 surveys mark the first year of post-eradication monitoring after eradication was declared in the two States. Scientific protocol requires 3 consecutive years of a reduced monitoring survey before nursery stock production can resume. This monitoring survey is required to ensure that latent virus is not lurking in the area to provide a source of re-infection or spread to other areas through nursery stock produced from the area.

Post-eradication monitoring will continue in Pennsylvania and Michigan for an additional 2 years. Intensive Statewide survey will need to continue in New York in all of the Prunus production areas for an additional year to ensure that all infected areas are well defined.

14. Pseudorabies

Pseudorabies Virus (PRV) is a herpes virus that causes reproductive, respiratory and neurological disease in swine. Depending on the age of the swine at time of infection, disease symptoms vary. Swine that survive PRV become lifelong virus carriers. Other species including dogs, cats, cattle and sheep can also become infected with PRV. Species other than swine usually die shortly after infection. The virus does not affect humans.

Prior to 2004, the virus was a severe disease of U.S. swine herds. To combat the disease, the USDA, States and industry established an eradication program. In 2004 the U.S. commercial swine herd was declared PRV free. The virus continues to be a threat to commercial herds, however, because it still exists in feral swine. The number of feral swine in the United States continues to expand causing increased disease threats to commercial swine herds.

APHIS is implementing new surveillance methods to assist rapid disease detection in commercial herds. In FY 2010, APHIS began the expansion of surveillance in diagnostic laboratories. Select diagnostic laboratories now have the ability to strategically test qualifying submissions for PRV as a risk-based surveillance method. This risk-based testing enables APHIS to provide more information and assurance to stakeholders that the U.S. commercial swine herd remains PRV free. Additionally, the revised surveillance methods enable APHIS to provide more assurance to industry that if disease was introduced in the commercial herd, it would be identified in a timely manner. In FY 2010, APHIS tested more than 10,000 samples for PRV in select diagnostic laboratories for the new surveillance program. APHIS did not detect PRV in the U.S. commercial herd in FY 2010.

15. Scrapie

Scrapie is a fatal, degenerative, infectious disease affecting the central nervous system of sheep and goats. The purpose of the National Scrapie Eradication Program is to eradicate classical scrapie from the United States quickly and efficiently. This allows the United States to open up export markets for both live animals and animal products, prevent losses in productivity, and protect the U.S. sheep and goat industry from the risk that scrapie will be perceived as a human health risk, or a threat to wildlife. The industry loss due to classical scrapie is estimated to be $10 to $20 million annually, not including lost market opportunities due to export restrictions. Eradication of nonclassical, Nor98-like scrapie is no longer an objective of the program. This is consistent with scientific information that has been developed regarding Nor98-like scrapie in recent years and with the guidance adopted by the World Organization for Animal

Health (OIE) in May 2009. Unlike classical scrapie, Nor98-like scrapie appears to occur sporadically and is either not transmissible or poorly transmissible under natural conditions. Nor98-like scrapie is not listed by the OIE as a disease of trade concern.

During FY 2010, 24 new infected or source flocks in 11 States were identified. This represents a 37 percent reduction in the number of new infected and source flocks identified compared to FY 2009. Twenty-one new or previously existing infected or source flocks completed flock cleanup plans. Seven infected or source flocks located in 9 States remained on cleanup plans at the end of FY 2010. Upon completion of the cleanup plan, flocks are placed on post-exposure management and monitoring plans for five years.

Black-face sheep have much higher classical scrapie prevalence than white-face or mottled-face sheep, making them the best population for readily assessing progress. In FY 2010, the percent of black-face sheep found positive at slaughter continued to decrease to 0.09 percent. This measure of prevalence has decreased 90 percent since slaughter surveillance started in FY 2003. The FY 2010 estimated prevalence of classical scrapie in the U.S. cull sheep population as a whole was 0.03 percent, a decrease of 85 percent from the estimate conducted during 2002 and 2003 as part of the Scrapie Ovine Slaughter Surveillance Study.

The scrapie program requires certain sheep and goats to be officially identified to move in interstate commerce. As of September 30, 2010, the program had issued official ear tags to 123,619 sheep and goat producers (up 8.2 percent from FY 2009).

During FY 2010, the program sampled 47,584 animals for scrapie testing. This total exceeded the targeted number of 46,000. In addition to larger Regulatory Scrapie Slaughter Surveillance collection sites, sample collection has increased at low volume plants because of APHIS' Small Plants Initiative through contracts with establishments either to ship animal heads to a centralized collection facility or to collect samples on-site. As a result of this initiative, industry collected samples at 78 new slaughter plants in FY 2010. These efforts have enabled collection of samples from a larger geographic area, and allowed APHIS to sample new sheep populations.

The Scrapie "free" Flock Certification Program (SFCP), which began in 1992, is a voluntary program. The program provides participating producers with the opportunity to protect their animals from scrapie and to enhance the marketability of their animals by certifying their origin in scrapie-free flocks. The program was modified in July 2007 to add an export monitored category that meets the current OIE standards for export. There are currently 1,630 flocks enrolled in the SFCP, and of these 589 are certified as scrapie-free and 52 are exported monitored. Although the total number of producers enrolled in the SFCP has decreased, the number enrolled in the export monitored category continues to increase, up 11 percent from FY 2009.

In FY 2010, APHIS entered into a four year cooperative agreement with the Navajo Nation to educate their sheep and goat producers about the scrapie eradication program and to conduct scrapie surveillance and sheep and goat identification monitoring and compliance activities. Approximately 8 percent of U.S. sheep flocks and about 3 percent of U.S. goat herds reside within the Navajo Nation. This agreement will significantly enhance our ability to assist these producers to identify and eliminate scrapie if present in these flocks.

16. Tuberculosis

Bovine tuberculosis (TB) is a contagious and infectious disease. Although cattle are considered to be the true hosts of the disease, it has been reported in several other species of both domestic and non domestic animals, as well as in humans. The TB eradication program continues to make significant progress, markedly decreasing the prevalence of the disease. However, the goal of eradication remains elusive as animal health officials continue to detect TB sporadically in U.S. livestock herds.

In October 2009, APHIS published a concept paper titled, "A New Approach for Managing Bovine Tuberculosis: Veterinary Services' Proposed Action Plan," in the *Federal Register*. APHIS reviewed comments from the concept paper and this information is the basis for modifying the current TB program. APHIS is currently revising the existing bovine TB regulations to construct a TB program that protects the health of U.S. livestock and is responsive, timely, and cost-effective. The development of the proposed TB regulation is expected to take approximately two years and will require ongoing engagement with a wide group of internal and external stakeholders to obtain input on the proposed strategies, program standards, surveillance plans, and other policy concepts before publishing any proposed regulations and throughout the regulatory process. Because the bovine brucellosis program is undergoing similar changes and several objectives described in the concept papers were common among both programs, APHIS has formed a joint working group to discuss overarching regulatory concepts for both the TB and brucellosis programs. This working group is composed of State, Federal, and Tribal representatives. The working group held a kick-off meeting on September 21-22, 2010, and is continuing their work through weekly conference calls.

During FY 2010, APHIS continued to implement a policy adopted in July 2009, where the use of Federal funding to depopulate entire TB-affected herds and indemnify herd owners would no longer be recommended as the primary management option. Rather, the approach will be based on the circumstances surrounding each herd. APHIS will implement whole-herd depopulation when the data indicate that other options will not mitigate disease spread, an imminent public or animal health risk exists, or it is financially beneficial to do so. Otherwise, APHIS proposes to manage specific TB-affected herds under a test-and-remove policy, in which animals on an affected farm are placed under quarantine and repeatedly tested for TB. The herd will be released from quarantine when there is a high level of confidence that the herd is free of TB.

On April 15, 2010, APHIS issued a Federal Order to initiate other urgently needed changes. Using this Federal Order, APHIS suspended the enforcement of 9 CFR 77.7(c) (depopulation requirements) in accredited free (AF) zones and States, and 9 CFR 77.10 (uniform methods and rules for interstate movement) for modified accredited advanced (MAA) zones and States. APHIS will continue to enforce all other existing requirements. The Federal Order resulted in the following changes to the TB program: (1) APHIS will not downgrade an accredited-free State or zone, or any part of that State or zone, where TB affected herds are confirmed, as long as the State or zone meets the certain criteria for controlling the disease; (2) Cattle and bison that are not known to be infected with or exposed to TB may be moved interstate from modified accredited advanced States or zones without restriction for TB; (3) the APHIS Administrator may require increased surveillance in part or all of a State or zone or may require movement restrictions to address risks from TB in wildlife or under other circumstances to prevent the spread of TB.

The TB program has five State classifications in order from highest status to lowest status: AF, MAA, modified accredited (MA), accreditation preparatory (AP), and non-accredited (NA). A lower ranking translates into a higher rate of TB prevalence within the State, and more restrictive movement requirements. At the end of FY 2010, 46 States, two Territories and three zones were TB AF for TB in cattle and bison, including Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. California was MAA, and three States had split-State status. New Mexico has AF and MAA status. Michigan has AF, MAA and MA status. In December 2009, APHIS published an interim rule that advanced six counties in the western portion of Michigan's current MA zone to MAA status. Minnesota was upgraded from MAA and MA to AF and MAA status on October 1, 2010. All States and territories have MA status for captive cervids.

Thirteen affected herds were detected during FY 2010, including eleven beef and two dairy herds. These herds are located in Colorado (1 dairy, 1 beef), Kentucky (1 beef), Michigan (5 beef), Mississippi (1 beef), Nebraska (1 beef), Ohio (1 dairy), and South Dakota (2 beef). Seven (54 percent) of the TB-affected herds identified this year (1 dairy and 6 beef herds) were detected as a result of slaughter surveillance and subsequent epidemiologic investigations, demonstrating the integral role of slaughter surveillance in the TB program.

A total of nine cattle herds were depopulated with Federal indemnity, and the decision to depopulate or utilize a test and removal plan is pending for two beef herds. One Michigan beef herd in the MA zone is under test-and-remove management. An affected Ohio dairy herd undergoing dispersal was identified as affected with TB. At the time of detection the herd had been mostly dispersed, however, following detection the remaining cattle were sent to slaughter. One Michigan dairy is continuing under a test-and-remove herd plan from 2004; the herd was scheduled for quarantine release in FY 2009 but an infected animal was detected during routine testing. Two California dairies and one Nebraska beef herd under test-and-remove herd plans were released from quarantine during FY 2010. Two captive cervid herds detected in FY 2009 remain under quarantine in the MA (bovine) zone of Michigan.

Slaughter surveillance for bovine TB continued to exceed national goals in FY 2010. For the period October 1, 2009, through September 30, 2010, 10,914 samples were submitted for diagnostic testing. Eight confirmed cases of TB were identified in cattle in U.S. slaughter plants during the year, and seven of the TB-affected herds identified this year (1 dairy and 6 beef herds) were detected as a result of slaughter surveillance and subsequent epidemiologic investigations to trace the slaughter cases to their herd of origin.

17. Wildlife Services Operations

APHIS prevents or reduces conflicts between people and wildlife. State agencies, county and municipal governments, private homeowners, farmers, ranchers, and other property owners rely on our expertise to help prevent, minimize, and manage wildlife damage. This damage affects agriculture, property, human health and public safety, and natural resources. Our efforts support American agriculture with an emphasis on rural communities.

Beaver Damage

APHIS conducts Statewide beaver damage management programs in 39 States. In North Carolina, the Agency administered the Beaver Management Assistance Program (BMAP), which includes protecting the State's highway system from flooding caused by beaver activities as well as flooding and health and safety concerns caused by beaver on privately owned lands in 41 counties. Funding for this cost-share program comes from State, Federal, county and private landowners with the Federal government funding about 10 percent of total program costs. Some examples of the beaver damage management include saving the North Carolina Department of Transportation, municipalities, counties and private landowners an estimated $6.2 million or $3.75 for every $1 spent. During FY 2010, APHIS removed 164 beaver dams and provided assistance to prevent property damage in Virginia, and to protect transportation infrastructure from flooding, which resulted in a $7.2:1 benefit to cost ratio. In Mississippi, the Agency administered its Beaver Control Assistance Program which, included 43 participating counties, and conducted beaver damage management activities on 790 individual properties throughout the State. In Wisconsin, APHIS conducted beaver management in parts of the State to protect roads, timber, and valuable/sensitive ecosystems, including 14 old growth forest/sensitive habitat sites and 1,500 miles of trout streams. APHIS removed more than 950 beaver dams by hand or explosives. APHIS also partnered with the Ojibwa Tribes of Northern Wisconsin to reduce beaver damage to trout streams and wild rice habitats, which are of great cultural importance to First Nation communities in that State.

Airport Safety

Wildlife strikes cost commercial aviation nearly $700 million annually in the United States and approximately $1.2 billion annually worldwide. Through cooperative agreements in FY 2010, APHIS worked with 822 airports and airbases nationwide to mitigate wildlife hazards. APHIS also continued several management programs at 81 Department of Defense airbases across the nation and in Iraq and Afghanistan that reduced wildlife strikes to military aircraft.

Invasive Species

The Brown Tree Snake (BTS) has eliminated 10 of the 12 native bird species and most lizard species and bat species on the island of Guam. The BTS is responsible for large economic losses from damaged electrical substations and resultant power outages, and poses hazards to human safety from bites. APHIS continued to prevent the unintentional introduction of the BTS from Guam to other Pacific Islands, Hawaii, and the continental United States in FY 2010. The Agency intercepted 24,798 BTS on Guam at or near ports of exit. APHIS' work with Department of Defense export processes has improved access, tracking, and inspection procedures of all outbound cargo and vessels.

Feral swine pose substantial damage and disease concerns throughout most of the United States, with range expansion and population growth becoming an increasing management challenge. This species occupies parts of 35 States, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam. Currently, feral swine population in the United States is estimated to be 4-5 million animals. Feral swine cause an estimated $800 million in damage, but many believe the extent of feral swine-related damage is significantly underestimated. Management strategies and activities included lethal removal via trapping, shooting, and aerial operations, which led to the removal of more than 29,217 feral swine in 31 States during FY 2010.

18. Witchweed

Since 1957, APHIS has worked with cooperators in North and South Carolina to eradicate witchweed and eliminate its threat to the $50 billion corn and sorghum crop in the United States. Although the large number of acres involved and the high seed production of this pest have made eradication a slow process, the program has eradicated witchweed from 99 percent of the infested land. Once all visible signs of witchweed in a field are removed, the program places the field in a "release category" for 10 years because witchweed seeds can remain in the soil long after the plant has been removed. If no additional witchweed plants are found in that field within those 10 years, that field will be removed from the program (terminated). If witchweed were to spread throughout the Corn Belt, crop yields for corn and sorghum would decrease by 10 percent. This program also prevents U.S. commodities impacted by witchweed from facing restrictions in the global marketplace.

In FY 2010, APHIS continued providing financial and technological support to the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to help it eradicate infested acres, conduct post-eradication surveys, and treat new infestations when detected. The program projects that 1,893 acres will be infested at the end of the 2010 growing season. This would represent a decrease from the 2,135 infested acres in 2009. Infested acreage is expected to gradually decrease over the coming years. In South Carolina, APHIS maintained primary responsibility for these activities. An increase in corn acreage led to increased detections of witchweed in new fields that had been idle for several years after being released from the program. The program detected witchweed at 13 sites in South Carolina, nine of which were in the release category and four of which were terminated. These sites will be fumigated during the winter of 2010-2011 to eliminate the infested acreage. At the end of FY 2010, only 1,222 acres remain in the release category in two counties in South Carolina. The program expects more corn acres to be planted in FY 2011, potentially increasing opportunities to detect witchweed in fields that may not have been used for planting corn in past years. However, higher cotton prices could encourage more planting of cotton, which would benefit the witchweed program since cotton is a false host. As a false host, cotton stimulates witchweed seed germination, but the crop is harvested before any witchweed seed is produced . The

program will increase its monitoring activities to ensure that regulatory restrictions on infested fields are being followed. In addition, the program is continuing to use geographic information system tools to improve field location descriptions and provide retrievable electronic records for fields in the program.

The program's primary performance measure tracks acres infested. For FY 2010, the program projected that 1,800 acres would be infested by the end of the fiscal year. This target was not met in FY 2010, as 1,893 acres were infested. Survey and treatment data for the entire 2010 growing season is still being compiled, and the program may need to adjust the figure.

ANIMAL WELFARE

Current Activities: The program activities under this component ensure the humane care and treatment of animals covered under the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) and the Horse Protection Act (HPA). APHIS carries out activities designed to ensure the humane care and handling of animals used in research, exhibition, the wholesale pet trade, or transported in commerce. APHIS places primary emphasis on inspection of facilities, records, investigation of complaints, inspection of problem facilities, and training of inspectors. Regulations supporting the AWA, which appear in 9 Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter 1, Subchapter A, Parts 1-3, provide minimum standards for the handling, housing, feeding, transportation, sanitation, ventilation, shelter from inclement weather, and veterinary care of regulated animals.

APHIS performs pre-licensing inspections because, according to statute, applicants must be in full compliance with AWA regulations and standards prior to an issuance of license. After APHIS issues a license, program personnel perform unannounced compliance inspections and inspections to verify continued compliance. All registered research facilities, by law, are inspected at least once a year. If APHIS discovers violations during a compliance inspection, the Agency takes additional actions that include an increased frequency of unannounced inspections, and possible revocation of the facility's license.

APHIS also administers the HPA, as amended, which prohibits the showing, sale, auction, exhibition, or transport of sore horses. Sponsors and/or management of shows, sales, auctions and exhibitions have statutory responsibility under the HPA to prevent unfair competition, and must identify and disqualify sore horses.

Selected Examples of Recent Progress:

1. Animal Welfare

APHIS provides leadership for ensuring the humane care and treatment of animals, as regulated by the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) through inspection, education, cooperative efforts, and enforcement. During FY 2010, APHIS conducted 14,023 inspections of AWA regulated licensees, registrants, and prospective applicants as determined by the program's risk-based inspection system (RBIS). The RBIS concentrates inspection activities on facilities where animal welfare concerns are the greatest. APHIS worked to increase education and outreach activities in an effort to increase voluntary compliance with the AWA. The program held several workshops with regulated entities on specific topics and published several articles and books during FY 2010. The program achieved a 95 percent rate of substantial compliance with the AWA by the regulated entities, and had less than 1 percent of licensees and registrants with significant repeat violations as a result of these efforts.

In FY 2010, the Office of Inspector General completed a review of APHIS' regulation of problematic dog dealers. The report focused on APHIS' enforcement process against dealers that violated the AWA and the impact of recent changes made to the penalty assessment process. The review contained 14 recommendations that focused on ensuring dealer compliance, increasing inspector compliance, calculating

more reasonable penalties and preventing large breeders from circumventing AWA requirements. APHIS agreed with all of the recommendations and developed an action plan to improve the regulation of dog dealers and enhance enforcement. The action plan centers on a shift of program focus from educating problematic dealers as a means of deterrent to more of a punishment focus; an improvement of inspector performance; and a movement to support legislation regarding the internet sales of animals. Components of the action plan that have been completed as of September 2010 include: developing a plan for improving the enforcement process that will result in quicker, more consistent action against those in violation of the AWA; establishing a communication system to convey pertinent inspection and enforcement information to inspectors on a regular basis; and clarifying the confiscation processes for animals that are suffering.

During FY 2010, the Agency was involved in the confiscation of ten tigers, four lions, and one elephant from several different licensees. Various zoos and one rescue group aided this confiscation process and the successful placement of the animals at more appropriate facilities. In addition, a research facility voluntarily surrendered 36 European Rabbits, 144 adult cats, and 233 adult dogs to APHIS.

APHIS' Animal Care program has formed a team of veterinary medical officers that will inspect USDA-licensed, traveling elephant exhibitors across the country. The members of this special unit have the necessary experience and skills to fully monitor exhibitor compliance with all AWA pertinent regulations. Team members conduct inspections at consistent and appropriate intervals to ensure that the elephants are being properly cared for and handled according to Federal standards. Creating this team enhances APHIS' efforts to regulate this particular group of licensed animal exhibitors by conducting timely inspections, identifying problems earlier, and responding more quickly to complaints.

APHIS is currently working on redrafting the regulation that would amend the AWA to include rats, mice, and birds. The Agency worked with several stakeholders of this regulatory effort including the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, American Association of Zoos and Aquariums, Agriculture Society of America, Bird Clubs of Virginia, and the Association of Avian Veterinarians. APHIS submitted the regulation for clearance in January of 2011.

2. Horse Protection

APHIS enforces the Horse Protection Act (HPA) of 1970 by prohibiting horses subjected to a cruel and abusive practice called soring from participating in shows, sales, exhibitions or auctions. Soring is a technique in which a trainer irritates or blisters a horse's forelegs through the injection or application of chemicals or mechanical irritants. The technique is used by horse owners and trainers to gain a competitive edge and improve their chances to win at shows.

In FY 2009, APHIS implemented protocols for penalties for foreign substance violations detected by inspectors through the use of gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC/MS), a technique used as an HPA enforcement tool. The technique allows inspectors to identify the chemical composition of mixtures that are sometimes applied to horses' legs, making it easier for APHIS inspectors to detect the presence of numbing substances and determine when horses have been subjected to chemical and/or mechanical means of soring. Using this technique in FY 2010, APHIS issued more than 150 penalties for foreign substance violations detected by APHIS inspectors. While APHIS analyzed more than 1,150 samples to detect the use of foreign substances in FY 2010, an increase of 22 percent from FY 2009, the number of penalties issued decreased by 25 percent. This decrease was due to the Agency's vigilance at events and efforts to aggregate violations for individuals (with several violations), to achieve a deterring affect.

In August 2010, APHIS personnel attended the Tennessee Walking Horse breed's biggest show, the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration. Due to heightened concerns of soring and the increased use of new technology such as thermography and GC/MS, APHIS enhanced enforcement at this major event in 2010. Out of 2,075 horses entered, there were 284 entries disqualified from competition due to violations of the HPA regulations. Due to less violations being found and less participants in this year's event, the violation rate in FY 2010 was 13.7 percent compared to 20.7 percent in FY 2009.

In FY 2010, APHIS personnel attended more horse shows, exhibits, auctions and sales than previous years. APHIS attended 60 horse-related events nationwide to ensure enforcement of the HPA, which included the World Equestrian Games held in Lexington, Kentucky, from September 25-October 10, 2010. This is in comparison to 40 horse-related events attended in 2009, 38 in 2008, and 31 in 2007.

In FY 2010, APHIS prepared an action plan from the recommendations provided in the audit that has been recently completed by the Office of Inspector General. The initiatives from the action plan include: requiring the Horse Industry Organizations to institute a penalty protocol pre-approved by APHIS; revising the regulations for the Horse Protection Program to allow the Agency to have direct control of the Designated Qualified Persons (DQP) program instead being under control of the Horse Industry Organizations; holding accredited veterinarians accountable for enforcing the HPA; revising the regulations to require show management to have each horse inspected by a USDA-certified DQP at each horse show or related events; and revising the regulations to mandate all horses be uniquely identified to prevent horses from showing that are found in violation of the HPA.

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SERVICES

Current Activities: The programs within this component ensure the effectiveness of the technology and protocols used in APHIS programs. APHIS conducts these programs to: develop new or improved methods for managing wildlife damage to crops, livestock, natural resources, property, and public health and safety; develop and evaluate quarantine treatments for trade commodities; respond to foreign animal diseases and bioterrorism threats that endanger animal agriculture and the food supply in the United States; control or eradicate harmful plant pests; facilitate global agricultural trade; ensure that new products produced using biotechnology are safe for agriculture and the environment; and, apply new technology to protect the health and marketability of animals and animal products. The Agency also conducts laboratory testing programs to support disease and pest control and/or eradication programs. APHIS maintains a central laboratory that is internationally recognized as the national reference laboratory for all animal diseases. Additionally, APHIS provides advice and assistance to Agency programs on environmental compliance requirements with respect to pesticide registration and drug approvals for products used in implementing these programs.

Selected Examples of Recent Progress:

1. APHIS Information Technology and Infrastructure

The APHIS Information Technology Infrastructure (AITI) program is comprised of the hardware, software, and telecommunications infrastructure that provides APHIS employees with e-mail and office automation tools, Internet access, and access to mission critical programs and administrative applications. AITI is the key technology enabler that supports APHIS mission critical programs and administrative applications and it provides a robust, stable and secure information infrastructure for those mission critical applications and the day-to-day business of APHIS.

The Agency's information technology infrastructure is maintained, enhanced, and operated to support Agency business, conduct research and analysis, carry out administrative processes, record program activities and deliver program services. AITI program objectives and priorities are to continually improve sharing of information across the Agency; improve coordination and accessibility of information, processes, and resources available to assist programs in emergencies; and improve APHIS' cyber security posture. The following FY 2010 accomplishments support these objectives:

- Availability - APHIS personnel worked diligently to support stakeholders by providing optimal levels of service and improve customer service response times. Through these efforts, APHIS

maintained a 99.97 percent availability of the core infrastructure systems, reduced response times for service desk trouble tickets by over a minute, and increased secure patching of all APHIS workstations by seven percent.

- Security – APHIS blocked more than 28.6 million e-mail spam messages and detected and blocked more than 43,700 viruses.
- Telecommunications Consolidation – APHIS continued efforts to consolidate services and funding for telecommunications. By combining all APHIS users into shared accounts (one for each carrier), APHIS saved approximately $1.7 million in FY 2010. This resulted in the Agency being able to add more than 750 new lines to provide services where they were needed by the programs, while still reducing spending below FY 2009 levels.
- Video Conferencing Support – APHIS provided increased video conferencing support to bring its employees together with each other, as well as other agencies, and to enhance internal communications. Increased video conferencing results in reduced travel costs in terms of both time and money; increases participation in large-scale meetings; and, supports the Administration's "Going Green" initiatives.

2. Biotechnology Regulatory Services

APHIS has successfully regulated the development of biotechnology-derived crops for more than 20 years and has safely authorized more than 30,000 permit and notification applications involving genetically engineered (GE) organisms. In FY 2010, APHIS' Biotechnology Regulatory Services program issued 2,068 new permits and notifications through the Agency's online permitting system, ePermits. APHIS continues to see increases in new crops, new traits, and combinations tested due to technological and scientific advancements. In FY 2010, USDA evaluated approximately 91,000 constructs in connection with field test applications compared to 63,000 in FY 2009. In addition, scientific advances resulting in new crops and traits have increased the complexity of reviews required for sound regulatory decisions. APHIS has approved a total of 81 petitions for deregulation of GE organisms including plums, tomatoes, squash, cotton, soybeans, rapeseed, potatoes, papayas, beets, rice, flax, tobacco, sugar beet, red hearted chicory, and corn. In FY 2010, APHIS approved three petitions. One is for a variety of soybean developed to produce oil without trans fats, making it healthier to eat. The other two are for corn varieties; one genetically engineered for insect resistance to four corn pests (the corn earworm, fall armyworm, black cutworm, and western beanworm) and the other bred to tolerate applications of herbicides so that unwanted weeds are eliminated but the GE corn crop is not. As of October 13, 2010, APHIS is in the process of reviewing 22 petitions for nonregulated status, including 5 new petitions submitted in FY 2010.

Compliance Oversight and Information Technology Systems

Before a GE crop can be commercialized, APHIS thoroughly evaluates it to ensure there is no plant-pest risk, thereby enhancing public and international confidence in these products. Crops being field tested must be grown under a permit or notification depending on the type of crop and its potential risk. In FY 2010, the program conducted 528 inspections to ensure regulatory compliance and found a compliance rate of 95 percent. The program also evaluated 158 potential noncompliance incidents, issuing 43 notices of noncompliance, and 1 warning letter. APHIS did not receive any reports of unauthorized release of genetically engineered organisms during FY 2010.

APHIS also continued the State inspection program with Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, and North Carolina Departments of Agriculture. This program has enabled APHIS to use the resources and expertise of these States to administer its inspection program. The States completed 45 compliance inspections under this program in FY 2010.

APHIS also continued implementing the Biotechnology Quality Management System (BQMS) Program to provide compliance assistance to the regulated community. This voluntary program serves as an important tool for the regulated community because it helps biotechnology researchers and companies develop sound

management practices that enhance compliance with regulatory requirements for field trials and movement of regulated GE organisms. APHIS is also using the BQMS program to address one of the provisions of the 2008 Farm Bill, directing APHIS to improve management and oversight of biotechnology research and development. After completing a successful pilot program with five biotechnology organizations in FY 2009, APHIS recruited and trained five more organizations in FY 2010 to use the BQMS to help facilitate their compliance with APHIS biotechnology regulations. APHIS also published an audit standard for use in the BQMS, developed compliance assistance tools to help organizations in creating quality manuals and procedures, and created an auditor training program for third-party auditors.

Petition Process Improvements and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Compliance

Companies or individuals can petition APHIS to determine whether a GE organism should no longer be regulated. This is a necessary step before companies can bring new GE products to market. APHIS is currently reviewing 22 petitions for nonregulated status of GE crops, each requiring a thorough environmental analysis. During FY 2010, APHIS conducted an internal review of how petitions are processed to identify areas that need improvement to minimize the time to reach a decision. As a result of this effort, APHIS initiated some key efforts to improve the petition process, including hiring additional scientific expertise, piloting applicant prepared or funded environmental documents, and planning the development of templates and documented processes for the petition process. This effort will continue into FY 2011.

Two recent lawsuits, involving Round-Up Ready sugar alfalfa and Round-Up Ready sugar beets, challenged the processes USDA had in place when considering petitions for deregulations. The courts held that APHIS did not fully consider environmental impacts and remanded the matter back to the Agency. Under NEPA, all Federal agencies are required to evaluate the environmental impacts that would result from Agency decisions. Depending on the circumstances, APHIS completes an Environmental Assessment (EA) and/or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) prior to making decisions on nonregulated status of GE products. The implications of the Round-up Ready alfalfa and Round-up Ready sugar beet cases in FY 2010 indicated a need to strengthen APHIS' internal NEPA processes and procedures. APHIS has made a number of improvements related to compliance NEPA, designed to produce thorough, high-quality environmental documents in a timely manner. During FY 2010, APHIS established an in-house NEPA staff with expertise in environmental analysis and NEPA requirements and began the use of external contracting for completion of EAs. APHIS also initiated a pilot project to evaluate environmental documents funded by the applicant seeking deregulation of the product, and solicited feedback on website improvements and direct communication to stakeholders and interested parties.

International Activities

APHIS continued to foster the safe worldwide development of agricultural GE products by building critical relationships with other countries, encouraging science-based biotechnology regulation programs, and increasing the promotion of public confidence in GE products. APHIS works with international partners to enhance coordination of regulatory approaches and to provide capacity building assistance to developing countries for the regulation of GE crops. APHIS continued to work closely with Mexico and Canada towards harmonization of regulatory policies and procedures. As part of this effort, APHIS participated in a trilateral meeting to discuss progress on a joint review of a new GE drought-tolerant corn variety. APHIS also participated in discussions of biotechnology policy with Mexico and Canada under the North American Biotechnology Initiative, including consideration of solutions to trade issues caused by low level presence of unapproved GE material. These activities will help promote U.S. exports of GE products by ensuring that our trading partners understand and accept our system for regulating GE crops.

APHIS and the Foreign Agricultural Service continued to work closely together in the U.S./China Biotechnology Working Group. Technical discussions with Chinese counterparts have increased cooperation in reviews of agricultural biotechnology use and development in both China and the United

States. APHIS also continued to participate in U.S. Government activities related to the regulation and trade of biotechnology products under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. In particular, APHIS represented the United States on the Ad Hoc Technical Experts Group on risk assessment under the Protocol that is working towards improved guidance on risk assessment in biotechnology.

APHIS also provided technical and regulatory assistance to developing nations, including those in the Latin America and Asia Pacific regions. In FY 2010, APHIS provided information about USDA's regulatory policies and procedures for regulation of biotechnology to visitors from Australia, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, Africa, Honduras, Kyrzygstan, Vietnam, Brazil, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka, and China.

3. Environmental Compliance

APHIS' Environmental Compliance program (EC) provides support to Agency programs by helping them comply with various environmental laws, regulations, and executive orders. The primary focus is on compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).

The EC program also supports a strong environmental ethic within APHIS by: contributing sound, cost-effective environmental policy guidance; providing clear options through which environmental initiatives can be pursued economically and efficiently; and anticipating, whenever possible, Agency needs relative to its environmental responsibilities and recommending cost effective means through which those needs may be met.

National Environmental Policy Act

Before implementing any action or activity, Federal agencies must consider the need for preparing an environmental document, either an environmental assessment (EA), or an environmental impact statement (EIS). Upon completion of an EA, the agency can either reach a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) or determine that there is a potential for significant impacts on the environment and prepare an EIS.

The program prepares EAs to analyze the potential for environmental impacts of proposed actions that generally are classified in the EA category under APHIS NEPA implementing regulations (7 CFR 372.5). During FY 2010, the EC team completed 26 EAs of varying complexity. Working with other APHIS programs units, they completed an additional 51 EAs.

Examples of EAs that APHIS prepared during FY 2010 include the following: Quarantine and Interstate Movement of Citrus Greening and Asian Citrus Psyllid; Importation of Fresh Baby Kiwi (*Actinidia arguta*), Fig (*Ficus carica*), and Pomegranate (*Punica granatum*) Fruits from Chile into the Continental United States; Study of Shedding and Venereal Transmission of *Brucella abortus* by Bison Bulls in the Greater Yellowstone Area; Final Rule for the Status of Santa Catarina, Brazil, Regarding Food-and-Mouth Disease, Classical Swine Fever, Swine Vesicular Disease, African Swine Fever, and Rinderpest; and Biocontrol of water hyacinth (*Megamellus scutellaris*).

During FY 2010, APHIS completed one draft EIS for the determination of regulated status of alfalfa genetically engineered for tolerance to the herbicide glyphosate.

Endangered Species Act

Before implementing a proposed action, APHIS must carefully consider the potential for any effects to listed threatened or endangered species or their habitats, as required by the Endangered Species Act (ESA) (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). Once the potential for effects has been established, APHIS must consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the National Marine Fisheries Service to ensure that its actions will not jeopardize the continued existence of a listed species or adversely modify critical habitat.

Examples of the types of ESA assessments and consultations APHIS conducted in FY 2010 include the following: Biological assessment for reinitiation of consultation for biological control of saltcedar using *Diorhabda elongata deserticola;* Biological assessment for an Asian citrus psyllid study in Texas; Biological assessment for medfly eradication program in Boca Raton, Florida emergency consultation; Biological assessment for *Cactoblastis cactorum* eradication program in Louisiana; Biological assessment for boll weevil eradication in the southwestern United States; Biological assessment for environmental release of Arundo scale for biological control of *Arundo donax*; and, Biological assessment for importation of Bromeliads in growing media.

Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act

In accordance with FIFRA, the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA) and applicable state laws, APHIS obtains and maintains pesticide registrations with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state pesticide agencies, and drug approvals with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for products used in many APHIS programs. During FY 2010, APHIS maintained 50 active pesticide registrations.

In addition, the EC staff provides many other services to APHIS programs, including analyzing approved products that can provide the same or better levels of pest control with fewer impacts to the environment; keeping current on the status of all pesticide registrations that may be of use to APHIS programs, in order to provide the most up to date information on availability of options; and, staying informed on all pesticide and animal drug-related regulatory changes at EPA and FDA so that product approvals can be obtained using the most efficient, timely, and accurate approaches. The EC staff also acts as the liaison to, and actively maintains contact with, pesticide manufacturers so that any labels or amendments needed by APHIS can be obtained.

Some examples of APHIS actions related to FIFRA and FFDCA in FY 2010 include: Florida registration of spinosad for aerial use in the event of a fruit fly outbreak in the state; Strategic planning for use of APHIS-registered pesticides for several upcoming large-scale rodent eradication projects on Pacific Islands; Development of extensive tables cataloging pesticides registered for use during animal disease outbreaks; Obtained FIFRA section 18 emergency exemption for use of paraformaldehyde in APHIS research laboratories to disinfect various microorganisms; Obtained FIFRA section 18 emergency exemption for use of ethylene oxide in sanitizing animal isolation units in Ames, Iowa; and Texas registration of a tickicide for use on deer throughout the entire cattle fever tick quarantine zone.

4. Physical Operational Security

APHIS oversees and implements precautionary measures to ensure continued, efficient mission operations and protection from disruption, degradation, or destruction of its facilities. APHIS works with the Department of Justice, the Federal Protective Service, the Department of Homeland Security and local law enforcement to ensure that the appropriate Agency takes the lead, shares costs, and integrates security in co-locations.

APHIS has developed security guidelines for its biosafety level 3 (BSL-3) environments. These guidelines are in compliance with Homeland Security Presidential Directives (HSPDs). During FY 2010, APHIS continued to increase security at its mission critical facilities including the Beltsville Plant Protection and Quarantine Bio-safety Level Three Laboratory. APHIS also continued to expand its security enterprise, implementing the universal identity and access Federal Smart Card mandated under HSPD-12, to protect USDA's critical infrastructure.

Physical Security

The security program has been very aggressive and diligent in implementing security that meets or exceeds Federal standards. The following outlines security measures implemented during FY 2010:

- Completed physical security upgrades of 45 State and District Office facilities and 6 critical facilities;
- Completed annual aviation reviews of 30 aircraft and hanger facilities;
- Installed countermeasures including access control, intrusion detection, fencing, lighting, safes, and vehicle alarms, at 60 APHIS facilities/program locations/assets;
- Reviewed and fine-tuned guard service at four critical and secondary facilities;
- Installed 300 HSPD-12 compliant access control readers at APHIS facilities to support the use of the Federal Identity Smart Card;
- Added 25 facilities to the National Access Control Enterprise, a system that includes national identification/access cards of approximately 80,000 cardholders, 3,000 card readers, more than 6,400 alarm points, and approximately 800 cameras;
- Responded to more than 55 threats against APHIS personnel or work place violence allegations;
- Protected APHIS personnel at 50 horse shows, who were conducting regulatory activities under the Horse Protection Act;
- Conducted workplace violence training for more than 300 employees at 10 locations; and,
- Reviewed and designed security for 12 new construction projects.

Homeland Security Supplemental Presidential Directive-12

HSPD-12 mandates a consolidated Human Resources/Information Technology/Security effort to identity-proof all APHIS employees and contractors. APHIS designed and implemented a program that will ensure all personnel have background investigations and are cleared prior to receiving their Federal identification badge.

During FY 2010, APHIS:

- Installed 300 HSPD-12 card readers in its critical infrastructure, making it the first Federal Agency to have a Physical Access System that reads the Federal Smart Card in more than 200 buildings;
- Expanded the Security Enterprise to all of USDA, protecting the Department's critical information technology and research infrastructure;
- Supported eight enrollment stations to enroll and identity-proof USDA/GSA personnel;
- Sponsored more than 10,000 APHIS, AMS and GIPSA employees, and enrolled more than 8,000 employees for their Federal Smart Cards, which are to be used for building and computer access; and,
- Upgraded all facilities to use the Federal Smart Cards for building access.

5. Plant Methods Development Laboratories

The Plant Methods Development Laboratories' program goal is to provide advanced scientific and technological capabilities to protect and improve our nation's plant resources in agriculture and the environment. APHIS' Center for Plant Health Science and Technology carries out the program (which consists of eight laboratories located throughout the United States). Plant Methods laboratories support APHIS plant health programs and emergency response capabilities by ensuring that accurate tools are available to detect, identify, and diagnose plant pathogens, insect pests, and weeds. Plant Methods laboratories also develop and evaluate quarantine treatments for commodities of trade. Additionally, the program evaluates biological control organisms and new biological and chemical materials, adapts or invents equipment for specific pest projects, conducts pathway and pest risk analysis, provides technical

consultation and training for Agency personnel and their State and university cooperators, and serves as a liaison between APHIS and the research community.

Pest Exclusion and Detection Technology

This program aims to develop new, or improve existing, tools each year to enhance APHIS' safeguarding capabilities. The program reached its FY 2010 annual performance target by developing or improving at least 5 quarantine treatments for commodities of trade. The program developed a new treatment for logs, which was submitted for world recognition as a methyl bromide alternative. The program also developed new treatment schedules for avocados, Chilean grapes, passion fruit, and grapefruit. APHIS also continued to establish new and support existing irradiation treatment programs. The result has been an increase in trade and a reduction in methyl bromide fumigations. The program worked with the irradiation program in Columbia to develop treatments for fruit and cut flowers. The program also completed work using a Technical Assistance for Specialty Crops grant by identifying ways to treat fruit (including peaches and blueberries) while preserving quality, which opened the large Mexican market to U.S. growers. The program also successfully validated an industry cold storage phytosanitary process for nursery stock movement, collaborating with USDA's Agricultural Research Service.

Pest Identification

The Plant Methods program continues to design, develop, and deliver electronic, media-rich identification tools for APHIS to support domestic, port, and offshore pest identification responsibilities. The identification tools are internet-accessible, provide matrix-based keys, image galleries, fact sheets, and other support aids valuable for identifying pests, diseases, and weeds of interest to APHIS and cooperators. In FY 2010, the program released several tools including, *Pests and Diseases of Cultivated Palms: Screening Aid to Pests of Cultivated Palms*, *Wood Boring Beetles of the World: Bark Beetles of the Southeastern United States*, and *Federal Noxious Weeds Disseminules of the U.S., Edition 2.1*. In FY 2010, the program initiated the development of its first two identification tools to support pest screening for exporting table grapes. In addition, the program also developed DNA-based morphological methods to determine the origin of fruit fly detections and support pathway analysis to better target response activities.

Risk Mapping

In FY 2010, the program utilized the cooperative North Carolina State University/APHIS Plant Pest Forecasting System (NAPPFAST) and Geographic Information System (GIS) software to update and create new pest risk maps for target pests in the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) program and other stakeholders. NAPPFAST is a web-based system that uses biological models and geo-referenced weather data to create maps, while GIS software allows the user to combine, display, and analyze many types of spatial data such as host data and the NAPPFAST maps. The CAPS Pest Risk maps depict areas of the United States that may be at higher risk for pest establishment, based on host availability, climate, and introduction pathways. For maps created this year, the program continued using data sets such as the 2007 Agricultural Census and recent Forest Inventory data, and the data now includes all 140 commodities reported in the agricultural census and 50 different forest tree species. APHIS created risk maps for 240 pests in the border States of as Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico. The combination of the host information, biology and trade data in a standardized manner allows the State survey coordinators to easily determine the pests of survey priority and where to focus survey resources.

6. Veterinary Biologics

APHIS' Center for Veterinary Biologics (CVB) regulates veterinary biological products (vaccines, bacterins, antisera, diagnostic test kits, and analogous products) available for the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of animal diseases to ensure that these products are pure, safe, potent and effective. CVB accomplishes its mission through the thorough evaluation of pre-licensing dossiers; testing of products submitted for licensure; facility and product inspections; investigations of non-compliance; and post-

marketing surveillance. This comprehensive regulatory approach is the most effective way to ensure only quality Federally-licensed veterinary biological products are available to U.S. consumers.

APHIS continues to experience increased workload related to the growing number of new products submitted for license continue. Additionally, the complexity of these new products increases as the science of veterinary biologics advances. This complexity requires APHIS scientists to maintain their expertise in this field. These new products often require a significant increase of effort on APHIS' part to ensure that the products are safe, potent, and effective.

Licensed Products and Inspections

By the end of FY 2010, there were 100 different manufacturers licensed for approximately 2,000 veterinary biological products for the control of 215 animal diseases. These are critical for protecting American agriculture, facilitating trade, and enhancing agricultural economic opportunities. During the fiscal year, APHIS received 249 license applications; of these, the Agency issued 63 licenses/permits for the control or diagnosis of existing or new/emerging animal diseases, and denied or inactivated 122 applications by industry. In addition, APHIS conducted approximately 1,350 tests on vaccines and diagnostic test kits used in the surveillance and eradication activities of the Agency's programs. APHIS accommodated many requests from manufactures to prioritize newer product license requests over product license requests that may have been submitted by the manufacturer in previous years. This reprioritization has caused an increase in the average number of days to conduct the licensing process because, at a manufacturer's request, an older request may have to be processed later. APHIS will be conducting a process review in FY 2011 in an attempt to identify potential process improvements for the licensing process.

In response to the emerging threat of novel H1N1 Influenza Virus in the swine industry, APHIS made, tested, and qualified vaccine viruses (the precursor of a vaccine) available to the biologics industry for the development of vaccine production. As a result of APHIS' efforts, a new H1N1 vaccine for swine was licensed 4 months after the qualified vaccine viruses were made available to industry. In response to the H1N1 threat, APHIS' actions reduced traditional product development timelines by an estimated 6-7 months and saved the biologics industry hundreds of thousands of dollars in development costs.

APHIS conducted 63 on-site inspections in FY 2010, of which 13 percent of the inspections were in support of a new establishment or product license for the industry. APHIS performed 82 regulatory actions, issued 28 warning notices, and conducted 37 investigations of possible regulation violations during the fiscal year. In addition, the Agency received 471 adverse event reports related to veterinary biological products. Adverse events are undesirable effects that occur after the use of a medication or vaccine, or other biological product. These events may, or may not, be caused by the product.

APHIS provided a variety of services related to the import and export of veterinary biological products. The Agency reviewed/processed more than 3,000 Certificates of Licensing and Inspection and issued 1,051 Export Certificates for veterinary biological products. The Agency processed all Export Certificates within 4 days, and processed 98 percent of Certificates of Licensing and Inspection within 28 days. APHIS helped to ensure there were no foreign animal disease events related to the importation of more than 70 million biologics doses.

Collaborative Efforts

APHIS provided expertise and training at a joint Center/Institute for International Cooperation in Animal Biologics education program. More than 135 delegates from 16 countries participated in this 3-week course aimed at educating foreign officials on U.S. regulatory processes.

APHIS addressed concerns from the biologics industry and several Congressional offices regarding policy on export labeling by working extensively with the USDA's Office of General Counsel and industry stakeholders to draft guidelines on the labeling of export products. These guidelines add flexibility for

increasing exports and preserves U.S. jobs by allowing manufacturers to maintain or expand domestic labeling operations.

7. Veterinary Diagnostics

The National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) serves as the United States' national and international reference laboratory for animal diseases. NVSL conducts diagnostic testing of disease surveillance samples collected in support of APHIS animal disease programs. NVSL also provides national leadership in coordination and emergency laboratory response, and training State and university laboratory personnel. To ensure that laboratories supporting APHIS programs are properly prepared, NVSL provides rigorous proficiency testing. To achieve the highest level of quality in disease diagnosis, NVSL continues to develop improved diagnostic technologies. NVSL handled more than 62,000 accessions—one or more diagnostic samples received from the same submitter on the same day—and 250,000 samples for diagnostic testing in FY 2010.

In FY 2010, NVSL collected 3,200 serum samples from cervids and provided serum panels to several companies investigating a serum-based tuberculosis (TB) test for cervids. APHIS continues to collaborate with Canada, Mexico, and the United Kingdom to receive serum samples from TB positive animals in those countries.

National Animal Health Laboratory Network

NVSL serves as the confirmatory laboratory for the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) laboratories. The NAHLN was established to address significant emergent biological and chemical threats to animal agriculture and to a secure food supply in the United States, and to provide diagnostic surge capacity in the event of a significant animal disease outbreak. Currently the NAHLN consists of 56 State and university and 5 Federal animal laboratories. APHIS administers the NAHLN proficiency testing, training, laboratory review and approval processes, and testing of samples for the animal disease surveillance programs in the 56 State and University laboratories that are located in 43 States. The National Institute of Food and Agriculture provides infrastructure support to 28 of the 56 State and university NAHLN laboratories.

In FY 2010, the NAHLN program collaborated with the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians to develop and deliver a Quality Management System Training Program. Eighty-seven individuals representing 53 laboratories participated in an interactive environment that included training on quality system requirements, the accreditation process, document control, internal auditing, and root cause analysis.

NVSL and NAHLN sponsored 16 separate foot and mouth disease tabletop exercises, involving single States or multiple States in a region and one in which British Columbia, Canada, also participated. The exercises focused on the actions, decisions and communication of the NAHLN laboratories, State Animal Health Officials, APHIS area officials and field staff, wildlife officials, and industry. The objectives of this exercise were to examine early, mid, and late-response activities regarding the decision-making process for NAHLN activation and de-activation, testing capacity, surveillance sample collection protocols, testing algorithms during different phases of the outbreak, and communication and coordination processes. Individual exercise summary reports are being produced and will be shared with each participant. The summary report, to be completed in early 2011, will be used to prioritize necessary actions and assist in the development of action plans.

Foreign Animal Disease Detection

NVSL provided diagnostic services for 129 U.S. domestic livestock disease investigations to rule out foreign animal diseases. NVSL also performed 10 safety tests on imported materials to confirm they were

free of Foreign Animal Diseases, and performed testing on 2,057 accessions for the USDA classical swine fever surveillance program.

8. Wildlife Services Methods Development

APHIS' National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC) applies scientific expertise to the development of practical methods to resolve problems caused by the interaction of wild animals and society. NWRC provides Federal leadership and expertise to resolve wildlife conflicts related to agriculture, property, human health and safety, and natural resources. The efforts of NWRC work to reduce the negative economic impacts that wildlife have across the United States, especially in rural areas, through more effective and cost efficient ways.

There currently are 243 active studies at NWRC. Examples of this work include efforts to study methods of protecting agriculture and aquaculture from birds, rodents, and other wildlife damage. Examples of this work include NWRC scientists from our Bismarck, North Dakota field station that investigated the effectiveness of an avian repellent added to rodenticide baits to reduce the affect on birds that might feed on the repellants during rodent control programs. The results from this study are important for developing and registering effective and safe methods for protecting agricultural crops from damage caused by rodents without impacting other wildlife. Scientists from our field station in Starkville, Mississippi, completed several large-scale, multi-year studies to determine the response of Double-crested Cormorants to management activities. These studies were part of a collaborative program to use cormorant management as a means of improving the local fishery. The results indicated that management efforts lead to a more than 90 percent reduction in number of young cormorants produced annually, and more than a 70 percent reduction in the number of cormorants in management areas. This work has confirmed that the cormorant management targeting is appropriate. Scientists in Ft. Collins, Colorado, are also developing oral and nasal delivery systems for reproductive inhibitors in wildlife. If successful, this delivery system would eliminate the need to capture and inject individual animals thus saving costs and increasing practicality of delivering this reproductive inhibitor to wildlife species. Collaborations with the National Center for Atmospheric Research and coordinated efforts by NWRC staff to secure funding from the Federal Aviation Administration ($1.7 million) have allowed scientists to initiate a joint research-operational effort to evaluate and develop applications of ground radar systems as a risk assessment and mitigation tool for wildlife hazards at airports. Wildlife-aircraft strikes account for human safety issues as well as $1.2 billion in annual economic losses in the civilian and military aviation sectors.

NWRC works to develop methods to control invasive species. As an example, NWRC scientists from Hilo, Hawaii, initiated a demonstration project testing the feasibility of large area suppression of brown treesnakes on Guam. These efforts evaluate risk of this invasive species reaching other locations and ports, and based on NWRC estimates, could impact the Hawaiian economy $1 billion in lost tourism, medical impacts, and power outages. In addition, NWRC scientists in Gainesville, Florida, tested and developed techniques for capturing invasive pythons using specially designed traps, and tested reactions of captive pythons to baits and lures. The research provides critical information and methods for removing invasive pythons from sensitive habitats in Florida.

NWRC works to determine the best value of efforts. Our scientists evaluated the economic benefits of operational methods designed to control small predators such as raccoons. For example, raccoon control near corn fields in Wyoming showed APHIS management of raccoon decreased damage by 65-90 percent and increased farmer revenue by $16/acre. An economic study evaluating the impact of bird and rodent pests on agricultural production and for implementing control measures in California indicates that the total revenue lost annually to bird and rodent damage may range from $168 million to $504 million and jobs lost annually could range from 2,100 to 6,300.

NWRC scientists conduct research to develop new methods for detecting disease in wild animals, validating the efficiency and performance of current disease mitigation efforts, and preventing the spread of zoonotic diseases of high economic impact to domestic animal food supplies. NWRC scientists conducted

research to assess wildlife disease transmission risks associated with management activities for livestock in the arid West and to develop methods for mitigating these risks in the presence of agricultural production facilities. Results of this research indicated that the presence of wildlife attractions such as livestock watering and feeding enhance the probability of interactions among species known to carry diseases. These findings are important for developing methods to mitigate disease transmission risks. As an example of these efforts, NWRC scientists evaluated water sampling as a surveillance method to detect influenza A viruses. These new methods for concentrating the avian influenza virus from natural water sources should provide highly sensitive, mobile, and cost-effective supplements to current surveillance efforts. NWRC scientists developed methods to better evaluate rabies vaccination rates in raccoons and non-target wildlife. The method will allow raccoons whiskers to be used to detect ingestion of rabies vaccine in the field rather than by more time and labor intensive laboratory methods. In addition, NWRC scientists evaluated the use of infrared thermography (IRT) as a method to increase rabies detection in trapped raccoons. From operational data, three raccoons were confirmed as positive for rabies and the IRT correctly classified all three raccoons as potentially infected. Staff also developed temporary, cost effective "drift" fencing to be used under emergency capture or exclusion operations that might be needed during a disease outbreak (*e.g.*, foot and mouth disease and bovine tuberculosis). Testing of this fencing indicated nearly complete exclusion of 85-90 percent.

CONTINGENCY FUNDS

1. Contagious Equine Metritis

In FY 2010, APHIS used $51,756 of contingency funding to address an outbreak of contagious equine metritis (CEM), a venereal disease of horses that began in FY 2009. Of more than 1,000 horses potentially exposed to the bacterium that causes CEM, a total of 28 horses tested positive during the outbreak investigation. Of the positive horses, 23 stallions and 5 mares were then treated with antibiotics, re-tested, and found negative for the bacterium. APHIS contained the disease in accordance with Federal regulations and successfully eradicated CEM from the United States.

2. European Grapevine Moth

European Grapevine Moth (EGVM) is a significant pest of grapes and other specialty crops. First discovered in major grape production areas of northern California in 2009, the pest damages grapes when larvae feed on the flowers and berries; subsequent fungal infection causes further damage. High population densities of EGVM can destroy entire vineyards, resulting in a total loss of grapes at harvest.

In FY 2010, APHIS spent $3.097 million in contingency funds to conduct the EGVM emergency program in California. APHIS coordinated the overall response, which consisted of outreach, scientific support, and other resources, including support for a Statewide survey (47 counties), communication and outreach efforts, regulatory compliance activities, and convening the International Technical Working Group to provide science-based recommendations for informed decision making. To date, APHIS and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) have quarantined portions of nine California counties, including Fresno, Lake, Mendocino, Merced, Napa, San Joaquin, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma, to prevent the artificial spread of the pest. Program officials conduct compliance inspections to ensure that host products moving out of quarantined areas were free of the pest. In FY 2010, the EGVM program issued 4,000 compliance agreements, and approximately 2,500 of those agreements required a physical inspection.

Because growers were responsible for conducting treatments, the EGVM program engaged cooperative extension, private consultants, and pest control advisors to help coordinate industry-led treatments on commercial lands. APHIS partnered with the University of California-Davis to evaluate pesticide and lure

efficacy for trapping activities, and to develop approved chemical control options for growers. This evaluation validated the efficacy of APHIS' survey efforts. The program also worked with the Environmental Protection Agency to expedite the registration and availability of mating disruption dispensers. As a result, this treatment tool was instrumental in controlling the high moth populations that emerged early in winter 2010. Initial efforts reduced detections of moths in affected areas from 66,000 in April to just 20 moths in August.

Summary of FY 2010 Contingency Fund Releases

	Emergency/Activity	Releases from Contingency Fund in FY 2010	Obligations Against Contingency Fund in FY 2010
1	Contagious Equine Metritis	144,000	$108,402
2	European Grapevine Moth	3,100,000	3,097,601
	Total FY 2010 Contingency Transfers	$3,244,000	$3,206,003

EMERGENCY ACTIVITIES FUNDED BY TRANSFERS FROM COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION (CCC)

1. Asian Longhorned Beetle

In FY 2010, APHIS spent approximately $25 million in CCC funds on Asian Longhorned beetle (ALB) eradication activities in Worcester County, Massachusetts, in response to an infestation found in August 2008. This was the first find in the State, and was most likely a separate introduction from other ALB infestations. The program has been conducting delimitation surveys and enforcing a quarantine that covers a 94 square-mile quarantine area and includes the entire City of Worcester, Town of West Boylston, and Town of Boylston and portions of the towns of Holden and Shrewsbury. Since August 2008, the program inspected 571,953 host trees, detected 18,680 infested trees, and removed 18,101 infested and 10,250 high risk trees. During calendar year 2010, the program inspected 520,328 host trees, detected 2,250 infested trees, and removed 3,334 infested and high-risk trees. The program had projected that it would find 5,000 infested trees in calendar year 2010, but the actual figure is far less. This is because surveys are showing that trees in the further reaches of the infested areas are more lightly infested than those in the core, indicating that the program is approaching the fringes of the infestation. Through regulatory activities, the program is continually monitoring any host wood movement to prevent human-assisted spread. In addition, regulatory officers follow any leads of prior wood movement to determine if any satellite infestations exist elsewhere. Surveys continue in the Worcester area, using ground crews and climbing crews.

2. Bovine Tuberculosis

During FY 2010, APHIS used approximately $1.7 million in CCC funding to Tuberculosis (TB) support services and cooperative agreements and indemnity payments in California, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, and Texas. Due, in part, to the availability of CCC funds to support response efforts, the TB situation has improved in Texas, California, Minnesota, and New Mexico. Although improvements have also been realized in Michigan, the presence of a wildlife reservoir for TB will require a long-term response.

California

As a result of identifying three TB-affected dairy herds during FY 2008, California's TB status was reclassified as Modified Accredited Advanced on September 18, 2008. APHIS initiated a TB Task Force in FY 2008 to assist the California Department of Food and Agriculture in responding to the TB outbreak. This task force continued through February 2009, assisting with the tracing of animal movements from the affected herds and on-farm herd testing of 246 herds and approximately 377,000 head of cattle. APHIS provided indemnity to depopulate two of these herds and released the third from a test-and-remove herd plan in December 2009.

In FY 2010, APHIS used CCC funding to fund a cooperative agreement with the State of California to conduct testing and epidemiological investigations associated with the affected herd identified in FY 2009. The Agency also purchased exposed animals and animals that tested positive for TB exposure that were identified through testing.

Michigan

In 1995, an endemic focus of Mycobacterium bovis infection in free-ranging white-tailed deer was identified in northeastern lower Michigan. This was the first report of self-sustaining bovine TB in a wild, free-ranging cervid population in North America. Beginning in 1998, APHIS documented spillover from the wildlife into 53 captive cervid and cattle herds in the area that became infected with TB. Today, Michigan has split-State status with Accredited Free, Modified Accredited Advanced, and Modified Accredited zones. APHIS identified a total of five TB-affected herd in Michigan in FY 2010; however, these numbers represent a considerable improvement over the past decade.

During FY 2010, APHIS used CCC funding in Michigan to fund a cooperative agreement with the State to conduct TB surveillance activities, conduct testing and epidemiological investigations, depopulate and indemnify TB-affected beef herds (when appropriate) and purchase exposed animals and animals that tested positive for TB exposure that were identified through testing. These continued efforts were necessary to maintain the Split State Status for TB in Michigan.

Minnesota

APHIS identified five beef herds that were TB-affected in Minnesota in FY 2008 – FY 2009. All affected cattle herds are located in a small geographic area in northwest Minnesota. APHIS has identified twenty-seven TB-infected free-ranging white-tailed deer to date in this area as well. As a result of finding these additional herds, APHIS reclassified Minnesota as Modified Accredited status in April 2008, and subsequently reclassified to a split-State status of Modified Accredited Advanced and Modified Accredited in October 2008. The CCC funding APHIS provided to Minnesota has allowed the State to take an aggressive approach to eradicate TB in the northwestern part of the State and these actions are producing measurable results. Based on the findings of a program review conducted in November 2009 and an application submitted by the Minnesota Board of Animal Health, APHIS reclassified the majority of Minnesota as Accredited Free and classified a small geographic area in the northwest corner of the State to Modified Accredited Advanced status in October 2010.

During FY 2010, APHIS used CCC funding in Minnesota to fund a cooperative agreement with the State to conduct TB surveillance activities, conduct testing and epidemiological investigations, depopulate and indemnify TB-affected beef herds (when appropriate), and purchase exposed animals and animals that tested positive for TB exposure that were identified through testing. These continued efforts were necessary to maintain the Split State Status for TB in Minnesota.

New Mexico/Texas

As a result of finding two TB-affected herds in New Mexico during the time period from FY 2007-FY 2008, APHIS reclassified the State to Modified Accredited Advanced status in September 2008. Subsequently, APHIS granted New Mexico split-State status as Accredited Free and Modified Accredited Advanced in March 2009. APHIS has not identified any additional TB-affected cattle herds in New Mexico in FY 2009 or FY 2010.

In FY 2010, APHIS used CCC funding in New Mexico to fund a cooperative agreement with the State to conduct TB surveillance activities, conduct testing and epidemiological investigations, and purchase exposed animals and animals that tested positive for TB exposure that were identified through testing. Additionally, APHIS established cooperative agreements with the State of Texas to support testing and enhanced surveillance activities (since Texas borders New Mexico's Modified Accredited Advanced zone and conducts a large volume testing for cattle originating in New Mexico).

3. Cattle Fever Tick

The Agency's Cattle Fever Tick Program was established to eliminate the disease babesiosis from the Nation's cattle population. Babesiosis is a severe and often fatal disease of cattle. The cattle fever tick and the southern cattle tick are carriers of the causal agents of babesiosis. To stop the spread of ticks, a State-Federal cooperative program maintains a permanent quarantine area designated along a 500-mile border with Mexico from the Gulf of Mexico to Del Rio, Texas. Since receiving emergency funding in FY 2009, APHIS hired 26 temporary animal health technicians to carry out tick surveillance, inspections, treatment of tick infested cattle, and investigations of new infestations in temporary quarantine areas in Texas. In addition, APHIS was able to purchase the required acaricides to treat the increased number of tick-infested livestock through a cooperative agreement with the Texas Animal Health Commission. APHIS also used feed corn and the purchased acaricides in the tick-infested white-tailed deer treatment program. The additional resources helped the program increase the number of livestock treated within the traditionally "free" and permanent quarantine areas. In addition, the program obligated approximately $220,000 of CCC funding for salaries for the voluntary livestock producer inspection and the livestock sale barn inspection and surveillance programs during FY 2010. This has enabled APHIS and the State of Texas to expedite the eradication of ticks outside of the permanent quarantine zone.

By the end of September 2010, APHIS had begun to see a decrease in the number of identified infested premises at any point in time. The number of infested premises had reached a peak in October 2009, when a total of 118 premises were under quarantine, including 72 in the traditionally "free" area and 46 in the permanent quarantine area. By the end of September 2010, the number had been reduced to 77 infested premises under quarantine, including 51 in the traditionally "free" area and 26 in the permanent quarantine area. It is important to note that the number of infected premises represent a snapshot of infested premises during each month only, and premises are continually added or removed from quarantine as they are identified are released from quarantine.

4. Farm Bill

Plant Pest and Disease Management and Disaster Prevention (Section 10201)

This program makes available Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) funds for early plant pest detection and surveillance, threat identification and mitigation of plant pests and diseases, and technical assistance in the development and implementation of audit-based certification systems and nursery plant pest risk management systems. The Farm Bill specified that these funds be made available incrementally, starting with $12 million in FY 2009, $45 million FY 2010, and $50 million in FY 2011 and thereafter.

In FY 2010, the Plant Pest and Disease Management and Disaster Prevention program provided $45 million in funding to build and preserve critical plant health safeguarding initiatives across the United

States. This funding supported State and national efforts to improve pest detection and mitigation activities and ensure that small farms and specialty crops remain a viable segment of our national consequence plant pests and diseases. APHIS and cooperators have identified six major strategies to implement Section 10201: 1) enhancing plant pest/disease survey and analysis; 2) targeting domestic inspection activities at vulnerable points; 3) enhancing pest identification tools and technology; 4) developing programs to safeguard nursery production; 5) enhancing outreach and education; and 6) enhancing mitigation capabilities.

APHIS funded 279 projects in the six goal areas through Section 10201 in FY 2010. Approximately 75 percent of the projects directly provided funds to 48 State departments of agriculture and two territories. The other 25 percent provided funds to universities, Federal agencies, tribal organizations, non-profit entities, or enabled APHIS to provide training to cooperators on diagnostic procedures or canine teams; procure traps and lures that APHIS distributed nationwide to cooperators in many pest programs; and support development of an improved data management system for use by States and territories, other cooperators, and APHIS.

Under the enhancing survey and analysis category, APHIS funded surveys for pests of national significance such as plum pox virus, Phytophthora ramorum, grape pests (including the European Grapevine Moth), and honey bee pests (including sub-sampling to help determine the cause of colony collapse disorder). The program began cooperative projects to analyze pathways that put specialty crops at risk to exotic invasive pests and develop risk and economic assessment tools to help determine survey priorities. The program allocated more than $15.2 million to 108 projects in this area.

The second goal involves efforts to target domestic inspection activities at vulnerable points that result from the movement of commodities potentially carrying pests of regulatory significance. In this area, APHIS provided funds to train and place canine teams for domestic survey in California. These teams may be deployed to enhance the State's efforts to mitigate pests that escape undetected through ports of entry and, in some cases, in situations where potentially deliberate introductions of illegal goods have occurred. Other projects in FY 2010 provided funds to monitor critical entry points in Texas and Florida and the training of dog teams to detect snails. The program allocated more than $4.7 million for 10 projects in this goal area.

In the pest identification tools and technology area, APHIS funded 44 projects for a total of $4.9 million. Examples include the National Survey Supply Program that oversees timely procurement and delivery of quality survey supplies (such as traps and lures) to APHIS and State cooperators; enhanced laboratory capacity and training of cooperators in high risk states; and improved survey and regulatory data management via the Integrated Plant Health Information System.

In the nursery safeguarding area, APHIS focuses on developing science-based best management practices and risk mitigation practices to exclude, contain, and control regulated pests from the nursery production chain and developing and harmonizing audit-based nursery certification programs. Primary areas of focus included ongoing work on control and management practices for Phytophthora ramorum at the National Ornamentals Research Site, Dominican University of California; projects forming a broad-based initiative that supports the development of audit-based systems for safeguarding nursery production; and individual and multi-State initiatives to develop and pilot harmonized nursery stock certification programs for economically important and high-risk specialty crops, including fruit trees, blueberries, and strawberries. The program allocated more than $1.8 million for 21 projects in this goal area.

In the outreach and education strategy, APHIS allocated more than $3.1 million for 30 projects. Some projects include the Northeast Forest Pest Outreach and Survey Program, which was expanded from nine States in 2009 to include an additional three States in 2010; eLearning modules for pest screening and increasing diagnostic capacity; a formal volunteer program for exotic pest surveillance; and a website for citrus health.

Under the enhance mitigation capabilities strategy, APHIS provides technical assistance prior to, during, and immediately following a plant pest outbreak through the development of New Pest Response Guidelines and through immediate mitigation efforts.

Examples of these efforts include gypsy moth control; mollusk mitigation; fruit fly mitigation in Florida and California; surveys for European grapevine moth; citrus pest mitigation research; grasshopper mitigation; development of new pest response guidelines; immediate research on wood boring beetle attractants to improve trap effectiveness; Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle mitigation in Guam; and PPV eradication in NY. APHIS allocated more than $15 million in 66 projects in this goal area.

National Clean Plant Network – NCPN (Section 10202)

This program provides reliable sources of pathogen-free planting stock of high-value specialty crops such as apples, peaches, almonds, grapes, oranges, lemons, strawberries, raspberries, blueberries, and hops. It helps ensure that new varieties desired by nurseries and growers are free of invasive diseases. Beginning in FY 2009, the Farm Bill authorizes funding of $5 million for the network each year for four years (FY 2009-2012).

In FY 2010, APHIS used a cooperative application process to provide NCPN funds to qualified clean plant centers. This process allowed stakeholders to offer input into the program through pre-proposals, which are designed to help clean plant centers prioritize and harmonize their resourcing requests. As a result, APHIS entered into 16 cooperative agreements with clean plant centers. These include the University of Arkansas, Auburn University (Alabama), University of Arizona, University of California at Davis, University of California at Riverside, Florida A&M University, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (both germplasm and budwood programs), Louisiana State University, Missouri State University, Cornell University (New York), North Carolina State University, USDA's Agricultural Research Service at Oregon State University, Clemson University (South Carolina), Texas A&M University, and Washington State University. The clean plant centers that receive NCPN funding are using the resources to: 1) diagnose for harmful pathogens that cause disease in covered specialty crops, 2) apply therapeutic measures to eliminate these pests, and 3) establish plantings of clean plant 'starter' material and make this material available to nurseries and growers. These activities will result in clean plant centers making additional sources of healthy planting stock for fruit trees, grapes, citrus, berries, and hops available to industry while ensuring that nurseries and growers have access to clean plant material necessary to sustain their businesses, maintain productivity, and improve the quality of their products.

In FY 2011, the program plans to expand the network to include other specialty crops and also establish an education/outreach component to the network to ensure that all farmers, including small and mid-sized entities, are aware of the benefits of using clean planting stock and how best to obtain this material.

5. Grasshopper and Mormon Cricket

This program helps Federal, State, and private landowners in 17 western States manage grasshopper and Mormon cricket (GH/MC) damage on rangeland by providing information about population levels, conducting treatments where possible, and providing technical assistance. Despite the best land management efforts, grasshopper infestations often cover vast acreage, and landowners may need Federal support to control them.

Grasshopper surveys completed in 2009 indicated that many areas of the western United States could have extensive grasshopper outbreaks if conditions were favorable to the hatch and development of grasshoppers in the spring of 2010. When grasshopper hatch began in May 2010, freezing and record low temperatures reduced the outbreaks in some areas, but many areas experienced the highest grasshopper numbers since the 1980s. The States where the outbreaks were most severe were Montana and Wyoming, with less severe outbreaks in Arizona, Idaho, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Utah. Montana and Wyoming received the most treatments, but treatments also occurred in California, Idaho, Nevada, North

Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, and Utah. In FY 2010, APHIS spent $4.2 million in CCC funding to treat 1.3 million acres of rangeland, which protected forage on 2.2 million acres. In FY 2010, the program conducted more treatments than it has since 1987.

The following chart shows the acres protected by State in FY 2010.

State	Acres Protected
Arizona	250
California	480
Idaho	68,985
Montana	846,371
North Dakota	291
Nevada	600
Oregon	22,565
South Dakota	74,936
Utah	36,140
Wyoming	1,127,096
TOTAL	2,177,714

6. Light Brown Apple Moth

Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM) is an invasive pest that reproduces rapidly and can attack more than 2,000 types of plants and trees throughout the United States, including fruits, vegetables, nursery stock, and cut flowers. In FY 2010, APHIS spent approximately $22 million in emergency funds from the CCC to conduct the LBAM program. In March 2010, APHIS and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) announced a major program shift from eradication to suppression and control of LBAM. This shift was necessary because the LBAM population has expanded to the extent where eradication is no longer possible. The suppression and control program involves using pheromone twist ties and sterile moth releases to disrupt normal population growth and limit LBAM's natural spread and enforcing quarantine restrictions to prevent the pest's artificial spread. These activities maintain trade and interstate commerce and ensure that the program is consistent with standards for protecting human health and the environment. Conducting these activities helps the program limit LBAM spread from the infested counties. The continued suppression and control of LBAM will safeguard numerous industries and jobs associated with the agricultural sector. Potential production losses in areas susceptible to LBAM across the nation range between $700 million and $1.6 billion annually.

The program is continuing to develop large-scale, mass rearing of sterile moths to support LBAM suppression efforts. By September 2010, the LBAM rearing facility was producing 500,000 adults each week. The installation of four new modular units at the facility in FY 2011 will increase the production of sterile moths to approximately 4 million adults per week. The program continues to evaluate the fitness of these moths and establish the foundation for additional releases to begin in the spring of FY 2011. To ensure that the LBAM infestation is delimited accurately, the program places traps throughout California for monitoring and detection. In FY 2010, the program continued Statewide detection and delimitation surveys, applied treatments to eradicate outlying infestations and suppress the leading edges of infestations, targeted treatments at isolated infested areas, continued stringent enforcement of regulations, and enhanced public outreach and communication efforts. In addition, the program carried out a national survey in 21 States plus Guam, Puerto Rico, and American Samoa. The survey found no detections outside the regulated areas in California and Hawaii (Hawaii is regulated because of the lack of data on the distribution of LBAM there). In addition to sterile insect technology, the program also pursued mating disruption, biological control, and insecticidal control.

This program measures performance by tracking LBAM spread beyond the generally infested area. In FY 2010, the program found three new isolated populations, compared to five in FY 2009. These three new

populations were found in three new counties. This compares to six counties in FY 2009 where detections were found.

Summary of Key FY 2010 CCC Funded Activities

	Emergency/Activity	Prior Year Carry Over (Start of Year)	Account Recovery	FY 2010 Transferred and Redirected Amounts	Total Available in FY 2010
1	Asian Longhorned Beetle	$14,917,282	$18,445	$27,881,451	$42,817,178
2	Bovine Tuberculosis	7,900,257	202,379	0	8,102,636
3	Cattle Fever Tick	1,277,716	240,493	0	1,518,209
4	Farm Bill	1,665,531	1,618	50,000,000	51,667,149
5	Grasshopper	0	0	10,734,765	10,734,765
6	Light Brown Apple Moth	20,875,041	4,204,967	0	25,080,008
	Total	$46,635,827	$4,667,902	$88,616,216	$139,919,945

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Proposed Language Changes

The estimates include proposed changes in the language of this item as follows: (new language is underscored; deleted language is enclosed in brackets):

Buildings and Facilities:

For plans, construction, repair, preventive maintenance, environmental support, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 2250, and acquisition of land as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 428a, $4,712,000, to remain available until expended.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Buildings and Facilities

Lead-Off Tabular Statement

Annualized Continuing Resolution, 2011	$4,712,000
Budget Estimate, 2012	4,712,000
Change in Appropriation	+0

Summary of Increases and Decreases
(on basis of appropriation)

Item of Change	2011 CR Annualized	Program Changes	2012 Estimated
Basic buildings and facilities repair, alterations, and preventive maintenance	$4,712,000	+0	$4,712,000

Project Statement
(On basis of available funds)

Item of Change	2010 Actuals	2011 CR Annualized	Program Changes	2012 Estimated
Unobligated balance available, start of year	$9,976,435	$6,750,319	-$3,634,337	$3,115,982
Recovery from prior years	651,128	--		--
Total, Appropriation	4,712,000	4,712,000	0	4,712,000
Total, Available	15,339,563	11,462,319	-3,634,337	7,827,982
Total obligations	-8,589,244	-8,346,337	-1,050,647	-7,295,690
Total, Unobligated balance available, end of year	$6,750,319	$3,115,982	-$2,583,690	$532,292

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
BUILDING AND FACILITIES
Geographic Breakdown of Obligations and Staff Years
2010 Actual and Estimated 2011 and 2012

	FY 2010		FY 2011		FY 2012	
	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years
United States:						
Colorado	0	0	$700,000	0	$200,000	0
Florida	0	0	0	0	392,520	0
Iowa	5	0	75,000	0	0	0
Maryland	$937,861	0	770,000	0	775,000	0
Massachusetts	469,816	0	3,929,510	0	1,280,000	0
New York	5,391,328	0	2,421,827	0	3,578,170	0
Pennsylvania	13,520	0	0	0	0	0
Texas	1,776,714	0	250,000	0	1,000,000	0
Mexico	0	0	200,000	0	40,000	0
Central America:						
Guatemala	0	0	0	0	30,000	0
Total direct obligations	$8,589,244	0	$8,346,337	0	$7,295,690	0

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Buildings and Facilities

Classification by Objects
2010 Actual and Estimated 2011 and 2012

		2010	2011	2012
Other Objects:				
23	Rent, Communication, and Utilities……	0	$27,000	$28,000
25	Other Services……	$8,586,559	8,234,337	7,180,690
26	Supplies and materials……	0	25,000	26,000
31	Equipment……	0	12,000	12,000
32	Land & structure……	0	48,000	49,000
43	Interest and Dividends……	2,685	0	0
	Total, other objects……	8,589,244	8,346,337	7,295,690
Total direct obligations……		$8,589,244	$8,346,337	$7,295,690

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

STATUS OF MAJOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

The Buildings and Facilities (B&F) appropriation funds major, nonrecurring construction projects in support of program activities, and recurring construction, alterations, and repairs of existing facilities. The following provides a status of ongoing major construction projects as of September 2010.

Miami Airport Facility, Miami, Florida--Plant Inspection Station

The APHIS agricultural inspection facility, located at the Miami International Airport, is intended to serve as a "one-stop" facility, housing APHIS's air cargo operations, the plant inspection station, and a 100 stall animal import/export center. APHIS moved into the Animal Import Center portion in January 2005, and began construction of the Plant Inspection Station in January 2008. On August 17, 2010, USDA announced the opening of the new plant inspection station in Miami. The new $25 million, state-of-the-art facility was built to meet the increasing demand for plant inspection and processing services. The Miami facility is the busiest plant inspection station in the United States, handling 78.5 percent of all propagative plant material imported into the United States in 2009.

APHIS Buildings and Facilities Master Plan

The Agency's performance goal relevant to our facilities is to implement the scheduled improvements, construction, security, and maintenance, as specified. The contractor is responsible for performing all inspections and tests necessary to substantiate that the supplies or services furnished under the contract conform to contract requirements, including any applicable technical requirements for specified manufacturers' parts. In addition, a design firm is required to validate that work is being constructed in accordance with the construction documents (plans & specifications). APHIS typically identifies on-site certified personnel to perform contracting officer representative (COR) services. APHIS' engineering staff attends on-site construction progress meetings to track construction status. APHIS collects performance data through contractor reports and on-site verification. The Agency's Buildings and Facilities Master Plan strategy is to modernize existing facilities when required, as well as to properly operate and maintain existing facilities. There are 66 active projects. APHIS awarded twenty-seven design/construction projects and successfully completed twenty-two repairs.

Facilities Condition Assessment

In FY 2000, APHIS embarked upon a comprehensive Facilities Condition Assessment (FCA) program to: better understand the existing condition of facilities, strategically maintain them by identifying deficiencies and funding needs, stabilize the current facilities repair backlog, predict future maintenance needs, and implement financial management and capital asset improvement efforts.

The consulting firm tasked with assessing APHIS' facilities has automated a standard process for assessing the relative condition of assets, and facilitating comparisons both within and among facilities. Each asset is assigned a Facilities Condition Index (FCI), a standard measure used throughout the country and industry. The FCI is expressed as a ratio of the cost to remedy maintenance deficiencies to the current replacement cost of the facility.

During FY 2010, three newer buildings were assessed, bringing the total number of APHIS buildings included in the program and the FCI calculation to 39. At the end of FY 2009, the FCI for the 36 buildings included was .22. With the inclusion of the three newer buildings, the FCI for FY 2010 is .20, that is, the cost to correct currently identified and anticipated deficiencies is 20 percent of the estimated replacement value for the 39 facilities.

Waimanalo Fruit Fly Rearing Facility Construction, Waimanalo, Hawaii

APHIS began demolition of the Hawaii Fruit Fly Production Facility in Waimanalo, Hawaii, in December 2010. The facility was structurally unsound and suffered from mold and other environmental issues. APHIS expects to complete this phase of the project in April 2011. APHIS and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) are developing a plan to create space at CDFA's facility in Waimanalo to develop sterile insect technologies (SIT) for Bactrocera fruit fly species, such as Oriental fruit fly. SIT is an environmentally friendly control method that has allowed APHIS to eradicate outbreaks of other fruit fly species (Mediterranean and Mexican fruit flies). Increasingly frequent outbreaks of Oriental fruit fly have occurred in California in recent years, and the availability of SIT for this species would improve APHIS' ability to respond.

New York Animal Import Center (NYAIC) – Modernization, New Burg, NY

APHIS' Buildings and Facilities program reached performance targets with respect to short-term facility specific targets. For example, prior to the initiation of the NYAIC modernization project, the FCI [program performance measure] for this facility was .25. Subsequent to the completion of Phase I of the modernization program in FY 2010, the FCI was reduced to .11 (a 50 percent improvement). The FCI will be reduced further when current construction projects have been completed in FY 2011. Once the modernization is complete, this facility will essentially have a new "Birth Certificate."

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Summary of Budget and Performance
Statement of Agency Goals and Objectives

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) was established by the Secretary of Agriculture on April 2, 1972, under the authority of the Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1953, and other authorities. APHIS works with other Federal agencies, Congress, States, agricultural interests, and the general public to protect the health and value of American agriculture and natural resources. APHIS strives to prevent the introduction or reemergence of animal and plant pests and diseases that could limit agricultural production and damage export markets. At the same time, APHIS monitors and responds to potential acts of agricultural bioterrorism, invasive species, diseases of wildlife and livestock, and conflicts between humans and wildlife. The Agency also addresses sanitary and phytosanitary trade barriers and certain issues relating to the humane treatment of animals. Finally, APHIS ensures that biotechnology-derived agricultural products are safe for release in the environment.

APHIS has four strategic goals and eight strategic objectives that contribute to all of the Secretary's Priority Goals.

USDA Strategic Goal	Agency Strategic Goal	Agency Objectives	Programs that Contribute	Key Outcome
USDA Strategic Goal 1: Assist rural communities to create prosperity so they are self-sustaining, repopulating, and economically thriving	**Agency Goal 1:** Support rural communities and the public, and promote and enforce animal welfare	Agency Objective 1.1: Implement agricultural pest and disease management programs, including those in affected rural areas Agency Objective 1.2: Promote and enforce animal welfare	Animal Welfare, Horse Protection, Wildlife Damage Management, Wildlife Services Methods Development	Key Outcome 1: Provide assistance and support to rural communities by: minimizing production losses, maintaining market viability, protecting the public, and ensuring the humane care and treatment of animals
USDA Strategic Goal 2: Ensure our national forests and private working lands are conserved, restored, and made more resilient to climate change, while enhancing our water resources	**Agency Goal 2:** Protect forests and private lands, as well as natural resources	Agency Objective 2.1: Reduce threats to forests and private working lands	Tree and Wood Pests	Key Outcome 2: Ensure protection of forests and private working lands, as well as natural resources, by reducing threats

USDA Strategic Goal	Agency Strategic Goal	Agency Objectives	Programs that Contribute	Key Outcome
USDA Strategic Goal 3: Help America promote agricultural production and biotechnology exports as America works to increase food security	**Agency Goal 3:** Expand opportunities to develop and trade safe agricultural products, including biotechnology derived agricultural products	Agency Objective 3.1: Enhance the regulatory framework that allows for the safe development of genetically-engineered organisms Agency Objective 3.2: Facilitate safe agricultural trade through international standard setting and effective management of sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) issues	Biotechnology Regulatory Services, Animal Agriculture Import/Export, Overseas Technical and Trade Operations	Key Outcome 3: Facilitate agricultural trade and the development of biotechnology products through the use of a rigorous regulatory system, thereby providing agricultural producers with additional options for production and assisting them with exporting their products
USDA Strategic Goal 4: Ensure that all of America's children have access to safe, nutritious, and balanced meals	**Agency Goal 4:** Minimize and prevent damage to the U.S. food supply caused by plant and animal pests and diseases	Agency Objective 4.1: Monitor the health status of U.S. agricultural resources Agency Objective 4.2: Develop and implement programs to address plant and animal pests and diseases of concern Agency Objective 4.3: Provide diagnostics and technical support to enhance pest and disease programs, including emergency response capabilities for these pests and diseases	APHIS – All Other	Key Outcome 4: Provide a secure agriculture production system and healthy food supply to consumers by defending against plant and animal pests and diseases

Key Outcome 1: Provide assistance and support to rural communities by: minimizing production losses, maintaining market viability, protecting the public, and ensuring the humane care and treatment of animals

Measure: Increase the viability of rural communities by providing local services, reducing damage to agricultural resources caused by wildlife, and protecting and promoting the welfare of animals covered under the Animal Welfare Act and Horse Protection Act

APHIS is engaged with the public every day to carry out activities that prevent, minimize, and/or manage damage that impacts agriculture, property, natural resources, and even threatens public health and safety. An example of such activities would be livestock predation management. APHIS continues to provide leadership in research and operational management of predator conflicts, which aims to strike a balance between protecting livestock while respecting the role predators play in the ecosystem. According to the latest National Agricultural Statistics Service surveys, predators kill more than $127 million worth of livestock annually. APHIS prevents and reduces wildlife predation to livestock through education, technical assistance to producers, and direct predation damage management.

APHIS' Animal Welfare program carries out activities designed to ensure the humane care and treatment of animals. These activities include inspection of certain establishments that handle animals intended for biomedical research, sold as pets at the wholesale level, transported in commerce, or used for exhibition purposes. Program personnel inspect licensed establishments to ensure compliance with the Animal Welfare Act (AWA). The program places emphasis on the inspection of facilities and records management, investigation of complaints, re-inspection of problem facilities, education of regulated entities, and training of inspectors.

A recent audit conducted by USDA's Office of Inspector General (OIG) regarding the AWA inspections specific to problematic dog dealers – those who have committed repeat and serious violations – provided several recommendations for the Agency. OIG recommended that APHIS shift its compliance efforts from an education focus for problematic dog dealers to an enforcement focus, improve inspection performance, and seek legislation regarding the Internet sale of dogs. To address the concerns of the audit, APHIS developed an action plan to improve the Agency's regulation of dog dealers. Implementation of the plan was initiated in 2010, and the Agency will continue to implement and monitor progress in addressing the concerns outlined in the audit into FY 2012. The plan calls for APHIS to add to its existing enforcement workforce to reduce the current ratio of inspectors to facilities inspected, and to increase the number of investigators available to conduct investigations in areas where there is intensive workload. In addition, APHIS will enhance oversight of the inspectors in the field to improve the quality and accuracy of documentation and evidence collected to support the downstream enforcement efforts.

Long-term Performance Measure: Maintain the percentage of licensees and registrants in substantial compliance of the Animal Welfare Act

Selected Past Accomplishments Toward Achievement of the Key Outcome 1:

- Responded to more than 83,336 requests in 50 States for wildlife technical assistance in FY 2010
- Regulated entities maintained 95-99% substantial compliance with the Animal Welfare Act over 2007-2010 due to enforcement and education efforts

Selected Accomplishments Expected at the FY 2012 Proposed Resource Level for Key Outcome 1:

- Continue to respond to requests for wildlife technical assistance in all 50 States
- Protect and promote the welfare of animals covered under the Animal Welfare Act through monitoring regulatory compliance and providing non-regulatory activities such as outreach, education, and training with affected parties
- Increase the number of inspections and enforcement actions for Class A breeders for dogs (focusing on problematic dog dealers)

Efficiency Measure: Average cost of issuing animal welfare licenses and registrations

Key Outcome 2: Ensure protection of forests and private working lands, as well as natural resources, by reducing threats

Measure: Reduce damage to forests and private working lands

In cooperation with various other Federal and state agencies, industry, and producers of all sizes, APHIS conducts plant and animal health programs to prevent, control, or eliminate plant and animal pests and diseases of concern to American agriculture and natural resources. The detection and management of these pests and diseases has protected and enhanced agricultural products and natural resources in many rural areas, including forests and private working lands.

APHIS continues to address a particular forest pest of concern, the Asian longhorned beetle (ALB), which is a damaging pest of hardwood trees. APHIS uses surveys, host tree removal, and protective treatments for exposed trees to eradicate and prevent the spread of ALB. The program also conducts regulatory activities to restrict the movement of ALB host materials that could transfer the pest to new areas. The newest detections of the pest were discovered in Massachusetts in December 2009 and July 2010. The forests of Massachusetts provide $3 billion worth of ecosystem services (such as storm water mitigation, climate control, soil retention, protection of the fresh water supply, and aesthetics) annually. APHIS has learned from experience that the earlier the infested area is defined and controlled, the shorter and less costly the eradication efforts. Most recently, the ALB was found in Boston before the pest had a chance to spread – greatly reducing the damage caused by the pest and the costs to contain it. Since the detection was made before ALB was able to expand, only six infested trees were found. The trees were removed, and the program surveyed more than 33,000 host trees within the ½-mile radius from the point of infestation with no additional findings. The Agency continues to focus efforts on detecting and removing infested trees and treating exposed trees in the Worchester region of Massachusetts. APHIS is measuring progress towards eradication of the pest by reducing the number of infested trees found (meaning the infested trees have been removed and treatments that continue for three consecutive years are working), and the number of square miles treated. By FY 2015, APHIS will have treated 30 percent of the treatment area (the area that includes at-risk trees within a half-mile radius of infested trees).

Long-term Performance Measure: Increase the percent of treatment area treated for Asian longhorned beetle in Massachusetts

Selected Past Accomplishments Toward Achievement of the Key Outcome 2:

- Successfully eradicated Asian longhorned beetle in Chicago, Illinois, and Hudson County, New Jersey, in FY 2008
- Continued to make progress in Islip, Long Island, to enable eradication in Spring 2011
- Completed Manhattan program except for confirmation surveys which will end in 2013
- Removed more than 15,000 infested trees in Massachusetts in FYs 2009 and 2010

Selected Accomplishments Expected at the FY 2012 Proposed Resource Level for Key Outcome 2:

- Reduce the Asian longhorned beetle population in Massachusetts and prevent its spread by detecting and removing infested trees
- Complete two-thirds of treatments needed for the New York outbreak (Manhattan and Long Island)

Efficiency Measure: Value of damage prevented by the Gypsy Moth program per dollar spent

Key Outcome 3: Facilitate agricultural trade and the development of biotechnology products through the use of a rigorous regulatory system, thereby providing agricultural producers with additional options for production and assisting them with exporting their products

Measure: Enhance the America's ability to develop and export agricultural products, including biotechnology derived products

As a world leader in the safe development of genetically-engineered plants and plant products, the United States has tremendous opportunities to increase its exports of such products. A vital component to strengthening exports is in having a regulatory system that ensures the safe use of these products in agricultural systems and the environment.

APHIS, as one of three Federal Agencies (including the Environmental Protection Agency and the Food and Drug Administration) assessing the safety of agricultural biotechnology products, ensures the safe use of biotechnology derived products in agricultural systems and the environment. Since the United States is a world leader in assessing their safe use in the environment, many countries active in the development and deployment of these valuable products look to the United States' safety assessments for assurance and guidance that these products are unlikely to pose adverse effects on agriculture or natural resources. Therefore, through a strong scientifically based regulatory system, APHIS facilitates the review and acceptance of agricultural biotechnology products both at home and in foreign markets. These activities help ensure that producers have options to choose from when looking for crop varieties that will fit their needs. Specifically, APHIS regulates the importation, interstate movement, and environmental release of newly developed genetically engineered products to ensure they do not pose a threat to plant health or the environment before they can be grown on a widespread basis. APHIS also supports the exportation of these products by providing significant input to international standard setting activities and import policy. The Agency tracks overall performance by the percent of permit holders in compliance with permit conditions. In FY 2010, 95 percent of permit holders were in compliance and the Agency anticipates continuing this trend in the future. APHIS will continue to seek ways to ensure the safe importation, interstate movement, and environmental release of genetically engineered products.

Long-term Performance Measure: Maintain compliance with biotechnology permit conditions

Selected Past Accomplishments Toward Achievement of the Key Outcome 3:

- Reviewed and approved 81 different plant lines that were found safe for use in the environment and accounted for more than 90 percent of soybean, 80 percent of corn and 80 percent of cotton adopted and grown by farmers in the United States
- Over the past two decades, provided regulatory analysis and oversight on more than 31,000 field trials of genetically engineered crops and organisms at nearly 240,000 sites

Selected Accomplishments Expected at the FY 2012 Proposed Resource Level for Key Outcome 3:

- Increase the number of biotechnology plant lines reviewed and found safe for use in the environment
- Increase the number of inspections for field trial sites

Efficiency Measure: Average cost of a biotechnology inspection

Key Outcome 4: Provide a secure agriculture production system and healthy food supply to consumers by defending against plant and animal pests and diseases

Measure: Minimize and prevent damage to agriculture caused by animal and plant pests and diseases

By preventing the entry and establishment of pests and diseases, the Agency helps keep fresh food accessible, minimizes production losses, and creates consumer confidence in agricultural products. A key component of the safeguarding system is the early detection and rapid response to pests and diseases should they reach the United States in order to prevent their spread.

There were no significant outbreaks of animal diseases in FY 2010, and the Agency continued to enhance the nation's ability to trace diseased or exposed animals in order to prevent disease spread. As a result of increasing diversity of livestock and poultry rearing facilities in the United States, a more flexible animal disease traceability system is needed to effectively respond to animal disease concerns and minimize harm to producers. To replace the original effort—the National Animal Identification System, which was perceived as being too intrusive—USDA announced a new approach to animal disease traceability in FY 2010. APHIS gathered input from the public through a variety of mechanisms to develop a comprehensive understanding of how to design and deliver an animal disease traceability program. APHIS held eight listening sessions with associated public comment periods, and has invited ongoing stakeholder input.

These forums enabled the Agency to provide details about the framework and to learn from industry representatives and producers how to best support the States and Tribes as they develop workable traceability systems. Additionally, APHIS has distributed Tribal informational packets to more than 560 federally recognized Tribes and has worked with the Indian Nations Conservation Alliance to reach out to Tribes in Arizona, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Washington, and Wyoming. APHIS also maintained information systems developed under the previous system that assist with tracing animals potentially exposed to a disease.

APHIS continues to develop a specific plan on traceability that is more flexible than the previous system and allows States, Tribal Nations, Territories, and producers to use their expertise to develop the animal disease traceability approach that works best for them. Detecting an animal disease before many animals have been exposed to it limits the spread of the disease and allows for more timely eradication and management efforts. The Agency estimates that a half week delay in intervention can increase total costs by $135 million, including production and trade losses related to a major disease event. Therefore, the Agency's monitoring and surveillance activities are crucial to minimizing and preventing damages to the U.S. livestock industry and ensuring access to a variety of meat and poultry products.

APHIS also prevented and mitigated economic and environmental damage to other agricultural commodities, including specialty crops such as grapes. The European grapevine moth (EGVM), a significant pest of grapes, was initially discovered in major grape production areas of northern California last year. The pest damages grape production when larvae feed on the flowers and berries; subsequent fungal infection causes further damage. High population densities of EGVM can destroy entire vineyards, resulting in a total loss of grapes at harvest. Other potential impacts include reduced availability of fresh and processed commodities, a decreased number of export markets for the grape and stone fruit industry, and increased costs to both the producers and consumers.

Many of the impacts have been avoided due to the rapid response to the initial discovery of the pest. APHIS, State, County, and University cooperators continue to conduct survey and regulatory activities, as well as education and outreach efforts. APHIS and cooperators have been conducting intense regulatory compliance activities during the 2010 harvest to prevent movement of infested products from the quarantined areas, and growers in affected areas are conducting treatments to suppress the moth. The results of the 2010 harvest activities will not be confirmed until the spring of 2011, however, initial efforts have significantly reduced detections of moths in affected areas. Continued intensive survey, regulatory, and suppression efforts are needed for the next several years to ensure that the pest does not spread to new areas or begin to establish itself. Without these control measures in place, crop damage can be significant, with losses of 80 to 100 percent of the vineyard, reducing fresh fruits available to consumers.

Long-term Performance Measure: Increase the value of damage prevented and mitigated as a result of our plant and animal health monitoring and surveillance efforts

Selected Past Accomplishments Toward Achievement of the Key Outcome 4:

- There were no new introductions of foreign animal diseases that spread beyond the original area of introduction that caused significant economic damage or damage to the health of animals
- Program efforts reduced detections of European grapevine moths in affected areas from 66,000 in April 2010 to just 20 moths detected in August 2010

Selected Accomplishments Expected at the FY 2012 Proposed Resource Level for Key Outcome 4:

- Continue the effective surveillance for foreign animal diseases
- Continue to develop a specific plan for effective animal disease traceability in the United States
- Continue to conduct regulatory activities to prevent the spread of the European grapevine moth

Efficiency Measure: Value of damage prevented and mitigated per program dollar spent

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Salaries and Expenses

Strategic Goal Funding Matrix
(On basis of appropriation)

	2010 Actual		2011 CR Annualized		Increase or	2012 Estimated	
	Amount	Staff Years	Amount	Staff Years	Decrease	Amount	Staff Years
Assist rural communities to create prosperity so they are self-sustaining, repopulating, and economically thriving.							
Animal Welfare	$24,444,965	242	$21,979,000	204	$6,608,000	$28,587,000	251
Horse Protection	498,024	5	500,000	5	391,000	891,000	5
Wildlife Damage Management	78,424,267	534	78,937,000	534	-10,450,000	68,487,000	539
Wildlife Services Methods Development	18,893,028	164	18,902,000	164	-2,837,000	16,065,000	158
Subtotal	122,260,284	945	120,318,000	907	-6,288,000	114,030,000	953
Ensure our National forests and private working lands are conserved, restored, and made more resilient to climate change, while enhancing our water resources.							
Tree & Wood Pests	51,469,472	124	77,146,000	124	-16,684,000	60,462,000	118
Subtotal	51,469,472	124	77,146,000	124	-16,684,000	60,462,000	118
Help America promote agricultural production and biotechnology exports as America works to increase food security.							
Agriculture Import/Export	12,587,229	153	12,604,000	153	1,500,000	14,104,000	157
Biotechnology Regulatory Services	13,284,761	81	13,322,000	81	11,813,000	25,135,000	110
Overseas Technical & Trade Operations	20,156,459	73	20,176,000	73	600,000	20,776,000	77
Subtotal	46,028,449	307	46,102,000	307	13,913,000	60,015,000	344
Ensure that all of America's children have access to safe, nutritious, and balanced meals.							
Agricultural Quarantine Inspection (Appropriated)	28,947,556	303	29,000,000	303	-3,000,000	26,000,000	303
Animal and Plant Health Regulatory Enforcement	15,445,160	154	13,983,000	132	3,292,000	17,275,000	166
Animal Health Technical Services	29,686,760	92	32,360,000	92	6,099,000	38,459,000	92
APHIS Info. Technology Infrastructure	4,307,528	0	4,474,000	0	0	4,474,000	0
Aquatic Animal Health	6,011,374	3	6,021,000	3	-3,760,000	2,261,000	3
Avian Health	59,722,496	160	70,567,667	190	-14,834,667	55,733,000	139
Cattle Health	112,165,766	723	114,530,567	723	-15,646,667	98,883,900	703
Contingency Fund	1,148,003	15	2,058,000	15	0	2,058,000	15
Cotton Pests	21,821,005	37	23,390,000	37	-14,413,000	8,977,000	37
Emergency Preparedness & Response	19,622,085	102	19,746,000	102	-2,000,000	17,746,000	101
Equine, Cervid & Small Ruminant Health	37,869,985	138	39,427,100	138	-17,409,000	22,018,100	112
Field Crop & Rangeland Ecosystems Pests	11,048,150	50	13,138,000	50	-4,070,000	9,068,000	45
National Veterinary Stockpile	48,130	8	3,568,000	8	0	3,568,000	8
Pest Detection	28,070,942	116	28,113,000	116	-1,357,000	26,756,000	116
Physical/Operational Security	5,668,652	0	5,725,000	0	0	5,725,000	0
Plant Protection Methods Development	21,704,474	223	21,773,000	223	-500,000	21,273,000	223
Speciality Crop Pests	142,601,768	573	150,849,000	573	3,851,000	154,700,000	571
Swine Health	25,722,750	219	25,732,666	219	-2,644,666	23,088,000	190
Veterinary Biologics	16,457,000	184	16,457,000	184	0	16,457,000	184
Veterinary Diagnostics	29,985,191	282	30,006,000	282	3,205,000	33,211,000	282
Zoonotic Disease Management	10,468,000	96	10,468,000	96	0	10,468,000	96
Buildings & Facilities	8,589,244	0	4,712,000	0	0	4,712,000	0
Subtotal	637,112,019	3,478	666,099,000	3,486	-63,188,000	602,911,000	3,386
Subtotal, Appropriated Salaries and Expenses	848,280,980	4,854	904,953,000	4,824	-72,247,000	832,706,000	4,801
Subtotal, Buildings & Facilities	8,589,244	0	4,712,000	0	0	4,712,000	0
Total APHIS	$856,870,224	4,854	$909,665,000	4,824	-$72,247,000	$837,418,000	4,801

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Summary of Budget and Performance
Key Performance Outcomes and Measures

Key outcomes and performance measures under each of the Agency's strategic goals as outlined below:

Goal 1: USDA will assist rural communities to create prosperity so they are self-sustaining, repopulating, and economically thriving

Key Outcome 1: Provide assistance and support to rural communities by: minimizing production losses, maintaining market viability, protecting the public, and ensuring the humane care and treatment of animals

Key Performance Measures 1:

Goal 1, Measure #1: Percent of licensees and registrants in substantial compliance of the Animal Welfare Act

APHIS' Animal Welfare program carries out activities designed to ensure the humane care and treatment of animals. These activities include inspection of certain establishments that handle animals intended for biomedical research, sold as pets at the wholesale level, transported in commerce, or used for exhibition purposes. A recent audit conducted by USDA's Office of Inspector General (OIG) regarding the inspections conducted under the authority of the Animal Welfare Act, and specific to problematic dog dealers – those who have committed repeat and serious violations – recommended that APHIS shift its compliance efforts from an education focus for problematic dog dealers to an enforcement focus, improve inspection performance, and seek legislation regarding the Internet sale of dogs. Due to the increased inspection and enforcement efforts for problematic dog dealers, it is likely that the Agency will experience lower compliance levels, initially, as new entities are inspected. However, APHIS expects to rapidly increase compliance in the out years as we work with those regulated entities to understand requirements and expectations established through regulation.

Key Performance Targets 1:

Performance Measure	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Target	2012 Target
Animal Welfare: Percent of licensees inspected and registrants in substantial compliance of the Animal Welfare Act[1]	97%	99%	99%	95%	90%	89%
Animal Welfare Funding	$17,473	$20,498	$21,522	$24,479	$24,479	$28,587

Goal 2: USDA will ensure our national forests and private working lands are conserved, restored, and made more resilient to climate change, while enhancing our water resources

Key Outcome 2: Ensure protection of forests and private working lands, as well as natural resources, by reducing threats

Key Performance Measures 2:

Goal 2, Measure #1: Number of trees in Massachusetts detected with Asian longhorned beetle

[1] Due to the increased inspection and enforcement efforts for problematic dog dealers, the Agency will likely initially experience lower compliance levels as new entities are inspected. APHIS expects to rapidly increase compliance in the out years as we work with those regulated entities to understand requirements and expectations established through regulation.

Goal 2, Measure #2: Percent of treatment area treated for Asian longhorned beetle in Massachusetts

In cooperation with various other Federal and state agencies, and industry, including producers of all sizes, APHIS conducts plant and animal health programs in order to prevent, control, or eliminate pests and diseases of concern. The detection and management of these pests and diseases has stimulated economic growth, and protected and enhanced agricultural products and natural resources in many rural areas, including forests and private working lands. In FY 2012, APHIS will continue to manage the spread of such devastating pests as Asian longhorned beetle and light brown apple moth. Specifically, the Agency will reduce the Asian longhorned beetle population in Massachusetts and prevent its spread by detecting and removing infested trees and applying treatments, and will continue to release sterile moths on a large-scale in the area impacted by the light brown apple moth.

Key Performance Targets 2:

Performance Measure	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Target	2012 Target
Tree and Wood Pests – Asian Longhorned Beetle: Number of trees in Massachusetts detected with Asian longhorned beetle	N/A	6,431	12,000	2,250	2,500	1,000
Tree and Wood Pests – Asian Longhorned Beetle: Percent of treatment area treated for Asian longhorned beetle in Massachusetts[2]	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0%	0%
Tree and Wood Pests – Asian Longhorned Beetle Funding	$19,904	$19,516	$19,918	$32,521	$33,021	$44,491

Goal 3: Help America promote agricultural production and biotechnology exports as America works to increase food security

Key Outcome 3: Facilitate agricultural trade and the development of biotechnology products through the use of a rigorous regulatory system, thereby providing agricultural producers with additional options for production and assisting them with exporting their products

Key Performance Measures 3:

Goal 3, Measure #1: Cumulative number of genetically engineered plant lines reviewed by USDA and found safe for use in the environment
Goal 3, Measure #2: Number of capacity building activities coordinated in support of APHIS goals

Through a strong scientifically based regulatory system, APHIS facilitates the review and acceptance of agricultural biotechnology products both at home and in foreign markets. These activities help ensure that producers have options to choose from when looking for crop varieties that will fit their needs. APHIS' Biotechnology Regulatory Services oversees a science-based regulatory framework for the safe development and use of biotechnology derived products. APHIS' role is to ensure, by conducting thorough evaluations, that newly developed crops do not pose a threat to plant health or the environment before they can be grown on a

[2] Most of the infested trees must be identified and removed prior to beginning treatments on the affected area. By the end of FY 2013, 33 percent of the treatment area will have undergone the required three treatment cycle. Treatments to an area are not considered complete until after three consecutive years of treatment.

widespread basis. APHIS has also evaluated and granted non-regulated status to 81 plant lines. The rapid adoption and broad use of agricultural biotechnology has precipitated a tremendous growth in APHIS' workload in terms of the number and complexity of applications received. In FY 2012, APHIS will address four critical areas: assuring timely regulatory approvals and efficiency by improving and expanding the risk and environmental analyses required to address complex regulatory decisions; improving and expanding compliance oversight to domestic, regulated field trials and emergency response and safeguarding capabilities; strengthening trade-related initiatives related to asynchronous approvals of GE products and coexistence between GE and conventional/organic crops; and enhancing transparency of regulatory processes. The requested increase will support the High Priority Performance Goal to strengthen USDA's biotechnology compliance program for GE plans and improve the GE crop deregulation process while working towards the prevention of unauthorized releases of regulated GE plants.

APHIS works to open, expand, and retain new markets for U.S. agriculture, monitor the sanitary and phytosanitary conditions of agricultural products traded with partner countries, ensure the smooth and safe movements of agricultural commodities into and from the United States, resolve technical trade issues, and, prevent the introduction of foreign animal diseases into the United States. APHIS coordinates capacity building projects carried out by different divisions and ensures the goals of these projects are aligned to Agency strategic direction. APHIS works actively with foreign governments on: pest and disease issues and projects, monitoring and reporting emerging threats, and, the enhancement of regulatory infrastructures in other countries, particularly in developing regions, to better detect and prevent the spread of pests and diseases. These projects increase the ability of farmers in other countries to produce healthy livestock. APHIS will increase the number of capacity building projects to 235 in FY 2012.

Key Performance Targets and HPPG Measures 3:

Performance Measure	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Target	2012 Target
HPPG Measure – Biotechnology Regulatory Services: Cumulative number of genetically engineered plant lines reviewed by USDA and found safe for use in the environment	73	78	80	81	85	91
Biotechnology Regulatory Services Funding	$10,533	$11,728	$12,877	$13,050	$13,050	$24,863
Overseas Technical and Trade Operations: Number of capacity building activities coordinated in support of APHIS goals	N/A	159	216	220	235	235
Overseas Technical and Trade Operations Funding	N/A	N/A	$15,725	$16,172	$16,172	$17,072

Goal 4: USDA will ensure that all of America's children have access to safe, nutritious, and balanced meals

Key Outcome 4: Provide a secure agriculture production system and healthy food supply to consumers by defending against plant and animal pests and diseases

Key Performance Measures 4:

Goal 4, Measure #1: Number of foreign animal diseases that spread beyond the original area of introduction and cause severe economic and environmental damage
Goal 4, Measure #2: Sterile light brown apple moths released (in millions per week)
Goal 4, Measure #3: Cost per thousand sterile light brown apple moths produced per acre

By preventing the entry and establishment of pests and diseases, the Agency helps keep fresh food accessible, minimizes production losses, and creates consumer confidence in agricultural products. A key component of the safeguarding system is the early detection and rapid response to pests and diseases, should they reach the United States, in order to prevent their spread. The Agency conducts early detection methods through the monitoring and surveillance programs. These programs indicated that there were no significant foreign animal diseases that spread beyond the original area of introduction and caused severe economic and environmental damage or damage to the health of animals. APHIS will maintain no significant introductions in FY 2012, as well. In addition, the European grapevine moth (EGVM), a significant pest of grapes, was detected in California in 2010. APHIS believes that many of the economic impacts have been avoided due to the rapid response to the initial discovery of the pest. Without these efforts, the moth could impact as many as 11,623 farms in California that produce grapes and raisins valued at $3.1 billion. APHIS will continue survey, regulatory, and suppression efforts for the next several years to ensure that the pest does not spread to new areas or begin to establish itself in previously treated areas.

Key Performance Targets 4:

Performance Measure	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	2009 Actual	2010 Actual	2011 Target	2012 Target
Animal Health: Number of foreign animal diseases that spread beyond the original area of introduction and cause severe economic and environmental damage	0	0	0	0	0	0
Animal Health Funding	$143,211	$122,507	$129,180	$121,667	$121,667	$127,122
Specialty Crop Pests – European Grapevine Moth: Number of compliance inspections	N/A	N/A	N/A	3,000 – 5,000	3,000 – 5,000	3,000 – 5,000
Specialty Crop Pests – European Grapevine Moth Funding	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	$2,500
Specialty Crop Pests – Light Brown Apple Moth: Sterile moths released (in millions per week)	N/A	N/A	.005	.5	4	4
Specialty Crop Pests – Light Brown Apple Moth: Cost per thousand sterile light brown apple moths produced per acre	N/A	N/A	$280	$200	$150	$140
Specialty Crop Pests – Light Brown Apple Moth Funding	N/A	$993	$1,001	$1,008	$1,008	$11,008

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

Full Cost by Department Strategic Goals
(On basis of appropriated funds)
(dollars in thousands)

Strategic Goal 1 - Assist rural communities to create prosperity so they are self-sustaining, repopulating, and economically thriving.				
	PROGRAM ITEMS - Discretionary	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
	Animal Welfare	$20,045	$18,023	$23,441
	Horse Protection	408	410	731
	Wildlife Damage Management	64,308	64,728	56,159
	Wildlife Services Methods Development	15,492	15,500	13,173
	Program Operational Costs	12,226	12,032	11,403
	Indirect Costs	9,781	9,625	9,123
	Total Discretionary Costs for Strategic Goal 1	$122,260	$120,318	$114,030
	FTEs	945	907	953
Performance Measure:	Percent of licensees and registrants in substantial compliance of the Animal Welfare Act	95%	90%	89%
Strategic Goal 2 - Ensure our National forests and private working lands are conserved, restored, and made more resilient to climate change, while enhancing our water resources.				
	PROGRAM ITEMS - Discretionary	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
	Tree & Wood Pests	$42,205	$63,260	$49,579
	Program Operational Costs	5,147	7,715	6,046
	Indirect Costs	4,118	6,172	4,837
	Total Discretionary Costs for Strategic Goal 2	$51,469	$77,146	$60,462
	FTEs	124	124	118
Performance Measure:	Number of Asian longhorned beetle infested trees detected in Massachusetts	2,250	2,500	1,000
Strategic Goal 3 - Help America promote agricultural production and biotechnology exports as America works to increase food security.				
	PROGRAM ITEMS - Discretionary	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
	Agriculture Import/Export	$10,322	$10,335	$11,565
	Biotechnology Regulatory Services	10,894	10,924	20,611
	Overseas Technical & Trade Operations	16,528	16,544	17,036
	Program Operational Costs	4,603	4,610	6,002
	Indirect Costs	3,682	3,688	4,801
	Total Discretionary Costs for Strategic Goal 3	$46,028	$46,102	$60,015
	FTEs	307	307	344
Performance Measure:	Percent of facilities in compliance with biotechnology permit conditions (# of permits with no violations/ # of active permits)	95%	95%	95%
Performance Measure:	Number of biotechnology inspections	528	500	1,000

Performance Measure:	Number of risk assessments and other environmental documents completed	12	16	24
Performance Measure:	Cumulative number of plant lines reviewed and found safe for use in the environment	81	85	91
Unit Cost:	Average cost of an inspection	$480	$528	$581
Strategic Goal 4 - Ensure that all of America's children have access to safe, nutritious, and balanced meals.				
	PROGRAM ITEMS - Discretionary	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
	Agricultural Quarantine Inspection (Appropriated)	$23,737	$23,780	$21,320
	Animal and Plant Health Regulatory Enforcement	12,665	11,466	14,166
	Animal Health Technical Services	24,343	26,535	31,536
	APHIS Info. Technology Infrastructure	3,532	3,669	3,669
	Aquatic Animal Health	4,929	4,937	1,854
	Avian Health	48,972	57,865	45,701
	Cattle Health	91,976	93,915	81,085
	Contingency Fund	941	1,688	1,688
	Cotton Pests	17,893	19,180	7,361
	Emergency Preparedness & Response	16,090	16,192	14,552
	Equine, Cervid & Small Ruminant Health	31,053	32,330	18,055
	Field Crop & Rangeland Ecosystems Pests	9,059	10,773	7,436
	National Veterinary Stockpile	39	2,926	2,926
	Pest Detection	23,018	23,053	21,940
	Physical/Operational Security	4,648	4,695	4,695
	Plant Protection Methods Development	17,798	17,854	17,444
	Speciality Crop Pests	116,933	123,696	126,854
	Swine Health	21,093	21,101	18,932
	Veterinary Biologics	13,495	13,495	13,495
	Veterinary Diagnostics	24,588	24,605	27,233
	Zoonotic Disease Management	8,584	8,584	8,584
	Buildings & Facilities	8,589	4,712	4,712
	Program Operational Costs	62,852	66,139	59,820
	Indirect Costs	50,282	52,911	47,856
	Total Discretionary Costs for Strategic Goal 4	$637,112	$666,099	$602,911
	FTEs	3,478	3,486	3,386
	PROGRAM ITEMS - Mandatory	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012
	Farm Bill: 10202 - National Clean Plant Network	$0	$4,100	$4,100
	Farm Bill: 10201 - Plant Pest & Disease Mgt. & Disaster Prevent	0	41,000	41,000
	Trust Funds	15,292	13,940	13,940
	Program Operational Costs	0	0	0
	Indirect Costs	0	0	0
	Total Mandatory Costs for Strategic Goal 4	$15,292	$59,040	$59,040
	FTEs	150	165	165
Performance Measure:	Sterile light brown apple moths released (in millions per week)	0.5	4	4
Performance Measure:	Cost per thousand sterile light brown apple moths produced for release at a rate of 100/acre/day.	200	150	140

Performance Measure:	Value of damage prevented and mitigated annually as a result of selected plant and animal health monitoring and surveillance efforts (Dollars in billions)	$1.07	$1.11	$1.15
	Subtotal, Salaries & Expenses Discretionary	848,281	904,953	832,706
	Subtotal, Buildings & Facilities *	8,589	4,712	4,712
	Total Discretionary Request	856,870	909,665	837,418
	FTEs	4,854	4,824	4,801