**VMLRP Shortage ID Code AZ141**

**NIFA Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)**

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
US Department of Agriculture
Form NIFA 2009-0001
OMB Control No. 0524-0046
Expiration Date: 11/30/2016

# Veterinarian Shortage Situation Nomination Form

To be submitted under the authority of the chief State or Insular Area Animal Health Official

## Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

**This form must be used for Nomination of Veterinarian Shortage Situations to the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP), Authorized Under the National Veterinary Medical Service Act (NVMSA)**

**Note: Please submit one separate nomination form for each shortage situation. See the State Animal Health Official (SAHO) section of the VMLRP web site (www.nifa.usda.gov/vmlrp) for the number of nominations permitted for your state or insular area.**

**Location of Veterinary Shortage Area for this Nomination**

Location of Veterinary Shortage: Arizona Counties: Pinal, Yuma and Maricopa
(e.g., County, State/Insular Area; must be a logistically feasible veterinary practice service area)

Approximate Center of Shortage Area (or Location of Position if Type III): Casa Grande, AZ 85222
(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

**Overall Priority of Shortage:** ❑ Moderate Priority XX High Priority ❑ Critical Priority

**Type of Veterinary Practice Area/Discipline/Specialty (Choose only one Type)**

XX **Type I Shortage: Private Practice**
Food Animal Medicine (awardee obligation: at least 80 percent time or 32 hr/week)

| **Must cover**(check at least one) | **May cover** |
|---|---|
| XX Beef Cattle | ❑ Beef Cattle |
| XX Dairy Cattle | ❑ Dairy Cattle |
| ❑ Swine | XX Swine |
| ❑ Poultry | ❑ Poultry |
| ❑ Small Ruminant | XX Small Ruminant |
| ❑ Other: _____ | ❑ Other: _____ |

❑ **Type II Shortage: Private Practice – Rural Area**
Food Animal Medicine (awardee obligation: at least 30 percent time or 12 hr/week)

| **Must cover** (check at least one) | **May cover** |
|---|---|
| ❑ Beef Cattle | ❑ Beef Cattle |
| ❑ Dairy Cattle | ❑ Dairy Cattle |
| ❑ Swine | ❑ Swine |
| ❑ Poultry | ❑ Poultry |
| ❑ Small Ruminant | ❑ Small Ruminant |
| ❑ Other: _____ | ❑ Other: _____ |

❑ **Type III Shortage: Public Practice** (awardee obligation: at least 49 percent time or 19.6 hr/week)
Employer: _____ Position Title: _____
Please select **one or more** specialty/disciplinary areas:
❑ Food Safety
❑ Public Health
❑ Epidemiology
❑ Other: _____

Please describe the **importance and objectives** of a veterinarian filling this shortage situation as well as being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

This position will ensure food animal veterinary expertise is available for the farming and ranching region of central Arizona. The majority of the feedlot and dairy industry of Arizona is located in this region. Applicants for this position should be willing to provide veterinary service for the listed species in this region which includes private land, state trust range land, federal range land and tribal communities. This region contains the Fort McDowell and Gila River Indian Reservations. Applicants should be aware of the disease risks and plant toxicities associated with the region and the increased health risks of international livestock, poultry and bird importation. The successful applicant will be offered training to become a member of the Arizona Livestock Incident Response Team (ALIRT). ALIRT veterinarians are trained and equipped as first responders to adverse livestock health events. The successful applicant must have Category II accreditation with the USDA APHIS Veterinary Services and be actively engaged in food animal practice a minimum of 32 hours per week (80%).

Please describe the **activities** of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

The following activities are for range beef cow-calf practice servicing Arizona producers, the majority of which have spring calving cowherds. This work is seasonal mostly performed in the fall and spring months. Spring: assist with dystocia; consultation on cow herd, herd bull and calf immunization and parasite control strategies; herd bull fertility exams including collection of samples for trichomoniasis lab analysis; Fall: Pregnancy testing cows; administer immunizations and parasite control; official calf hood vaccination of heifer calves; health certification for interstate shipment. Dairy practice in the region is the major food animal practice discipline and need of the region. Continuous activities focus on herd health and nutrition for the lactating herd and dry cows; herd bull management; calf rearing and managing replacement heifers; intensive management of calving intervals; immunization strategies; individual cow treatments; tuberculosis testing and brucellosis testing; health certification for interstate shipments; milk quality testing; official calf hood vaccination of heifer calves. Most of the swine and small ruminants in the region are owned by individuals that may request live animal exams, necropsies and diagnostics. This region has two poultry premises of commercial laying operations. These premises are family owned and retain a full time veterinarian. Clinicians may be contracted to do work on the reservation or may be full time employees of the Tribal Nation. One public food animal livestock market is located in the region.

Please describe any past efforts to recruit and retain a veterinarian in the shortage situation identified above (limit your response to 100 words or less).

Practicing veterinarians have assisted other veterinarians establish practice in the region in hopes of getting help with food animal work but in the last several years most of the of the new practices have evolved to focus mainly on small animal and equine practice. Even the group practices that focus almost exclusively on dairy practice have experienced difficulty in keeping associates the last 5 years.

Please describe the risk of this veterinarian position not being secured or retained. Include the risk(s) to the production of a safe and wholesome food supply and to animal, human, and environmental health not only in the community but in the region, state/insular area, nation, and/or international community (limit your response to 250 words or less).

Maintaining disease free herds and flocks is critical to maintaining market access for live animals and consumer confidence in meat, milk and eggs. Accredited food animal practitioners are the key veterinarians that ensure the herd and flock health that allows for the sale of live animals and animal derived products in local, national and international markets. Public investment to reverse the trend of declining numbers of food animal veterinarians is supported by the food animal practitioners within Arizona. They realize the risk to herd and flock health, to the marketplace, to livestock welfare, and to food safety and security if their numbers continue to decline. Practitioners also realize the critical role of the Arizona Livestock Incident Response Team. Most recent NASS numbers for all cattle and sheep inventory for the region: all cattle 710,000 head, all sheep and lambs 58,000 head.

(Optional) If the nominator wishes to specify a service time for this shortage situation that is higher than the minimum required for the shortage type checked on Page 1, please specify the percent time in the box below (based on a 40-hour work week). Leave the box blank if the service time for this shortage situation is for the minimum percent time of the shortage type indicated.

| % |
|---|

**Minimum Service time required for each shortage type**
Type I: 80 percent time or 32 hours/week
Type II: 30 percent time or 12 hours/week
Type III: 49 percent time or 19.6 hours/week

SAHO nominator must check both boxes below in order for NIFA to consider this nomination for official designation

**XX** By checking this box, I affirm that this form represents a nomination and is subject to NIFA review and approval.

**XX** By checking this box, I affirm that it is my professional opinion that this is a bona fide food supply or public health-related veterinary shortage situation. I affirm due diligence has been invested to identify this area as a shortage situation of at least moderate priority (severity).

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:


Name: Perry Durham, DVM

Title: Arizona State Veterinarian

Organization: Arizona Department of Agriculture

Email: pdurham@azda.gov

Telephone Number: Office 602-542-4293 cell 602-708-0932
(Area code required)



Public reporting for OMB control number 0524-0046 is estimated to average two hours, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless it displays a current valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to NIFA, OGFM, 800 9th St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.



Form NIFA 2009-0001
OMB Information Collection Approval No. 0524-0046
Expiration Date: 11/30/2016