Update on USDA/CSREES Agrosecurity Activities

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Agricultural Homeland Security

- USDA’s Office of Homeland Security
  - Located with the Deputy Secretary
  - www.usda.gov/homelandsecurity

- Agricultural Research Service

- Food Safety Inspection Service

- Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service

- Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
National Animal and Plant Diagnostic Laboratory Network

Overall Objective:

To establish a functional national network of existing diagnostic laboratories to rapidly and accurately detect and report pathogens of national interest
High Priority Agents
(USDA)

- Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza
- Exotic Newcastle Disease
- Classical Swine Fever (Hog Cholera)
- African Swine Fever
- Foot and Mouth Disease
- Rinderpest
- Lumpy Skin Disease
- Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia

Ultimate goal – Deploy rapid, molecular based assays for detection of foreign animal disease and other agents of biosecurity concern
Animals

- 13 Locations
- 5 - Core Labs
- 7 - Satellite Labs
- 1 - Sub-contract Lab

Plants

- 6 Locations
- 5 - Regional Labs
- 1 - Support Lab
The potential of the nation’s diagnostic resources
Objectives for Animal Diagnostic Laboratories

- Train personnel
- Expand standardized rapid/sensitive testing capabilities
- Improve BSL-3 capability
- Assure quality standards and proficiency testing
- Improve communications to share data
Objectives for the 5 Regional Plant Diagnostic Centers

- Coordinate activities with stakeholders within regions and across the country
- Coordinate regional detection and diagnostic resources
- Establish national standard operating procedures for diagnostics, sampling and reporting
- Provide inter-regional communication
- Create a national database for monitoring disease and pest outbreaks
Coordinating Communications

- Diagnostic Laboratories
- State Governments
- Federal Government
  - USDA: APHIS, ARS, CSREES, FSIS
  - FDA
  - HHS (CDC and the LRN)
  - Others
Future

- Maintain the current network
- Expand communication capabilities
- Increase the number of laboratories within the Network
- Expand diagnostic capabilities
Future

- Incorporate extension network
- Enhance toxicological capabilities
- Build in flexibility to work with different samples (food, human, etc.)
- Enhance surveillance
  - Become more “user friendly”
  - Cost-share with producer
  - Become more accessible to producer
National Research Initiative (NRI):

- FY2003 Appropriation = ~$166 million
- FY2002 Appropriation = ~$120 million
National Research Initiative (NRI):

• FY2003 NRI Integrated Program RFA:
  - Letters of intent were received: June 30, 2003
  - Proposals were received: July 30, 2003
  - ~$30 million. Priority given to:
    • Integrate agricultural research, extension and education projects; or
    • Multistate, multi-institutional, or multidisciplinary projects

www.reeusda.gov “funding opportunities”
www.reeusda.gov/nri
FY2003 NRI Integrated Programs:

- Functional Genomics ($8 million)
- Air Quality ($5 million)
- Human Nutrition & Obesity ($8 million)
- Animal & Plant Biosecurity ($7.5 million)
- National Training Program for Agricultural Homeland Security ($0.5 million)

- Plant pathogens and plant pests
- Coordinated with APHIS & USDA plant disease diagnostic network
FY2003 NRI Integrated Programs:

- **Animal Biosecurity ($4 million)**
  - Awards up to $4 million
    - Avian Influenza (Fowl Plague) virus
    - Johne’s Disease (*Mycobacterium avium*)
    - PRRS Virus (Porcine Reproductive Respiratory Syndrome)

- **Plant Biosecurity ($3.5 million)**
  - Early detection, diagnosis and monitoring for plant pathogens/pests
FY2003 NRI Integrated Programs:

• Eligibility:
  - Federal research agencies
  - National laboratories
  - Colleges or universities or a research foundation maintained by a college or university
  - Private research organization with an established & demonstrated capacity to perform research or technology transfer
  - State agricultural experiment stations
Criteria To Be Used In The Review Of Protocols

- **Relevance** - to critical emerging agricultural and rural issues. Stakeholder input.

- **Merit** - on scientific, extension, or educational uniqueness, clarity of objectives, feasibility, and probability of success.

- **Quality** - of individuals, institution, partnerships and collaborative efforts, administration and oversight of project, and planned dissemination of information.
The Critical Role of Extension and EDEN

- Collaborators for integrated projects – contributing relevance, merit and quality

- Educating first detectors & responders – local, regional, and state (citizens, agencies, and organizations)

- Helping to Build Disaster Resilient Communities – providing disaster management education

- Consequence Management – serving as liaison between Federal & State agencies and the local communities.
Mechanisms and Tools for Training

- **Training-the-Trainer**
  - Center for Food Security & Public Health
  - National Assoc. of County Ag Agents
  - NPDN, NAHLN, NRI, and other initiatives
- **EDEN Web-site**
- **Plant Management Network**
  
  www.plantmanagementnetwork.org
CAB International

(www.cabi.org)

- A not-for-profit organization specializing in sustainable solutions for agricultural and environmental problems
- A consortium of global partners that share information: 3 compendia (CD and web)
  - Animal Health & Production
  - Crop Protection
  - Forestry
- CSREES to make access available to LGUs
Questions?

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