

Agency Purpose

The Board of Animal Health is Minnesota's official animal disease control and eradication agency. In carrying out its mission, the Board is part of a network of state agencies that protect public health, provide an abundant, wholesome food supply to Minnesota consumers, and enable orderly commerce in animal agriculture.

Core Functions

The Minnesota Board of Animal Health's mission is to regulate and protect the health of Minnesota domestic animal populations by preventing, controlling, and eradicating animal diseases. In doing so, the Board supports both the livestock industry and animal health professionals.

Our core functions are to:

- ◆ protect Minnesota's livestock from foreign animal diseases;
- ◆ respond to disease outbreaks by identifying, locating, and controlling the movement of infected animals;
- ◆ coordinate mandatory and voluntary animal disease control programs as directed by animal health statutes and rules;
- ◆ regulate the importation of animals into Minnesota and help producers to facilitate the exportation of animals from Minnesota;
- ◆ educate and train Minnesota livestock producers on effective disease control measures;
- ◆ educate and train veterinarians in animal disease control programs and techniques;
- ◆ coordinate and prepare Minnesota's response to bio-terrorism and other potential animal health emergencies;
- ◆ monitor emerging animal disease threats nationally and globally; and
- ◆ inspect domestic animal facilities to ensure that disease control measures are taken.

Operations

Based upon the advice of the five-member board, the Board's disease control programs are directed by veterinarians at the St. Paul office and the Minnesota Poultry Testing Laboratory (MPTL) in Willmar. Activities such as animal testing and on-site inspections are conducted by a statewide field staff made up of veterinarians, agricultural regulatory specialists, and laboratory staff at MPTL. Educational outreach on issues of disease prevention and control is conducted throughout the state by the staff as a whole.

The Board's principal customers are Minnesota livestock producers, veterinarians, and pet owners. However the work of the Board would not be possible without the assistance and partnership of the University of Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), and other state agencies whose missions relate to animal and human health.

The Board maintains partnerships with livestock and poultry associations. These groups have served as an invaluable conduit for effectively channeling information to producers.

Key Measures

Board success is measured by the ability to control animal disease introductions in the state. Because the Board serves in both a preventative and a reactive capacity, and because animal diseases differ in communicability and detectability, measures of success differ in each case.

The Board of Animal Health has been working with Minnesota turkey producers for more than twenty years to test flocks for avian influenza (AI). The surveillance program has proven effective in preventing the spread of low-

At A Glance

The Minnesota Board of Animal Health has been actively reducing, controlling, and eradicating diseases for more than a century.

Program highlights include:

- ◆ Enhanced surveillance for avian influenza in domestic poultry and implemented statewide biosecurity education and awareness campaign
- ◆ Assigned national identification numbers to more than 11,000 premises
- ◆ Detected bovine tuberculosis in Minnesota cattle, traced the animal to its herd of origin and eliminated the disease
- ◆ Remained a national leader in Johne's disease control with over 1,900 cattle herds enrolled in voluntary program
- ◆ Implemented new rules to identify and eliminate scrapie in Minnesota sheep flocks, bringing the state in line with federal regulations

pathogenic AI from flock to flock and is currently the basis for Minnesota's highly pathogenic AI surveillance program. The program has been recently expanded to include pre-market testing for meat-type chickens and turkeys in order to prevent infected birds from reaching the food supply. There are multiple goals of the AI surveillance program, including detection and elimination of AI where it exists (especially highly pathogenic), prevention of the spread of the virus, and protection of the food supply. Within the upcoming biennium, the Board also aims to expand AI surveillance to backyard poultry flocks.

The goal of the Board's chronic wasting disease (CWD) surveillance program is twofold: to prevent the introduction of CWD into Minnesota's farmed deer and elk populations and detect and eliminate the disease quickly if it is found. The Board has implemented strict import regulations for deer and elk and mandatory CWD surveillance has been instituted to detect the disease in the farmed deer and elk populations. In the two incidents where CWD has been found in farmed deer or elk in Minnesota, an investigation was conducted and the disease was quickly eliminated. Success will be measured firstly by bringing all of Minnesota's deer and elk farmers into compliance with the program and secondly by determining whether the regulations prevent the introduction of the disease into Minnesota's farmed deer and elk populations and the expedience with which the disease is investigated and eliminated, should it be found.

In 2005, routine slaughter surveillance detected a cow infected with bovine tuberculosis (TB). The infected animal was traced to a beef cattle herd in the northwest corner of the state. An investigation was initiated and the resulting traces to and from the infected herd uncovered four additional infected herds. By quickly tracing and testing animals in hundreds of cattle herds, the Board, with assistance from MDA and USDA, ensured that Minnesota will again eliminate bovine TB. The Board's success will be measured by the ability to satisfy the requirements of the Minnesota Bovine TB Management Plan and the reinstatement of Minnesota's bovine TB-free status in early 2008.

The Board utilizes a variety of methods, including electronic communications, public meetings, and meetings with stakeholder groups to increase the general level of awareness among animal agriculture stakeholders of the state of affairs of domestic animal health in Minnesota. Success will be measured by the expansion of our stakeholder contact lists and by the levels of cooperation the board receives from livestock producers with our regulatory and voluntary disease control programs. Anecdotal evidence of producer satisfaction will also be used to measure the success of our public awareness goals.

Budget

Over half of all funds expended by the Board of Animal Health are appropriated from the General Fund. Most of the remainder comes from federal funds. A fractional amount is collected as inspection fees for farmed cervidae operations and are used to fund farmed cervidae registration and the chronic wasting disease surveillance program.

The Board continues to apply for federal funds where concurrent goals are shared between Board and federal programs.

Contact

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Dollars in Thousands

	Current		Forecast Base		Biennium 2008-09
	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	
<u>Direct Appropriations by Fund</u>					
General					
Current Appropriation	3,536	3,669	3,669	3,669	7,338
Forecast Base	3,536	3,669	2,961	2,961	5,922
Change		0	(708)	(708)	(1,416)
% Biennial Change from 2006-07					-17.8%
<u>Expenditures by Fund</u>					
Direct Appropriations					
General	3,296	3,972	2,961	2,961	5,922
Statutory Appropriations					
Misc Special Revenue	41	178	51	51	102
Federal	2,425	1,808	1,822	1,822	3,644
Total	5,762	5,958	4,834	4,834	9,668
<u>Expenditures by Category</u>					
Total Compensation	2,757	3,197	2,959	3,024	5,983
Other Operating Expenses	3,005	2,761	1,875	1,810	3,685
Total	5,762	5,958	4,834	4,834	9,668
<u>Expenditures by Program</u>					
Livestock And Poultry Health	5,762	5,958	4,834	4,834	9,668
Total	5,762	5,958	4,834	4,834	9,668
Full-Time Equivalentents (FTE)	38.1	41.3	40.1	40.1	

ANIMAL HEALTH BOARD

Agency Revenue Summary

Dollars in Thousands

	Actual FY2006	Budgeted FY2007	Current Law		Biennium 2008-09
			FY2008	FY2009	
<u>Non Dedicated Revenue:</u>					
Departmental Earnings:					
General	9	4	4	4	8
Total Non-Dedicated Receipts	9	4	4	4	8
<u>Dedicated Receipts:</u>					
Departmental Earnings:					
Misc Special Revenue	45	50	50	50	100
Grants:					
Misc Special Revenue	38	0	0	0	0
Federal	2,279	1,808	1,822	1,822	3,644
Other Revenues:					
Misc Special Revenue	1	1	1	1	2
Total Dedicated Receipts	2,363	1,859	1,873	1,873	3,746
Agency Total Revenue	2,372	1,863	1,877	1,877	3,754