

NIFA in the News – Week of January 23, 2012

Curious as to what happens to all the news releases you see in the [NIFA newsroom](#)? Here's the weekly summary of NIFA in the news for the week of January 23, 2012.

Did you know you can receive NIFA's news releases via email? It's the easiest way to get the news as it happens. [Sign up in our newsroom!](#)

In the News

USDA grants to fund water quality research across U.S (Water World 1/20). USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is providing \$13.4 million in research grants to support 26 water-related projects across the United States. [Link](#)

Poultry litter may be used in new ways (DelMarVa Now 1/22). To get ahead of potential federal regulations that could further restrict land use, legislators, state agencies and poultry farmers are looking for new uses for chicken manure. In a joint 2007 study, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the National Institute of Food and Agriculture and the Land Grant Colleges and Universities determined Sussex County produces up to 2,500 tons of excess phosphorous per year from manure that isn't used by crops. Alternative uses for manure include burning it or anaerobically digesting it, a process in which bacteria breaks down manure and converts it to renewable energy. [Link](#)

Watershed closure means lost jobs, lost future research (Zanesville Times Recorder 1/22). The ripple effect of the closure of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service North Appalachian Experimental Watershed goes beyond the loss of 13 jobs. While those jobs are lost in a county already facing a 9.7 percent unemployment, what is being lost is valuable research, said people who have worked with the watershed throughout the years. In 2011, it also was invited to become part of one of the largest USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture projects ever awarded. The project was to investigate adaptation and mitigation of corn-production systems because of climate change. Weather data from the NAEW since 1940 would be used for a preliminary look at the possible climate change in Coshocton County. [Link](#)

UNL wins USDA grant for E. coli research (AP, MSN 1/23). The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is receiving a \$25 million federal grant to research various forms of E. coli bacteria. The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced Monday that it has awarded the grant to help reduce the public health risks from Shiga toxin-producing E.

coli in the production of beef. The acting director of the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture is set to award the grant to a university research team Monday in Lincoln. [Link](#)

Universities join in \$25 million beef safety research project (Cattle Network 1/23). A \$25 million research grant from the USDA will give scientists from University of Nebraska , Kansas State University and other universities and government agencies an opportunity to improve beef safety through reducing the risk of E. coli. [Link](#)

UNL to lead \$25 million E. coli research (Omaha World Herald 1/23). The University Nebraska-Lincoln has been selected for a \$25 million grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to perform research on a specific strain of E. coli found in beef. The grant is the largest ever awarded to the university by the USDA. The grant comes from the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture. It will be used to help curb the public health risks of the seven most dangerous strains of the food contaminant called Shiga toxin-producing E. coli, also known as STEC, and a new strain that was part of a European outbreak in 2011. [Link](#)

UNL Receives \$25 Million Grant to Reduce E. coli in Beef (Food Product Design 1/23). The University of Nebraska-Lincoln received a \$25 million grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to develop ways to reduce the occurrence of E. coli strains throughout the beef production chain. The research will focus on the seven most dangerous strains of E. coli, plus a new strain that made its first widespread appearance in an outbreak in Europe in 2011. [Link](#)

USDA awards grant for E. coli research (Meatingplace 1/23). The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture today announced that it will provide a \$25-million grant to researchers at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to study Shiga toxin-producing E. coli in the beef production process. According to Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young of the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture, the research will help the agency understand how non-O157 STEC bacteria travel throughout the beef pipeline and how outbreaks occur. [Link](#)

USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture funds University of Nebraska-Lincoln (and Kansas State and NC State) to investigate STECs (Barf Blog 1/23). Later this afternoon I will be on my way to Lincoln, NE to meet with a group of academics, researchers, extension folks and regulators to talk about a large 5-year integrated project focused on reducing STECs from farm-to-fork that USDA NIFA has funded. [Link](#)

UNL receives \$25 million grant to research E. coli strains in beef (Daily Nebraskan 1/23). The University of Nebraska-Lincoln received a \$25 million grant to research E. coli strains from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). NIFA announced the grant at UNL's Hardin Hall Monday afternoon. It is the largest grant ever awarded from the USDA to the

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, UNL Chancellor Harvey Perlman said during his introductory statement. [Link](#)

UNL Wins Grant For E. Coli Research (KETV Omaha-NE 1/23). The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is receiving a \$25 million federal grant to research various forms of E. coli bacteria. The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced Monday that it has awarded the grant to help reduce the public health risks from Shiga toxin-producing E. coli in the production of beef. The acting director of the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture is set to award the grant to a university research team Monday in Lincoln. [Link](#)

\$25-million USDA grant to UNL to study E. Coli in beef production (Nebraska Radio Network 1/23). The U-S Department of Agriculture today (Monday) awarded a grant to the University of Nebraska – Lincoln and participating institutions that will be used to study E. coli in the production of beef. Chavonda Jacobs-Young with USDA made the trip to Lincoln to present the \$25-million grant. Jacobs-Young stated the project includes studying the entire beef chain from birth to consumption and to study how these pathogens travel through the production process. There will be several steps that include: [Link](#)

UNL to lead \$25M E. coli project (Brownfield 1/23). The University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) will lead a 25 million dollar project to reduce the occurrence of E. coli throughout the beef production and consumption chain. The project is made possible by a grant from USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). NIFA acting director Chavonda Jacobs-Young says while other studies have focused on the most common O157:H7 E. coli strain, this study will look at other types of E. coli as well. [Link](#)

UNL wins USDA grant for E. coli research (Sioux City Journal 1/24). The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is receiving a \$25 million federal grant to research various forms of E. coli bacteria. The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced Monday that it has awarded the grant to help reduce the public health risks from Shiga toxin-producing E. coli in the production of beef. The acting director of the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture is set to award the grant to a university research team Monday in Lincoln. [Link](#)

E. coli grant hits home for researcher (Omaha World Herald 1/24). A year ago, Jim Keen's niece got very sick from a strain of E. coli. She nearly died. So when Keen, a veterinary scientist at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, learned that a team of researchers that he is leading was awarded a \$25 million grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture — the university's largest USDA grant ever — to investigate eight strains of E. coli, it was something of a personal success. The grant also hits close to home for Nebraska and its \$12.1 billion beef industry. [Link](#)

17 Kansas State researchers to take part in national project to improve safety of beef (The Republic 1/24). Seventeen scientists from Kansas State University will be

taking part in a national research effort to improve the safety of beef, with special emphasis on the public health risks of certain strains of E. coli bacteria. Several universities and government agencies will be involved in the project. The investigators will be led by a veterinary scientist at the University of Nebraska, which received a five-year \$25 million grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture. [Link](#)

UNL researcher has personal role in battle against e.coli (Lincoln Journal Star 1/24). It's an honor and a privilege for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Jim Keen to lead a new \$25 million research war against e.coli bacteria, but it's also personal. It was the celebration of a five-year research grant meant to explore ways to reduce bacterial contamination of beef. The announcement brought together officials from the University of Nebraska and Kansas State University, as well as from the grant provider, the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture. [Link](#)

USDA awards \$25m grant to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for E. coli research (Food Navigator 1/24). The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) has awarded a \$25m research grant to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) to tackle Shiga toxin-producing E. coli (STEC) in the beef supply chain. [Link](#)

University receives grant for E. coli research (MeatPoultry.com 1/24). USDA awarded a \$25 million grant to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to research E. coli strains in beef. Scientist James Keen at UNL will lead a team of researchers from 10 research universities, the USDA's Agricultural Research Service and a research consortium comprised of government, academic and industry scientists and food safety professionals, USDA said. [Link](#)

KSU Researchers to Join Beef Safety Project (AP, San Francisco Chronicle, Washington Examiner 1/24). Seventeen scientists from Kansas State University will be taking part in a national research effort to improve the safety of beef, with special emphasis on the public health risks of certain strains of E. coli bacteria. Several universities and government agencies will be involved in the project. The investigators will be led by a veterinary scientist at the University of Nebraska, which received a five-year \$25 million grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture. The researchers will focus on a type of E. coli commonly called STEC. [Link](#)

Researchers to Look at 8 Harmful E. Coli Strains (Food Safety News 1/25). A \$25 million grant has been awarded to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to study how to reduce the risk of 8 pathogenic E. coli strains that can contaminate beef and cause human illness. The five-year research project, announced Monday by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, not only will look at E. coli O157:H7, but also the serogroups O26, O103, O45, O111, O121 and O145 -- recently proposed by USDA as adulterants in non-intact raw beef -- as well as E. coli O104, the strain responsible for last year's massive outbreak in Germany linked to sprouts grown from contaminated seeds. [Link](#)

University of Nebraska Wins USDA Grant for E.coli Research (Claims Journal 1/25). The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is receiving a \$25 million federal grant to research various forms of E. coli bacteria. The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced Monday that it has awarded the grant to help reduce the public health risks from Shiga toxin-producing E. coli in the production of beef. The acting director of the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture is set to award the grant to a university research team Monday in Lincoln. [Link](#)

UNL to lead E. coli research with USDA grant (Midwest Producer 1/25). A year and a half into his journey, Ronnie Green is no less enthusiastic about agriculture, its mission at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and its future in the state. He brought to Kearney news of a USDA grant that will help UNL reach higher. USDA announced Jan. 23 a \$25 million grant to fund research that targets Shiga-toxin producing E. coli (STEC). It's the largest-ever USDA grant to UNL. [Link](#)

USDA and Universities Team Up on Beef Safety Research (Food and Drink 1/25). When it comes to food safety in meat, catching pathogens and other issues at the source is of the utmost importance. Still it's something that food producers wrestle with on a daily basis, while food safety agencies search for ways to improve conditions. This week the USDA is encouraging such advancements, by awarding scientists at the University of Nebraska—Lincoln (UNL), Kansas State University, and ten other schools a \$25 million research grant to work on improving food safety conditions by reducing the risk of E. coli during beef processing. The USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture awarded the grant to a research team consisting of 48 scientists, led by UNL veterinary scientist Jim Keen. [Link](#)

USDA Awards E. coli Research Grant (Farm Futures 1/25). The USDA announced today that it has awarded a research grant to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to help reduce the occurrence and public health risks from Shiga toxin-producing E. coli along the entire beef production pathway. Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young, acting director of USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture, is scheduled to award the \$25 million grant to the UNL-lead research team today at the university in Lincoln. [Link](#)

Published on January 26, 2012 / Jennifer Martin