



# APHIS AFRI New Priority Areas Webinar: June 24, 2022

## Agenda

- Introductions
- Diseases of Agricultural Animals (A1221)
- Inter-Disciplinary Engagement in Animal Systems (IDEAS) (A1261)
- Agricultural Biosecurity (A1181)
- Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Diseases (EEID)



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# Confines of the APHIS – AFRI SARS-CoV-2 Collaboration:

USDA NIFA and USDA APHIS have agreed to collaborate on several AFRI program priority areas

- Through funding provided by the American Rescue Plan Act, USDA APHIS will contribute up to \$15 million across all 3 AFRI program areas and up to \$9 million for the EEID program
- These will be ***in addition to*** the funding provided by USDA NIFA
- Projects must be within the scope of the respective AFRI program areas while aligning with the SARS-CoV-2 research needs of USDA APHIS



# Objectives of the APHIS – AFRI SARS-CoV-2 Collaboration:

1. Address gaps in surveillance and investigation activities for SARS-CoV-2 in animals, including farmed animals, captive wildlife, free-ranging wildlife and companion animals.
2. Expand knowledge of susceptibility of species to SARS-CoV-2 to improve understanding of potential roles or routes of transmission.
3. Develop surveillance tools and strategies for the rapid detection and characterization of emerging and re-emerging pathogens to support an early warning system to prevent or limit future SARS-CoV-2 outbreaks.
4. Identify risks, effective interventions and other measures to prevent SARS-CoV-2 transmission at the human-animal interface and/or impacts to the food supply.



# Relevant Programs

- A1221 – Diseases of Agricultural Animals
- A1261 - Inter-Disciplinary Engagement in Animal Systems (IDEAS)
- A1181 – Agricultural Biosecurity
- EEID - Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Diseases



# AFRI A1221 Diseases of Agricultural Animals

## - Priorities

- Cellular, molecular, genomic/genetic or whole-animal aspects of animal health and disease, with emphasis on maintaining healthy agricultural animals to ensure a safe and adequate food supply
- Maintenance of homeostasis including innate immune responses
- Disease prevention and control, including vaccines, reverse vaccinology, breeding for resistance, management, and diagnostics (For all diagnostic tests, applicants must provide a validation plan.)
- Therapeutic interventions for disease reduction or treatment, including minor use animal drugs
- Immune reagents for agricultural animals.
- Establishment of a “Research Coordination Network for Minor Use Drugs” for minor species of food- and fiber-producing animals and for minor uses in major food animal species
  - **Application Submission Deadline: August 11, 2022.**
  - Program Contact: Kathe Bjork [Kathe.e.bjork@usda.gov](mailto:Kathe.e.bjork@usda.gov), and Timothy Sullivan [timothy.sullivan@usda.gov](mailto:timothy.sullivan@usda.gov)



# AFRI A1261 Inter-Disciplinary Engagement in Animal Systems - Priorities

This program priority area seeks to bridge traditional disciplinary divides and address complex issues in animal agriculture. This will require new interdisciplinary work anchored in animal and veterinary medical sciences to support food and agriculture production.

- **Precision animal management:** Developing climate-smart methods to enhance animal production and increase productivity: use of spatial and temporal resources; resource-smart feeding and monitoring, breeding and management; and animal health and animal products.
- **Environmental synergies of animal production:** Managing emissions to the atmosphere, recycling, reusing co-products of animal agriculture (e.g., manure management for efficient nutrient use).
- **Societal aspects of animal welfare:** Identifying and resolving factors that influence building trust around animal agriculture across a diversity of communities, such as consumers and producers, to improve animal welfare.
- **Application Submission Deadline: October 6, 2022.**
- Program Contact: Angelica Van Goor [angelica.van.goor@usda.gov](mailto:angelica.van.goor@usda.gov), Ganesh Bora [ganesh.bora@usda.gov](mailto:ganesh.bora@usda.gov), and Andres Cibils [andres.cibils@usda.gov](mailto:andres.cibils@usda.gov)



# AFRI A1181 Agricultural Biosecurity - Priorities

This program area priority focuses on increasing U.S. national capacity to prevent and rapidly detect and respond to biological threats to U.S. agriculture and food supply. Supported activities will be aimed at increasing agricultural biosecurity at the regional and national levels, and across the public and private sectors.

- Detection and diagnostics of transboundary, emerging, or re-emerging pests and diseases associated with animal production systems; and/or transboundary, emerging, re-emerging and invasive diseases, insects and weeds associated with plant production systems.
- Rapid response to, and recovery from, pests and diseases that pose large-scale biosecurity threats to plant and animal production, including existing and imminent threats to U.S. agricultural production and food supply systems.
- **Application Submission Deadline: October 20, 2022.**
- Program Contact: Amer Fayad [amer.fayad@usda.gov](mailto:amer.fayad@usda.gov) , Michelle Colby [michelle.colby@usda.gov](mailto:michelle.colby@usda.gov) , and Timothy Sullivan [timothy.sullivan@usda.gov](mailto:timothy.sullivan@usda.gov)





# AFRI Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Diseases- Priorities

*Ecological, evolutionary and social drivers* that influence the transmission dynamics of infectious diseases

- A central theme must be a quantitative or computational understanding of pathogen transmission dynamics
- Zoonotic, environmentally borne, vector-borne, or enteric pathogens of either terrestrial or aquatic systems and organisms, including diseases of animals and plants, at any scale from specific pathogens to inclusive environmental systems
- **Application Submission Deadline: November 16, 2022.**
- Program Contact: Timothy Sullivan [timothy.sullivan@usda.gov](mailto:timothy.sullivan@usda.gov)