



USAHA News Release

UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

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2007 USAHA/AAVLD Annual Meeting to Focus on Economically Significant Diseases

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ST. JOSEPH, MO– The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) is gearing up for its 111th Annual Meeting, to be held Oct. 18 through 24 at John Ascuaga's Nugget Hotel in Reno, Nev. This year marks a special year for the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD), as they celebrate their 50th Annual Conference. The two organizations hold their meetings jointly each year.

USAHA/AAVLD's meeting will feature a joint Scientific Session, focused on "Examining the Roles of USAHA and AAVLD Concerning Major Food Animal Diseases," scheduled for Monday, Oct. 22. The program will feature presentations on *Salmonella* in poultry, viral hemorrhagic septicemia in fish, scrapie, bovine viral diarrhea, porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome, equine infectious anemia, and Johne's disease.

"This year, we wanted to look at how the organizations can positively impact economically significant diseases for food animal producers," says Jim Leafstedt, USAHA president-elect and co-chair of the program. "USAHA and AAVLD have long been involved in many aspects of disease prevention, control and eradication, across multiple species."

The program, co-chaired with Dr. Grant Maxie, AAVLD president-elect, will focus on four key areas:

- Overview of the current science of dealing with the disease;
- Status of development of solutions to mitigate or eliminate disease;
- What tools may be absent that limit future progress; and
- What role can either AAVLD or USAHA play in the development of programs for prevention, control and/or eradication of the diseases.

In addition to the joint sessions, both AAVLD and USAHA will host committee sessions throughout the meetings, as well as AAVLD Plenary and Scientific Sessions. More information on the committees can be found at www.usaha.org. Click on "Meetings" to review the tentative agenda.

Pre-registration is \$250 for members of either organization, or \$425 for non-members. Pre-registration ends Friday, Oct. 5. Individuals can register online at www.usaha.org. A downloadable form is also available at that page.

Hotel reservations may fill up fast, so don't delay. Reservations can be made at John Ascuaga's Nugget hotel by calling 800/648-1177, group code GUSAHA, or using the hotel website, www.janugget.com.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: USAHA will offer complimentary registration to members of the media. Please contact Ben Richey, brichey@usaha.org to find out more information.

USAHA was established in 1897. USAHA is a science-based, dues-supported, voluntary organization whose membership includes state, federal and international animal and public health agencies, allied industry and professional organizations, as well as individual members representing academia, animal owners and animal health professionals. USAHA primarily serves as a forum for communication and coordination among animal health constituents on issues of animal health and disease control, animal welfare, food safety and public health. USAHA operates with 33 species- and subject-oriented committees, and hosts an annual meeting each year with the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians.