Protecting American Agriculture

United States Department of Agriculture • Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Jessica Mahalingappa, International Services
Protecting the Environment
Managing Wildlife Damage
Facilitating Safe Agricultural Trade
Ensuring the Safety of Genetically Engineered Organisms
Ensuring the Humane Treatment of Animals
OFFICE of the Administrator

Veterinary Services

Wildlife Services

Animal Care

Plant Protection & Quarantine

International Services

Biotechnology Regulatory Service

How is APHIS organized?

Dr. Gregory Parham
APHIS Administrator
Veterinary Services

**Mission:** Protect and improve the health, quality, and marketability of U.S. animals, animal products, and veterinary biologics.

**Responsibilities:**
- Disease monitoring and surveillance
- Disease control and eradication
- Emergency response management
- Regulation and certification of animals and animal products for import and export
- Veterinary accreditation
- Diagnostic testing
- Regulation of veterinary biologics
Plant Protection and Quarantine

**Mission:** Safeguard U.S. agricultural and natural resources from risks associated with the entry, establishment, or spread of plant pests and diseases, as well as invasive and harmful weeds.

**Responsibilities:**
- Pest surveillance, detection, and identification
- Pest eradication and management
- Regulation and certification of plants and plant products for import and export
- Crop biosecurity and emergency response
Biotechnology Regulatory Services

Mission: Using a dynamic, science-based regulatory framework, ensure the safe importation, interstate movement, and environmental release of genetically engineered (GE) organisms.

Responsibilities:
- Regulate the importation, interstate movement, and environmental release (field testing) of GE organisms by evaluating the plant pest risk associated with the organism
- Remove GE organisms from oversight that are demonstrated not to pose a plant pest risk
International Services

**Mission:** Provide international animal and plant health expertise to both protect American agriculture and facilitate safe agricultural trade.

**Responsibilities:**
- Negotiate animal and plant health protocol for imports and exports to facilitate safe agricultural trade
- Provide technical assistance to help developing countries build their animal and plant health infrastructures
- Lead international animal and plant health standards setting activities
Tasks:
• Safeguarding
• Risk assessment
• Regionalization and equivalence
• International standard setting
• Surveillance
• Market access negotiations
• Technical assistance
• Established in 2007 as central entry point and “clearinghouse” for international assistance

• Requests enter our database, either from USDA posts overseas or through domestic staffs
• Established a standard request format
• Implements full cost recovery when possible
• Develops and implements standardized courses
• Builds relationships with University partners
• Initiates annual planning and reporting processes
Universities and International Organizations

- FAO
- CABI
Agreements for funding to implement international capacity building activities, in collaboration with USDA – Foreign Agricultural Service, Defense and State Departments

- Biological Engagement

USAID
5 Animal Health Courses and 2 Plant Health Courses

- International Trans-boundary Animal Disease
- Veterinary Epidemiology
- Risk Analysis (Animal and Plant)
- Poultry Emergency Response
- Laboratory Diagnostic Networks
- Plant Health Systems Analysis
Examples: Animal Health coalitions: Africa, Southeast Asia
Distance Education SPS Development Training