

L u n c h ~ N ~ L e a r n S E M I N A R



THE NATIONAL COALITION FOR
FOOD & AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

Program:

Healthy Animals, Confident Consumers

*“The Direct Relationship between Animal Health
and Food Safety Outcomes”*

May 7, 2012

PROGRAM

Welcome and Introduction

NATHANIEL TABLANTE
CAST PRESIDENT & NATIONAL C-FAR REPRESENTATIVE

Distinguished Speaker

DR. H. SCOTT HURD
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
AMES, IOWA

Open Forum

Closing

NATHANIEL TABLANTE

NATIONAL C-FAR IS a nonprofit, nonpartisan, consensus-based and customer-led coalition that brings food, agriculture, nutrition, conservation and natural resource stakeholders together with the food and agriculture research and extension community, serving as a forum and a unified voice in support of sustaining and increasing public investment at the national level in food and agricultural research, extension, and education. For additional information, go to www.ncfar.org; or contact Tom Van Arsdall, Executive Director, at tom@vanarsdall.com.

ABSTRACT

As global food demands increase, the need for healthy livestock must be brought into focus. To promote high productivity in animal agriculture, decision makers need to consider nutrition, management systems, and biomedical policies including housing, the use of antibiotics, and vaccines. This new CAST paper addresses the relationship between animal health and food safety by focusing on direct and indirect impacts that animal health may have on public health. Because housing, feeding, and location (e.g., local) are significant factors in the health of an animal, alterations in livestock production methods may have an effect on human health. The U.S. food safety inspection system holds that healthy animals are essential for safe food and inspects accordingly, but good health can't be determined solely on the way an animal looks while alive. The authors cite studies demonstrating the connection between subclinical (not visibly ill) animal health and carcass contamination with foodborne pathogens. The authors conclude by saying that the "health of the animals within the food animal production system impacts many aspects of the system far removed from the animals themselves" and suggest several future research topics to help ensure food safety.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

Scott Hurd, Ph.D., is currently an Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Education in the Department of Veterinary Diagnostic and Production Animal Medicine at Iowa State University's College of Veterinary Medicine in Ames, Iowa. From February to December of 2008 he was the Deputy Undersecretary for Food Safety at the USDA, and from December 2008 to January 2009 he was the Acting Undersecretary. In these positions, he managed all federal meat and poultry inspection. He is on the Committee on Agricultural and Food Microbiology of the American Society of Microbiology's Public Health and Scientific Affairs Board and holds indefinite assignments with the American Veterinary Medical Association's Council on Biological and Therapeutic Agents and the Animal Health Institute's Scientific Advisory Council on Healthy Animals Safe Food. Hurd's areas of expertise include risk assessment, food animal *Salmonella* control, bovine spongiform encephalopathy (commonly referred to as mad-cow disease), antibiotic resistance, and epidemiology. He received his B.S. in biology from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg, Virginia; his D.V.M. from Iowa State University in Ames; and his Ph.D. in epidemiology/economics from Michigan State University in East Lansing.

SEMINAR SERIES DESCRIPTION

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