

## Outreach and Exercise Support

States that desire our assistance to help plan the acquisition, receipt, processing, and distribution of NVS countermeasures or to test their plan by exercising should contact us at

Email: [nvs@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:nvs@aphis.usda.gov)

Phone: 301.734.8073



United States  
Department of Agriculture



USDA APHIS VS



National Veterinary  
Stockpile

*“Science-Based Logistics Improving  
Disease Response”*

Outreach and Exercise  
Programs



Animal and Plant Health  
Inspection Service

# NATIONAL VETERINARY STOCKPILE OUTREACH AND EXERCISE PROGRAMS



## Mission

We provide the veterinary countermeasures—supplies, equipment, field tests, vaccines, response support services—that States need to respond to large-scale, catastrophic animal disease outbreaks that terrorists or nature may create.

## Purpose

Homeland Security Presidential Directive 9 established us in 2004 to protect the nation's food supply by holding countermeasures against the 17 most damaging animal diseases and by deploying the countermeasures in 24 hours. The directive reflected the national concern that terrorists could simultaneously release animal diseases of catastrophic proportions that would quickly deplete State and industry resources and overwhelm the private sector's ability to support such a disaster.

## Outreach and Exercise Programs

Our outreach and exercise programs help States (also Tribes and territories) plan for, train, and use our countermeasures to respond logistically to large-scale disease outbreaks.

## Outreach

Our liaison staff work constantly with States to help them plan. To support their efforts, we provide a Guide for planners and a State planning template. The guide tells States what they should consider when planning. The template provides a convenient format to reduce the time to produce a plan. Current copies of each and other information on the NVS are always available at <http://nvs.aphis.usda.gov/>

## Exercises

Once a State has a plan, we help it test the effectiveness of its plan and training using discussion- and operational-based exercises that comply with the Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP) guidelines and tools.

Our exercises have two purposes. First, they help us test our deployment procedures and define future countermeasures that we may want to add. Second, they help Federal, State, and industry representatives

- understand the NVS;
- test State abilities to acquire, receive, process, and distribute our countermeasures;
- appreciate what the State and industry should procure for their own resources;
- clarify roles and responsibilities; and
- identify resource gaps before outbreaks occur.

## Exercise Planning

Long before each exercise, our exercise staff meet with State exercise planners multiple times to help them plan and execute a successful exercise. This effort identifies the type, scope, objectives, and purpose of the exercise; defines all participants, develops a realistic scenario and planning milestones and timelines; and creates documents to support the exercise. After the exercise, an After Action Report and Improvement Plan document strengths, weaknesses, and corrective actions.