



# Bureau of Food Safety and Animal Health

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**Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Report**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

03	Animal Control
05	Animal Disease Traceability
07	Animal Feed Safety Program
09	Animal Shelters
11	Aquaculture
13	Bovine Tuberculosis
15	Companion and Exotic Animals
17	Compliance Investigative Unit
19	Dairy Safety and Inspection
21	Dead Animal Transport and Disposal
23	Emergency Management
25	Equine
27	Fairs and Exhibitions
29	Farmed Cervids
31	Food Safety and Inspection
33	Large-Scale Dog Breeding Kennels
35	Livestock Depredation
37	Livestock Markets
39	Local Health Services and Emergency Response
39	Local Health Services
41	Emergency Response
43	Nutrition and Food Safety Outreach
45	Produce Safety Unit
47	Poultry
49	Small Ruminants
51	Swine
53	Veterinary Biologicals
55	Appendix A: 2022 Reportable Diseases
57	Appendix B: 2022 Depredation Report



# ANIMAL CONTROL

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The Animal Control Program works with local animal control agencies to provide support, education, and guidance on animal health issues and state regulations.

Animal control, along with local law enforcement entities, enforce animal laws that address public safety and animal welfare. This includes dog and local kennel licensing, stray dogs, and animals running at large. Additionally, they are responsible for investigating claims of neglect and cruelty against animals, situations of animal hoarding, and complaints involving exotic or dangerous animals.

## IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

Animal control agencies and officers play a critical role in ensuring animal welfare, which leads to the greater health and safety of animals and the public. This sector provides resources for the housing and care of lost, stray, and unwanted animals. Also, animal control plays an especially important role in protecting people from animals running at large and animal bites, keeping the public safe from diseases such as rabies.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Partnered with the Michigan Association of Animal Control Officers (MAACO) to provide presentations at their spring and fall MAACO conferences.
- Supported state and national animal control officer training opportunities through Animal Welfare Fund grants.
- Ensured there were appropriate virtual training opportunities available for animal control officers to learn about humane euthanasia and field sedation of animals, as required by the Public Health Code and associated rules.



Metric	2022	2023
Virtual Animal Control Officer Ride-Along Training requests	14	4
Animal control officer training reviews completed	27	32

## PROGRAM GOALS:

- Provide at least two trainings, in cooperation with MAACO, for animal care and enforcement agencies and their partners in 2024.
- Continue to enhance the program's online presence and create new resources for animal control officers and agencies regarding animal health programs, available trainings, and state animal laws.
- Conduct quarterly meetings with MAACO's Board of Directors or their committees to discuss educational and training opportunities for Michigan's animal control officers.



## KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- Michigan Association of Animal Control Officers
- Michigan's counties, cities, villages, townships, and other local units of government
- Michigan law enforcement agencies
- Michigan Veterinary Medical Association

## LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- Act 287, PA 1969 as amended
- Regulation 151
- Act 339, PA 1919 Dog Law of 1919
- Act 309, PA 1939



# ANIMAL DISEASE TRACEABILITY

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The Animal Disease Traceability (ADT) Program educates others on the requirements for animals moving into, within, and out of Michigan and enforces these standards. Overall, these requirements provide assurance of animal health and traceability.

The ADT Program also gathers and stores searchable data on animal identification and movement, enabling a rapid response when an outbreak of a reportable animal disease occurs.

## IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

By facilitating the prompt identification and tracking of animals, the ADT Program safeguards Michigan's residents from the potential impacts of an animal health crisis. Animal disease outbreaks can affect the continuity of agricultural business, the strength of Michigan's economy, and/or the health of the public. The efforts of this program ensures the viability of Michigan's livestock industry and protects public health.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Eliminated the processing backlog for interstate certificates of veterinary inspection (CVIs).
- Enhanced the infrastructure for reading radio frequency identification (RFID) ear tags at eight Michigan livestock auction markets.
- Established a data sharing agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to advance strategic goals for national animal disease traceability.

Metric	2022	2023
Interstate certificates of veterinary inspection issued electronically in Michigan versus paper-based certificates, enhancing traceability efforts	67%	60%
Number of certificates of veterinary inspection processed per year	28,639	28,443

### PROGRAM GOALS:

- Implement recommendations from the National Scrapie Eradication Program to bolster the traceability of sheep and goats in Michigan.
- Educate and equip Michigan's accredited veterinarians with the means to increase the amount of animal traceability information that is captured and transmitted electronically.
- Expand outreach to USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service-inspected processors and custom slaughter facilities to increase the RFID data collected for tag retirements.



### KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- United States Department of Agriculture
- Michigan Farm Bureau
- Michigan Milk Producers Association
- Michigan Cattlemen's Association
- Accredited veterinarians

### LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- PA 466 of 1988, as amended, the Animal Industry Act
- 9 CFR Part 86





# Animal Feed Safety Program

## PROGRAM MANAGERS:

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Michigan has approximately 1,400 commercial feed licensees distributing over 4 million tons of commercial feed and feed ingredients. The goal of the Animal Feed Safety Program is to protect human and animal health through inspection and sampling, ensuring feeds are produced using approved ingredients and additives, free of contaminants, and labeled properly. Inspectors evaluate feed facilities, ensuring compliance with Current Good Manufacturing practices.

Routine review of feed formulations and sampling of feeds confirms compliance with state and federal regulations. Inspectors also investigate complaints involving animal deaths, illnesses, or issues with products impacting public health, including animal feed recalls.

## IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

Michigan farms are home to an estimated 15 million livestock animals including dairy cows, beef cattle, hogs, turkeys, chickens, goats, and sheep primarily raised for food. Furthermore, it is estimated 55 percent of Michigan households have one or more pets who would be directly impacted by a feed safety incident. Feed safety incidents and recalls demonstrate the need for product surveillance, rapid response capabilities, and strong enforcement for pet food and livestock feed.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- The feed program responded to animal illness and death investigations, completed Food and Drug Administration (FDA) contract obligations and completed high priority work.
- Expanded surveillance of routine livestock samples which resulted in discovering deadly pathogens in feeds that can cause illness or death to animals or consumers feeding animals. This discovery resulted in actions that reduce the risk to animals consuming these products.
- Worked with the FDA and MDARD's Animal Industry Division to investigate a feed adulteration event after a feed manufacturer issued a voluntary recall.

## MEASURING SUCCESS:

Metric	2022	2023
Current Good Manufacturing Practice Inspections	192	121
Medicated Feed Inspections	57	57
Veterinary Feed Directive Inspections	48	55
FDA Contract Work (includes PC and OEI inspections)	33	33
Feed Samples	428	*380
Complaint Investigations	21	33

\*14,593 total analytes tested

## PROGRAM GOALS:

- Continued focus on feed safety through risk-based inspections and the routine surveillance of feed products through sampling to determine compliance.
- Conduct outreach promoting animal feed safety awareness and compliance activities while implementing and communicating Feed Law changes to stakeholders.
- Assure market access for Michigan food and agricultural products by updating the Feed Law to maintain national and global consistency.
- Continued development and review of internal policies and procedures to ensure the implementation of the Animal Feed Regulatory Program Standards.



### KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- Feed manufacturers and distributors
- Michigan Agri-Business Association
- Michigan Farm Bureau
- U.S. Food and Drug Administration
- Livestock producers
- Pet and specialty pet owners

### LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- Michigan Feed Law, PA 120 of 1975
- Regulation 635, Commercial Feed



A black and white dog, possibly a Shih Tzu, is looking through a chain-link fence. The dog's face is partially obscured by the metal mesh, and its eyes are visible. The background is a solid blue color.

# ANIMAL SHELTERS

**Pollyanne McKillop**

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The Animal Shelters Program is responsible for registering animal shelters. This includes both municipal open-admission animal control shelters and animal protection shelters, which are closed-admission facilities typically operated by private (mostly non-profit) organizations. The Animal Shelters Program staff work with shelters to provide guidance and education on animal health issues and state regulations.

## **IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:**

Animal shelters care for animals needing protection, serve as a place for lost pets to be reunited with their families, and help to home surrendered or abandoned animals. Situated in the communities they serve, animal shelters partner with law enforcement agencies, animal advocacy groups, veterinarians, and animal behavior specialists to ensure the safety of both the animals and the community at large. Shelters also play a key role in preventing unwanted animals by encouraging and offering low-cost spay/neuter programs.

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Ensured the availability of training opportunities for animal shelter employees regarding animal housing and care requirements, animals in the community, humane euthanasia, and Animal Welfare Fund grants.
- Supported Michigan-registered animal shelters with grant opportunities to address veterinary resource shortages, leading to the improvement of spaying/neutering shelter animals on a timely basis and the administration of core vaccines (like rabies).
- Expanded the number of issues published of the program's e-newsletter, *The PAWgress Report*.

Metric	2022	2023
Registered shelters not requiring a follow-up for corrections or improvements (target 70%)	90%	88%
Registered shelters inspected annually (target 100%)	92%	93%
Shelters reporting their annual statistics	95%	96%
Number of registered animal shelters in Michigan	204	210

## PROGRAM GOALS:

- Administer a successful Animal Welfare Fund grant cycle, helping registered Michigan animal shelters increase the number of shelter animals being spayed/neutered prior to adoption, facilitate more education and training opportunities for their staff regarding proper animal care, and provide additional funds to care for animals ordered to be held at a shelter as evidence for court cases.
- Identify additional means and opportunities for Michigan-registered animal shelters to facilitate basic care, vaccinations, and spay/neuter surgeries for shelter animals and companion animals in their communities.
- Improve the program's animal shelter-related outreach by updating website content, including videos, new resources for shelters, and interactive maps for those looking to adopt a shelter animal.

## KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- Michigan Association of Animal Control Officers
- Michigan's counties, cities, villages, townships, and other local units of government
- Michigan Partnership for Animal Welfare
- Michigan Veterinary Medical Association

## LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- Act 287, PA 1969 as amended
- Regulation 151
- Act 339, PA 1919 Dog Law of 1919
- Act 309, PA 1939
- Act 132, PA 2007 Animal Welfare Fund Act





# AQUACULTURE

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The Aquaculture Program manages the registration and regulation of aquaculture facilities. It also serves to protect and promote the aquaculture industry by addressing issues related to fish health, environmental protection, and industry concerns. Specific activities of the program include pre-licensing inspections, routine annual inspections, and reportable disease or escapement responses. Further, in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the program oversees the issuance of all prior-entry import permits, including permits for baitfish and other aquaculture intended for stocking public waters. Lastly, the program works with other state agencies to prevent and control aquatic invasive species in the Great Lakes area.

## **IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:**

Within the next 30 years, estimates show that twice as much food will be needed to sustain the world's growing population. The U.S. currently imports more than 90 percent of the seafood consumed in America. This offers a considerable opportunity for domestically-raised fish. Michigan's abundant water resources and diverse agricultural base uniquely positions the state to capitalize on this prospect and help meet the protein needs of the world. The efforts of the program are integral for being able to capture this opportunity.

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

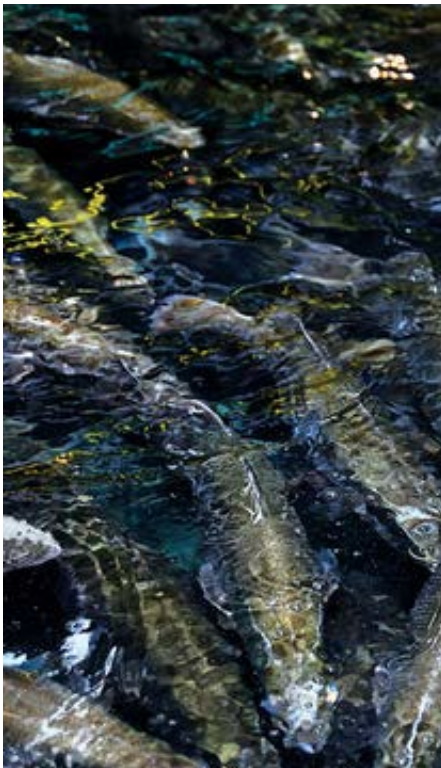
- Completed 37 annual inspections of registered aquaculture facilities.



Metric	2022	2023
Number of registered facilities inspected	34	37
Number of new facilities registered	0	3
Number of import permits issued	85	85

## PROGRAM GOALS:

- Promote the expansion of the aquaculture industry by effectively working with other state agencies to facilitate the registration of new facilities.
- Protect the aquatic health of public and private waters and meet the importation needs of the industry by timely issuing prior-entry import permits.
- Respond promptly to suspected cases of reportable aquatic disease in commercial aquaculture facilities.
- Collaborate with other state agencies to meet the goals outlined in the Invasive Species State Management Plans, including the Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program.



## KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- Michigan Aquaculture Association
- Quality of Life Agencies (Departments of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy; Agriculture and Rural Development; and Natural Resources)
- Michigan State University
- Michigan Farm Bureau
- Michigan aquaculture producers

## LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- PA 199 of 1996, the Michigan Aquaculture Development Act
- PA 466 of 1988, as amended, the Animal Industry Act



# BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS

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The goal of the Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) Program is to prevent, control, and ultimately eradicate the disease in cattle. The activities of the program are critical in order to ensure Michigan's cattle industry has access to national and international markets. Within the state, there are currently two TB zones: a four-county area in northern lower Michigan called the Modified Accredited Zone (MAZ) and the remainder of the state is referred to as the Accredited Free Zone (AFZ). In the MAZ and its adjacent counties, the Bovine TB Program works daily on disease surveillance, animal traceability, and prevention of bovine TB transmission from deer-to-cattle. These efforts are complimented by a variety of communication strategies intended to increase awareness and engagement.

## IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

The Bovine TB Program protects public health as well as cattle markets in Michigan. Since bovine TB is a disease that can affect people, controlling the disease in cattle is essential. Additionally, bovine TB has economic implications for farmers, producer groups, hunters, and the federal government. With more than 12,000 cattle producers in the state who maintain more than 1.2 million cattle, the Bovine TB Program plays a crucial role in maintaining market access for Michigan cattle, meat, and milk products. For example, dairy producers located in the MAZ require the activities of this program to sell Grade A milk.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Identified no bovine TB-infected cattle herds in the MAZ in 2023, continuing the trend of success in reducing the occurrence of the disease in cattle herds from this high-risk area.
- Worked with partners at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Michigan State University, and the Michigan Departments of Natural Resources and Health and Human Services to design and obtain approval for a field trial using bovine TB vaccine in wild deer.
- Maintained Michigan's split-state status by successfully responding to the detection of three separate bovine-TB infected cattle identified at USDA-inspected slaughter plants. No bovine TB-infected cattle herds were identified through these investigations.
- Completed an on-site USDA review of the Bovine TB Program.

Metric	2022	2023
Percentage of Michigan counties at TB-Free status	95%	95%
Percentage of active commercial herds with Wildlife Risk Mitigation verified status	82%	75.5%

## PROGRAM GOALS:

- Continue to maintain Michigan’s split-state status for bovine TB.
- Partner with other agencies to complete a field trial in 2024 on using a bovine TB vaccine in wild deer.
- Implement a new TB Zoning Order, reducing the amount of TB testing required by cattle producers in the northern half of Presque Isle County and providing an opportunity for producers in the southern half of the county to reduce their testing requirements if they protect their herd from TB in deer.
- Assist farmers outside of the Enhanced Wildlife Biosecurity area of the MAZ and throughout Presque Isle County in protecting their herds from TB in deer and identify resources to assist with constructing on-farm infrastructure to improve biosecurity.
- Work in partnership with USDA Wildlife Services and producers with herds at high risk of bovine TB infection to protect their feed, cattle, and cattle areas from exposure to deer and remove deer habituated to living close to a farm.



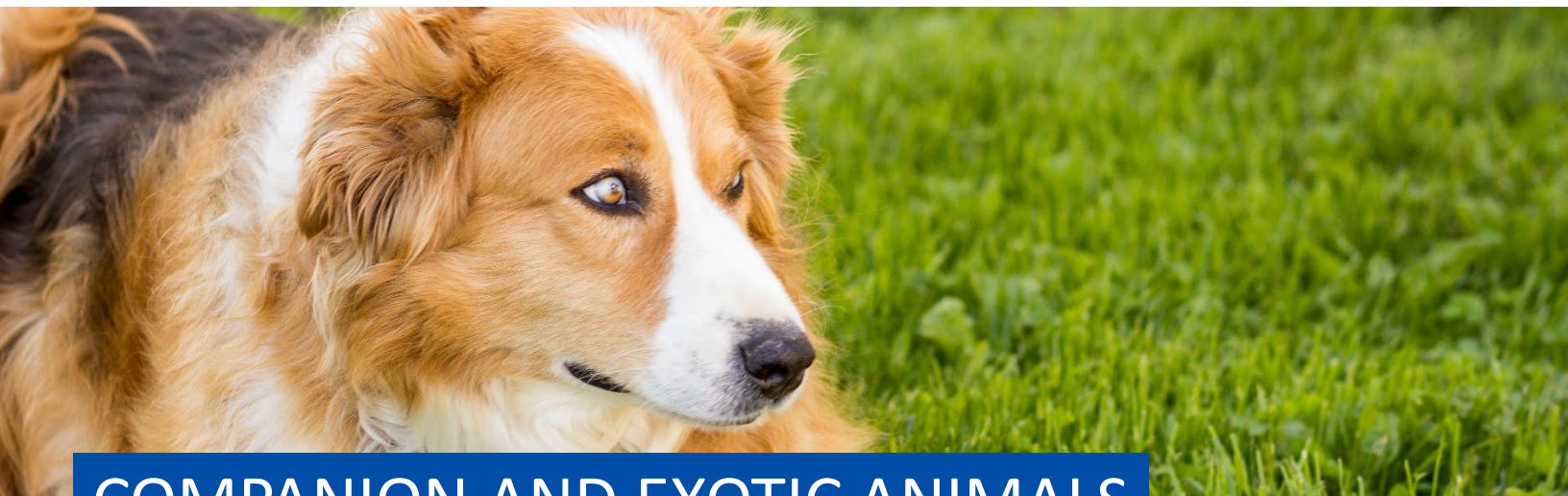
## KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- Michigan Farm Bureau
- Michigan’s dairy industry associations
- Michigan Cattlemen’s Association
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services
- United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services

## LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- PA 466 of 1988, as amended, the Animal Industry Act
- CFR 9, Part 77
- Bovine Tuberculosis Uniform Methods & Rules 2005





## COMPANION AND EXOTIC ANIMALS

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The Companion and Exotic Animals Program investigates cases of reportable disease within species such as dogs, cats, ferrets, and pet birds. Common reported diseases include rabies, leptospirosis, brucellosis, and poisonings.

In addition, the program serves as a subject matter expert in state laws related to companion and exotic animals, oversees the importation of these animals into Michigan, licenses zoos to breed large carnivores (i.e., exotic cats and bears), and approves euthanasia and chemical capture training programs for animal shelters and dealers.

### **IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:**

Identifying and rapidly addressing reportable diseases within companion and exotic animals helps ensure both animal health and public health are protected. Also, by overseeing the importation of these animals, the program further protects public health by making sure healthy animals are brought into Michigan and their movement can be traced. In addition, licensing large carnivores to breed helps threatened and endangered species to survive. Lastly, approving training programs ensures euthanasia and chemical immobilization curriculums are adequate.

### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Investigated 141 suspected cases of reportable disease in companion and exotic animals; 113 of which were later confirmed.
- Responded to 126 reports of possible illegal animal importation into Michigan.
- Worked in collaboration with the Michigan State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, and other states, to investigate and respond to concerns related to respiratory disease in dogs. So far, no novel agent has been identified, and the dogs tested were found to have a variety of common diseases.
- Worked in collaboration with federal, state, and local officials to investigate a case of rabies in a pet skunk.

Metric	2022	2023
Percentage of investigations timely* conducted by field staff (target 100%)	88% (21/24)	73% (22/30)
Percentage of large carnivore breeding applicants alerted to incompleteness within 14 business days of receipt	100% (1/1)	100% (5/5)
Percentage of complete large carnivore breeding applications approved or denied within 90 business days of receiving	100% (1/1)	100% (5/5)

*\*In this context, “timely” refers to an inspection or investigation initiated by its due date and all related paperwork is submitted within the following seven business days.*

## PROGRAM GOALS:

- Respond promptly to complaints or inquiries regarding reportable diseases, illegally imported animals, and ferrets and turtles sold without the state-required advisory sheets.
- Create and maintain a web-based disease mapper for the public, displaying confirmed cases of reportable animal diseases reported to MDARD.
- Minimize cases of reportable diseases through effective response and outreach.
- Review and process large carnivore breeding license applications timely and thoroughly.
- Systematically and promptly review proposed euthanasia and chemical immobilization training programs and communicate approvals to stakeholders in a timely manner.
- Implement and oversee legal amendments requiring research facilities to offer their dogs and cats to their staff or animal protection shelters for adoption when these animals are no longer needed for research.



### KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- Michigan State University
- United States Department of Agriculture
- Michigan Veterinary Medical Association
- Michigan Association of Animal Control Officers

### LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- PA 466 of 1988, as amended, the Animal Industry Act
- PA 358 of 1994, Ferrets
- PA 424 of 1988, Turtles
- Act 368 of 1978, as amended, Public Health Code
- PA 274 of 2000, as amended, Large Carnivore Act



## COMPLIANCE INVESTIGATIVE UNIT

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The Compliance Investigative Unit's (CIU) purpose is to investigate allegations of violations to the laws, regulations, and program standards that the Animal Industry Division (AID) is responsible for carrying out under Chapter 286 and 287 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. The CIU is also tasked with utilizing fair and uniform progressive enforcement measures to obtain compliance with these laws, regulations, and program standards.

### IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

The CIU is important to Michigan residents because it supports AID's programs in protecting animal health and public health. Enforcement of the laws, regulations, and program standards helps to ensure a safe and high-quality food supply. Additionally, the CIU helps to safeguard the state from unwanted animal pests and diseases, which could substantially devastate segments of Michigan's economy.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Closed investigations within 40 days over 86 percent of the time.
- Worked with AID leadership, program staff, and field staff to refine and streamline the complaint response process.
- Outlined progressive compliance actions to enforce the requirements and standards set by the Bovine Tuberculosis and Privately-Owned Cervid Programs for herds.
- Assisted multiple local, state law enforcement, and prosecutor's offices in investigations to address alleged violations pertaining to animal welfare.



Metric	2022	2023
First-time offenders who did not repeat (target 90%)	95%	90%
Average time to complete investigations (target 40 days)	12 days	16 days
Average time to issue out investigations (target less than 7 days)	3 days	6 days
Number of compliance investigations completed	392	348

### PROGRAM GOALS:

- Have the majority of first-time offenders not repeat the same violations.
- Complete investigations within 40 days on average from when an allegation is reported to the CIU.
- Work to refine the role of the CIU within four of AID's program areas, clarifying the compliance enforcement process.
- Create a process to regularly review department rules, regulations, and laws in order to address current industry/citizen standards and/or program relevancy.



### KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- Michigan Farm Bureau
- Michigan State Police, Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division
- Michigan County Sheriff's Offices

### LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- Laws identified in Chapter 286 and 287 of the Michigan Compiled Laws
- Regulations identified under the Michigan Administrative Code



# Dairy Safety and Inspection Program

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The Dairy Safety and Inspection Program regulates and inspects Michigan's dairy farms, milk haulers, bulk milk tankers, dairy plants, milk laboratories, and milk distributors, tests pasteurization systems, and collects and submits milk and dairy product samples for analysis to ensure that these products are safe.

## IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

The Dairy Safety and Inspection Program ensures that consumers in Michigan and around the world receive safe and wholesome milk and dairy products. This program provides Michigan's dairy industry with a standardized approach to enforcement of state and federal milk laws so that the milk and dairy products produced in Michigan are able to be sold to Michigan's consumers as well as distributed and exported to consumers across the United States and countries around the world.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Began building the web-based dairy inspection system, DORIS (Dairy Online Regulatory Inspection System).
- Implemented a brucellosis and tuberculosis testing program for Grade A permitted goat milk herds.
- Achieved an 87% compliance rate for hauler/samplers meeting the required 2-year inspection frequency.
- Achieved an 89% compliance rate for tanker trucks meeting the required 2-year inspection frequency.
- Converted online training and exams for dairy inspection staff, hauler/ samplers, and raw milk receivers to the payment-based Schoology platform.

## MEASURING SUCCESS:

Metric	2022	2023
Audited milk safety inspections that meet the national enforcement standards. (90 points out of 100 minimum required)	92.5%	94.8%
Dairy farms complying with regulatory requirements on routine inspections	87.5%	86.0%
Dairy farms complying with regulatory requirements on follow-up inspections	75.0%	79.0%
Number of licensed dairy farms in Michigan	914	878
Number of dairy cows in Michigan	430,000	439,000

## PROGRAM GOALS:

- Ensure the safety of Michigan’s milk and dairy product supply through efficient evaluation of dairy farms and processing plants and timely investigation of complaints.
- Prevent milk and dairy products that are misbranded, adulterated, or unwholesome from entering commerce.
- Procure a new electronic dairy inspection that is fully integrated with the Central Licensing Unit’s Licensing Portal System in 2025.



## KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- Milk marketing cooperatives
- Dairy processing facilities, receiving stations, transfer stations, wash stations, and single service manufacturers
- Michigan dairy farmers
- Bulk milk hauler/samplers and milk transportation companies
- Consumers of milk and dairy products

## LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- Michigan Grade A Milk Law, Public Act 266 of 2001, as amended
- Michigan Manufacturing Milk Law, Public Act 267 of 2001, as amended





# DEAD ANIMAL TRANSPORT AND DISPOSAL

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In Michigan, dead animals can be buried, composted, burned, or rendered—including being made into animal feed. The Animal Industry Division (AID) licenses and regulates businesses producing animal feed and/or other products from dead animals and used restaurant grease. Additionally, AID licenses and regulates businesses that collect, transport, and/or transfer dead animals and used restaurant grease for further processing. There are currently 18 licensed businesses transporting and disposing of dead animals.

As part of this program, AID assists other agencies investigating improper animal disposal at non-licensed facilities by providing education on proper disposal.

## IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

The Dead Animal Transport and Disposal Program ensures dead animals and used restaurant grease are properly transported and processed. The program also looks for new alternatives to animal disposal to reduce the impact on the environment, allowing more disposal choices for animal owners.

If not properly disposed, dead animals can attract predators, spread disease to other animals and people, cause odor, and be unsightly. Dead animals also have the potential of negatively affecting the environment.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Conducted routine inspections of 11 licensed plants and transfer stations.
- Inspected and approved for licensure 25 vehicles for transporting dead animals in Michigan.
- Worked to amend Michigan's associated composting regulations to more closely align with the federal standards related to certain disease responses.

Metrics	2022	2023
Timely* inspections conducted by field staff (target 85% or greater)	86% (18/21)	91% (20/22)
Facilities found to be in compliance at annual inspection (target 70% or greater)	50% (6/12)	82% (9/11)

*\*In this context, “timely” refers to an inspection or investigation being completed by its due date and all related paperwork is submitted within the following seven business days.*

## PROGRAM GOALS:

- Improve the public’s awareness of the proper disposal of animals by creating improved educational materials on the state’s animal disposal requirements.
- Conduct timely inspections (annual and pre-licensing) and compliance investigations of dead animal facilities and vehicles.
- Conduct yearly routine inspections of licensed facilities in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development’s Dairy, Feed, and Produce Division.
- Consolidate and transfer the Dead Animal Transport and Disposal Licensing Program to a web-based database for licensing and inspections.
- Help amend Public Act 239 of 1982 and its associated regulations to remove outdated language and to reflect current science and disposal methods.
- Provide educational materials on common violations to all licensees, helping to increase compliance.



## KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy
- Michigan State University Extension
- National Renderers Association
- Law enforcement

## LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- PA 239 of 1982, Bodies of Dead Animals and Regulations (BODA)





# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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The Emergency Management Program serves to plan and facilitate activities that increase the state's preparedness when responding to animal-related emergencies, ensuring a quick and effective response. To help build this preparedness, the program guides owners and producers in the development of secure food supply plans, enhanced biosecurity protocols, and disposal plans. This collaboration helps to raise awareness of potential vulnerabilities, directly address concerns, and reduce the potential for introducing and spreading a disease.

Overall, the primary objectives of the program are to protect human health, safeguard the health and welfare of animals, and provide for a safe and viable food supply.

## IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

During emergency situations, the program works to maintain business continuity for the livestock industry, preserving thousands of jobs. The livestock industry accounts for more than \$12 billion of Michigan's annual revenue. Additionally, the program assists Michigan's residents with planning for and responding to disasters and/or emergencies that could impact pets and other animals. These types of events could include foreign animal disease outbreaks or natural disasters (flooding, tornados, etc.).

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Initiated an Incident Management Team (IMT) to protect domestic flocks from highly pathogenic avian influenza by mitigating the spread and impact of the virus.
- Conducted four one-hour training modules on "The Planning P," focusing on incident action planning (including forms, meeting types, etc.) during IMT activation.
- Coordinated and facilitated two events centered on the logistics of mass mortality carcass composting. One of the events was a three-day training course where participants who successfully completed the training became recognized as "Subject Matter Experts, in Training" by USDA.



Metric	2022	2023
Division staff trained in the Incident Command System	99%	98%

## PROGRAM GOALS:

- Ensure all Animal Industry Division staff have completed the National Incident Management System training requirements, supporting future IMT efforts within the division.
- Continue to implement and support planning efforts for animal-related emergency responses with federal, state, local, and industry partners.
- Maintain adequate inventories of emergency response supplies and equipment.
- Continue to build and strengthen relationships with colleagues in other states, ensuring improved planning, procedures, and communication around an incident.



## KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- Livestock and companion animal industries within Michigan
- Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division
- Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- County Emergency Management Offices

## LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- PA 466 of 1988, as amended, the Animal Industry Act
- PA 390 of 1990, Emergency Management Act
- Michigan Emergency Management Plan Animal Annex



## EQUINE

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With 28 reportable equine diseases, one of the main goals of the Equine Program is to investigate any report of these diseases in Michigan. Common reportable diseases include Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), West Nile virus (WNV), herpesvirus-1, and strangles. In a typical year, the program receives about 40 reports of potential disease. Also, the program oversees the importation and intrastate movement of equine in Michigan and serves as a subject matter expert in state laws related to equids.

### IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

The reportable equine diseases can cause serious disease and economic losses to the equine industry. Some of these diseases also pose a risk to humans, and equids can serve as a sentinel species for risks to public health. By promptly reporting cases to industry platforms, it alerts other agencies, organizations, and equid owners to potential disease threats, so they can take additional actions to control and prevent the disease. Also, with overseeing the importation of equids into Michigan, the program helps to protect the health of animals and people by ensuring healthy equids are brought into Michigan and their movement can be traced.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Responded to 91 suspected cases of reportable equine diseases; 63 of these reports were later confirmed.
- Responded to 59 reports of potential illegal movement of horses.
- Continued to facilitate free testing for equids suspected of having EEE or WNV. Of the 11 equids tested under the grant, three cases of WNV were identified.

Metric	2022	2023
Percent of investigations (related to both reportable disease and animal movement) completed in a timely* manner by field staff (Goal is 100%)	86% (12/14)	63% (5/8)
Percent of confirmed regulated and monitored disease cases reported to the Equine Disease Communication Center within five business days of being reported to MDARD	98% (54/55)	100 % (57/57)

*\*In this context, “timely” refers to an inspection or investigation being completed by its due date and all related paperwork is submitted within the following seven business days.*

## PROGRAM GOALS:

- Respond in a timely and effective manner to cases of reportable equine diseases and complaints regarding the movement of equine (import/export).
- Minimize cases of reportable equine diseases through effective response.
- Create and maintain a web-based disease mapper for the public, providing a timely depiction of reportable diseases that are reported to MDARD.



## KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- Michigan Veterinary Medical Association
- Michigan State University
- United States Department of Agriculture, Veterinary Services
- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- Michigan Gaming Control Board
- Michigan Farm Bureau
- Michigan Horse Counsel
- Michigan Harness Horsemen’s Association

## LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- PA 466 of 1988, as amended, the Animal Industry Act
- PA 93 of 1974, Horse Riding Stables and Sales Barns





## FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS

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The Fairs and Exhibitions Program protects, regulates, and promotes animal health by performing inspections and educational outreach for fairs and exhibitions. The program and field staff work with leaders and exhibitors of these events to ensure all livestock not only appear healthy and have proper care but also have appropriate official identification, test charts, and (if needed) interstate certificates of veterinary inspection. Also, when notified, all reportable disease cases at fairs and exhibitions are investigated to assist with diagnostics and control of the disease. Additionally, the program emphasizes the role of biosecurity at these events to protect both animals and humans from disease.

### IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

This program has the responsibility and authority to regulate fairs and exhibitions wherever livestock are shown. Factors such as commingling of animals from different premises and the overall stress caused by unfamiliar housing, ambient heat, and/or interaction with the public can contribute to disease. Also, since the animals have more direct contact with the public at these events, the risk of potential zoonotic disease transmission is high. By implementing proper biosecurity and addressing disease issues, this program protects both animal and public health.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Inspected 52 county and community fairs.
- Guided and advised fair personnel on the biosecurity measures needed to protect domestic animals from reportable diseases, such as highly pathogenic avian influenza and swine influenza.
- Investigated two potential cases of swine influenza. Results were positive, and the program worked with fair staff to manage the situation at each fair and future fairs in the area.
- Guided and advised a fair's personnel regarding one reported case of equine strangles and offered recommendations to upcoming fairs in the area.
- Presented fair and exhibition requirement reminders at five Michigan Association of Fairs and Exhibitions Regional Zone meetings in the spring.

Metric	2022	2023
Local, county, community, and state fairs and exhibitions inspected*	72	52
Reportable disease responses conducted by field and/or program staff	1	3
Avian influenza surveillance testing performed (number of fairs)	0	0
Number of fairs with one or more violations	25	15

*\*Due to the ongoing need to respond to cases of reportable diseases, fairs are inspected as time and resources allow.*

## PROGRAM GOALS:

- Inspect local, county, community, and state fairs based on risk and available resources and update MDARD's Fairs and Exhibitions website with refreshed resources when needed.
- Present the current fairs and exhibitions requirements at the annual Michigan Association of Fairs and Exhibitions convention and during a pre-fair webinar in May, held in conjunction with Michigan State University Extension.
- Respond to and investigate any notification of a potential reportable disease occurring at a fair or exhibition.
- Continue to develop the relationships with key stakeholders (listed below) to provide education, outreach, and resources that will help to further protect, regulate, and promote animal and public health in Michigan.

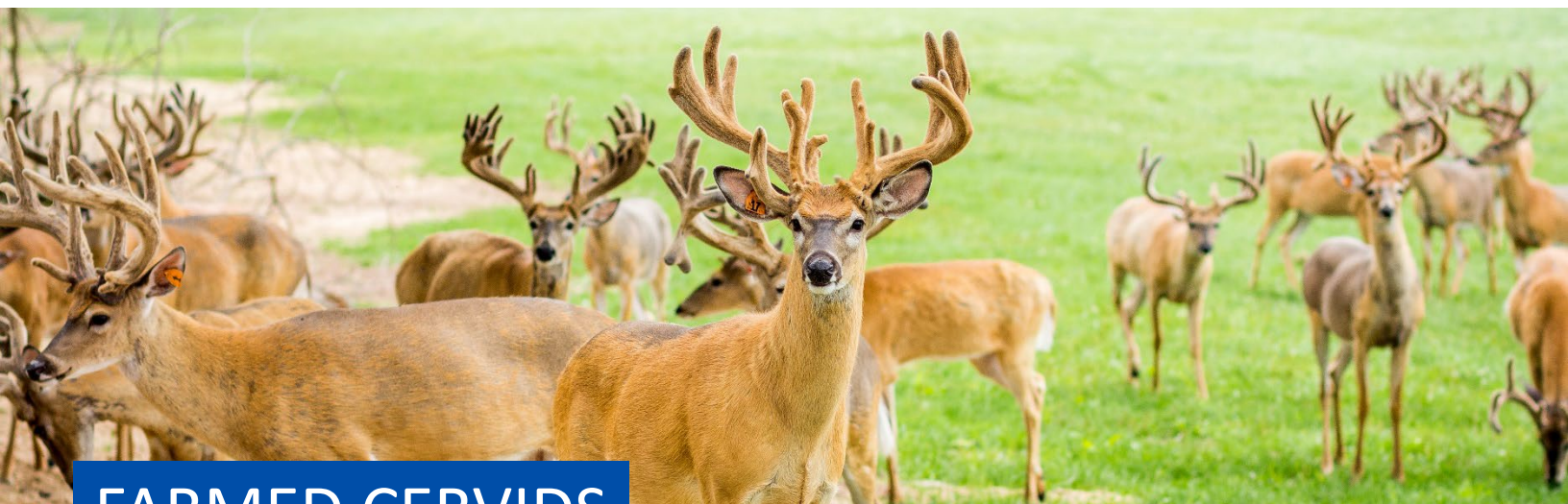


## KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- Michigan Association of Fairs and Exhibitions
- MSU College of Veterinary Medicine
- MSU Extension
- MSU Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory
- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- Local public health departments
- Fair and exhibition personnel and animal superintendents
- Veterinarians serving as on-call fair veterinarians

## LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- PA 466 of 1988, as amended, the Animal Industry Act



## FARMED CERVIDS

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The practice of raising deer and elk (farmed cervids) in captivity is jointly regulated by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) and the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's (MDARD) Animal Industry Division (AID). AID manages the animal health and traceability components of this program, including chronic wasting disease (CWD), bovine tuberculosis (TB), and movement.

### IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

Deer and elk are raised for breeding, meat production, private hunting, animal watching, and specialty products. Maintaining healthy farmed cervids is critical to protecting the health status of the free-ranging populations of white-tailed deer and elk in Michigan. Disease surveillance programs provide early detection of infected individuals, which reduces the spread of disease. Also, herd certification and accreditation programs minimize the risk of introduction, transmission, and spread of disease in farmed cervid populations.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Responded to and managed CWD-positive deer farms.
- Issued 343 movement permits, with an average turnaround time of one day.
- Hosted the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Cervid Program site review of Michigan's CWD Herd Certification Program.
- Revised the TB accreditation and CWD certification letters to educate producers about program requirements.
- Implemented fee-based payments to veterinarians and the Michigan State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory for CWD sampling and testing.



Metric	2022	2023
Percent of herds where CWD Certification was completed within 42 days	88%	51%*
Percent of herds where TB Accreditation was completed within 42 days	82%	35%*
Number of deer and elk imported into Michigan	13	9
Number of herds involved in special surveillance zones around CWD-positive free-ranging deer	89	91

*\*Due to the time needed to revise the notification letters.*

## PROGRAM GOALS:

- Work cooperatively with the MDNR to mitigate the impact of CWD in both free-ranging and farmed cervids in Michigan.
- Continue to implement the changes outlined in the revised Animal Industry Act for farmed cervids.
- Maintain Approved State Status for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's CWD Herd Certification Program.
- Provide excellent customer service by processing CWD Certifications and TB Accreditations within 42 days and movement permits within five business days. These timelines are set by the program to provide consistent and timely processing.



## KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- Michigan deer and elk farmers
- Cervid Advisory Committee
- United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- United Deer Farmers of Michigan

## LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- PA 466 of 1988, as amended, the Animal Industry Act
- PA 190 of 2000, the Privately-Owned Cervidae Producers Marketing Act Memorandum of Understanding with Department of Natural Resources
- Nine Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 55 9 CFR Part 77
- Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication: Uniform Methods and Rules, Effective January 22, 1999
- Chronic Wasting Disease Program Standards, USDA, 2019



# Food Safety and Inspection Program

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MDARD's Food Safety and Inspection Program (FSIP) assures the safety and wholesomeness of Michigan's food supply through food safety inspections, complaint investigations, plan reviews, licensing, and education to consumers and industry. Inspectors evaluate retail and manufacturing food establishments for compliance with state and federal requirements, collect food samples for analysis, conduct recall activities, and carry out enforcement. In 2023, inspectors and supervisors were realigned into retail food inspection and manufacturing food inspection teams, which allows staff to concentrate on applicable regulations, required training, and specific industry needs respective to each area of focus. Effective for the 2025 licensing cycle, FSIP will be responsible for the licensing and inspection of dietary supplement firms in Michigan.

## IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

Through its collaborative work with local, state, and federal partners to provide oversight and regulation of food establishments in Michigan, FSIP protects the public health and ensures a safe and wholesome food supply. FSIP also enhances Michigan's food safety system and the nation's integrated food safety system through participation in federal cooperative agreements, grants, and contracts.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Conducted 30 full-scope preventive control inspections and 302 limited scope, specialized, or cGMP inspections under contract with the FDA.
- Collected over 900 food samples for pathogens, food safety, or standard analysis; and 600 environmental surface swabs for *Salmonella species* or *Listeria monocytogenes* analysis.
- Investigated an illegal, unlicensed, mail-order smoked meat and fish company operating out of a Michigan home and shipping product throughout the U.S. and into Canada. FSIP worked with local partners to conduct a joint inspection and issue a cease-and-desist order to the operation.
- Responded to an anhydrous ammonia release which contaminated an estimated 45 million pounds of food products. FSIP ensured the hazardous foods were not further distributed into the food supply.
- Launched the final phase of FSIP's new electronic inspection system – FIRST.

## MEASURING SUCCESS:

Metric	FY 2022	FY 2023
Food Establishment Compliance with Michigan Food Law (Initial Visit)	86%	89%
Food Establishment Compliance (Follow-up)	82%	80%
Routine, Follow-up, and Consultative Inspections Conducted	11,488	12,930
Consumer Complaint Responses	1,178	1,199
MDARD Conformance Rate with Manufactured Food Regulatory Program Standards (MFRPS)	100%	100%

## PROGRAM GOALS:

- Ensure food safety at Michigan food establishments through efficient evaluation of retail and wholesale food establishments and timely investigation of complaints.
- Enhance contribution to the national food safety system and increase regulatory uniformity through participation in federal standards, grants, cooperative agreements, contracts, and mutual reliance.
- Respond to food-related outbreaks, food recalls, and food contamination events.
- Prevent food that is fraudulent, deceptive, misbranded, adulterated, or unwholesome from entering commerce and assure that recalled food is removed from sale promptly.
- Ensure that manufacturing and retail food inspector teams are aligned for success.



## KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- Consumers
- Michigan Retailers Association
- Midwest Independent Retailers Association
- Michigan Farmers Market Association
- Michigan Meat Association
- U.S. Food and Drug Administration
- United States Department of Agriculture
- Michigan food establishment licensees

## LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- Michigan Food Law, Act 92 of 2000, as amended.





## LARGE-SCALE DOG BREEDING KENNELS

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The Large-scale Dog Breeding Kennels (LDBK) Program provides state regulatory oversight on dog kennels with more than 15 qualifying females that are in the business of selling puppies. The LDBK Program makes certain specific standards are met in order to ensure healthy dogs as well as their safe housing and adequate care. In addition, puppies are required to be accompanied with a current pet health certificate.

It is crucial to note these kennels may also require local kennel licensing or licensing by the United States Department of Agriculture.

### IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

Companion animals play an increasingly important role in Michigander's lives. Breeding kennels are a resource for specific types of dogs, which can help people find a dog compatible with their lifestyle or service need. Breeding kennels also provide dogs to people who enjoy participating in expositions and sporting activities. This program offers a relatively new opportunity to work with this segment of the companion animal industry as well as local animal care partners.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Collaborated with the Michigan Council on Animal Welfare (MI CAW) to provide outreach and education on the large-scale dog breeding kennel requirements in Michigan.
- Reviewed and updated kennel materials, placing emphasis on enhanced biosecurity protocols and interstate movement requirements for canines.
- Facilitated initial discussions regarding local kennels with the Michigan Association of Animal Control Officers and had discussions about the disposition of dogs with rescue partners.

Metric	2022	2023
Follow-up on registration assessments for requesting kennels (target 95%)	100%	100%
Number of registered large-scale dog breeding kennels	13	13

### PROGRAM GOALS:

- Partner with key stakeholders to determine the best practices for identifying and resolving issues with non-compliant large-scale dog breeding kennels.
- Collaborate with animal control agencies and MI CAW to provide key updates and discuss emerging issues within the LDBK Program.



### KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- Michigan Association of Animal Control Officers
- Michigan's counties, cities, villages, townships, and other local units of government
- Michigan Council on Animal Welfare (MI CAW)
- Michigan dog breeders
- Michigan Veterinary Medical Association
- Michigan companion animal veterinarians
- Michigan pet shops

### LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- PA 287 of 1969, as amended
- Regulation 151
- PA 339 of 1919, Dog Law of 1919



# LIVESTOCK DEPREDACTION

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The Livestock Depredation Program provides fair and timely compensation to livestock owners for animals killed, injured to the extent of requiring euthanasia, or missing as a result of wolves, coyotes, and cougars. Some areas of the state, and certain species of livestock and their offspring, experience greater than average depredation events.

## IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

The Livestock Depredation Program supports local businesses, communities, and economies by assisting livestock producers in areas of the state with high populations of predators.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Collaborated with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) to review and discuss updating the Memorandum of Understanding between the agencies.
- Participated in an MDNR livestock depredation training to improve the understanding of the livestock depredation inspection and indemnification processes.
- Initiated the development of communications to increase the awareness of program requirements for producers.



Metric	2022	2023
Number of livestock killed by wolves, coyotes, or cougars	34	18
Number of livestock reported missing	0	0
Number of livestock producers submitting claims	9	7
Total of payments made for depredation or missing livestock	\$8,057.15	\$5,627.92
Average number of days between depredation claim and payment	29	19*

*\*Does not include one claim where a producer's incorrect address in SIGMA prevented the ability to issue payment in a timely manner.*

## PROGRAM GOALS:

- Process all livestock depredation claims within 45 days of receiving all the approved and completed forms from the MDNR and livestock producers.
- Continue to improve communication to livestock producers in high-risk areas on mortality management strategies, thereby minimizing the attraction predators and reducing livestock depredation claims.
- Improve the inter-agency collaboration and processes involved with handling livestock depredation claims, ensuring producers are compensated fairly and timely.



## KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services
- Michigan livestock producers

## LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- PA 487 of 2012, Wildlife Depredations Indemnification Act



# LIVESTOCK MARKETS

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The Livestock Markets Program provides regulatory oversight on animal welfare, disease control, and traceability issues pertaining to livestock marketing activities. Entities engaged in the business of buying, selling, transporting, or negotiating the sale and transfer of livestock are required to maintain records and be licensed and bonded when appropriate. Additionally, licensed livestock facilities and transport vehicles must be well-maintained to ensure animal welfare and human safety as well as to prevent the spread of disease.

## IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

The Livestock Markets Program protects, regulates, and promotes animal health and traceability by enforcing the Licensing Livestock Dealers Act. Keeping these businesses in compliance mitigates the risk of spreading animal diseases and ensures the economic success of this sector of the agricultural industry.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Participated in a performance audit conducted by the Office of Auditor General.
- Reestablished procedures to ensure licensees file an annual report, detailing average weekly sales and the number and species of livestock purchased and sold.
- Conducted routine inspections of licensed livestock dealers and truckers for the first time since 2019.

Metric	2022	2023
Licensed livestock markets and buying stations inspected (target 100%)	96%	96%
Licensed livestock dealers and truckers inspected (target 40%)	0%*	32%
Number of livestock markets in Michigan	21	21

*\*No inspections were assigned in 2022 due to increased workloads for the Bovine Tuberculosis Program and the responses needed for detections of highly pathogenic avian influenza in domestic birds.*

## PROGRAM GOALS:

- Develop procedures to verify appropriate bonding for businesses and to audit producers' proceeds accounts.
- Establish an inspection workgroup to develop best practices for standardizing inspection processes throughout the division.
- Perform a lean process improvement (LPI) to identify the gaps to be addressed in preparation for the decommissioning of the Licensing Database and its replacement with the Licensing Portal System.
- Perform a LPI to identify the gaps to be addressed in preparation for the decommissioning of the Work Order Database and its replacement with USAHERDS.



## KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- United States Department of Agriculture
- Michigan Farm Bureau
- Livestock Marketing Association
- United Producers, Inc.

## LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- PA 284 of 1937, as amended, the Licensing Livestock Dealers Act
- PA 466 of 1988, as amended, the Animal Industry Act





# Local Health Services and Emergency Response

**PROGRAM MANAGER:** Jennifer Bonsky | 517-614-0149 | [Bonskyj@Michigan.gov](mailto:Bonskyj@Michigan.gov)

## LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES:

Local Health Services (LHS) provides statewide program policy, accreditation, consultation and training services to local health department food safety programs. Local health departments conduct evaluations, investigate complaints, conduct foodborne illness outbreak investigations, perform plan reviews, process license applications, and take enforcement actions. LHS consultants evaluate local health department performance every three years, in coordination with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Division of Local Health Services and as a part of the Michigan Local Public Health Accreditation Program. This program seeks to assure and enhance the quality of local public health food programs in Michigan by identifying and promoting the implementation of standards and evaluating and accrediting local health departments on their ability to meet these standards.

## EMERGENCY RESPONSE:

The Emergency Response (ER) team helps prepare FDD and department staff for emergency or crisis. The group works to ensure that Michigan's food supply is safe. ER works with food, dairy, and produce teams; internal and external stakeholders; and regulatory partners to prevent food emergencies. The team prepares and trains for emergency response activities, communicates and coordinates activities during food related responses, and assists in recovery after incidents occur. ER works with field teams to remove contaminated food from commerce, respond to foodborne illness, assist with food recalls, and conduct product tracebacks. ER also coordinates with local, state, and federal partners; private sector; and academia to rapidly respond to food emergencies. The team works with partners to implement policies to enhance response capabilities, and shares lessons learned with MDARD, response partners, and the public.

## ITEM OF NOTE:

FDD's Emergency Response Epidemiologist co-authored a Journal of Food Protection article, "Multinational Outbreak of *Listeria Monocytogenes* Infections Linked to Enoki Mushrooms Imported from the Republic of Korea 2016-2020," which included sampling and response from MDARD.



# Local Health Services

## IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

MDARD's participation in the local health accreditation process establishes a clear target and consistent standards that local health departments can follow to enforce food safety regulation seamlessly across the Michigan.

The benefits of the local health accreditation program are two-fold -- helping local health programs ensure a safe food supply for Michigan consumers while providing consistency to the food service industry required to comply with food safety regulations.

## PROGRAM GOALS:

- Apply information learned from accreditation technical assistance visits with LHD food programs to better understand training and staff development needs.
- Collaborate with local public health partners to coordinate and plan for more effective use of resources.
- Provide training as identified by local public health partners through targeted training needs surveys.
- Collaborate with MDARD's food and dairy programs on decision making and program improvement.
- Expand information sharing agreements to allow better communication among FDA, MDARD, and local health partners.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- MDARD, in conjunction with the Accreditation Commission, reinstated local health department food program accreditations, which were paused due to significant LHD COVID-19 responses and activities. The accreditation cycle focused on identifying LHD needs and providing food program consultation, training, and assistance.
- Planned and hosted Michigan's annual Standardized Trainer Conference for MDARD food safety trainers, FDA Training Standard staff, MDARD Produce Safety Unit staff, and 40 local health department trainers.
- Offered multiple training sessions on the Michigan Food Law and Michigan Modified FDA Food Code, specialty food training, temporary food inspection training, and other courses to LHD food sanitarians and MDARD food inspectors statewide.
- Assisted in the planning of the 2023 FDA Regional Retail Training Seminar, held in Michigan.

40





# Emergency Response

## PROGRAM GOALS:

- Improve public health by reducing the impact of foodborne illness through rapid, effective response efforts.
- Ensure accurate illness reporting at the state and national levels.
- Utilize foodborne illness data to investigate emerging threats, identify trends, and adjust risk-based controls to prevent future incidents.
- Provide capacity building training to local, state, and federal partners focusing on multi-disciplinary and multi-jurisdictional responses.

## IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

The ER team helped reduce the impact from foodborne illness, contaminated food samples, health hazards, and other food related incidents through early and rapid detection, prompt and effective communication, and extensive coordination of food response efforts throughout the division, MDARD, and regulatory partners across the state and the country.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Hosted Procedures for Enhancing Emergency Response (PEER) for Field Training for MDARD and LHDs; led MDARD/MDHHS outbreak-ready, team-based training for LHD environmental health, communicable disease and epidemiological staff.
- Coordinated with neighboring states to establish a regional plan for sampling whole melons while creating produce washing educational materials for consumers. These projects were based on review of previous outbreak data.
- The ER group coordinated with state and local partners to update the Multi-jurisdictional Outbreak Guidance document to address lessons during COVID-19 and beyond.

## NOTABLE REPONSES:

- MDARD sampling and analysis detected *Listeria* in Enoki mushroom, which led to meetings with the firm, and a subsequent national recall and import alert.
- Coordinated with LHDs, FDD's Produce Safety Unit, and MDARD's Migrant Labor Housing staff to investigate Hepatitis A diagnoses in farm workers, assure control measures were in place to prevent food contamination, and provide educational materials to prevent person-to-person spread of illness.
- Responded to a positive *Listeria monocytogenes* sample of product sourced from a Michigan farm. FSIP and ER staff conducted recall audit checks and helped collect 100 environmental swabs, 5 soil samples, and 10 seed samples. The farm implemented corrective action steps and resumed growing operations.



## MEASURING SUCCESS:

LHS Metric	2022	2023
Number of accredited local health departments	45 (100%)*	45 (100%)*
Number of Standardized Trainers (LHD and MDARD)	75	82

\*Accreditation re-started in 2023 with technical assistance reviews after being paused since 2020 due to COVID-19 response activities by local health partners.

ER Metric	FY 2022	FY 2023
Total Number of Incidents/Activities	18	20
<b>Incident Type</b>		
Outbreaks	8	11
Recalls	4	3
Product Contamination	10	9
<b>Results of Activities</b>		
Incidents with Control Measures Implemented	13	12
Consumer Advisories Issued	9	3
Recall Audit Checks Conducted (# of recalls)	2	2



### KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- Michigan residents and consumers
- Local, state, and federal public health and regulatory agencies
- Michigan food industry
- Michigan food industry associations
- Michigan Association for Local Public Health
- Michigan Association of Local Environmental Health Administrators

### LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- Michigan Food Law of 2000, Act 92, as amended
- Public Health Code, Act 368 of 1978, as amended
- Michigan Grade A Milk Law, Public Act 266 of 2001
- Michigan Manufacturing Milk Law, Public Act 267 of 2001

## MEASURING SUCCESS:



# NUTRITION AND FOOD SAFETY OUTREACH

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The Nutrition and Food Safety Outreach Program provides consultation and education in the areas of nutrition, food access, food security, and food safety. The program is responsible for managing the Food Safety Education Fund grants which provide funding for consumer and industry food safety education. Collaboration with the Michigan Department of Education, local public health departments, the Food Bank Council of Michigan, and Michigan State University provided opportunities to support food access, food safety, nutrition and policy efforts. In partnership with state agencies and other organizations, this program has provided support and training to Michigan farmers and school foodservice staff in the areas of Farm to School, Farm to Early Care Education, food safety, and the 10 Cents a Meal program.

### IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

The Nutrition and Food Safety Outreach Program works to ensure Michigan residents have access to safe, nutritious food throughout their lifespan. According to the CDC, a healthy diet supports healthy immune function and helps to prevent obesity, type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, and some cancers. In 2019, 12.3% and 10.0% of surveyed adults met fruit and vegetable intake recommendations. Through outreach and education this program works to increase consumption of Michigan fruits and vegetables which may help reduce the risk of diseases as well as provide economic benefits to farmers, processors and communities.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Coordinated the Food Safety Education Fund grants program, overseeing funded projects and quarterly reports.
- Provided trainings and support on projects related Michigan agricultural products, food safety, and procurement to farmers, producers, food service authorities, and college students.
- Collaborated with state agencies, Michigan State University and other partnering organizations on Farm to School, Farm to Early Care Education, 10 Cents a Meal, and Senior Project Fresh programs.
- Collaborated with local health departments and state agencies on food safety concerns with schools through School Food Safety Committee meetings and projects.
- Collaborated with state agencies, Michigan State University, the Food Bank Council of Michigan, and other partner organizations through outreach activities or grants focused on food access, food safety, and food policy.
- Participated in emergency management meetings and trainings to prepare for future food emergency response efforts.

## MEASURING SUCCESS:

Metric	2021	2022	2023
Food Policy and Good Food Charter Events/Meetings	35	23	45
Farm to School/Farm to Institution Events/meetings	30	74	71
Food Safety Events/Meetings	33	30	16
Nutrition Outreach, Partner Collaborations/Events and Meetings	106	121	118

## PROGRAM GOALS:

- Increase Farm to School and the Ten Cents a Meal Program participation to schools and early care education programs in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Education and Michigan State University.
- Increase and improve food safety education trainings and outreach to consumers and food industry members through the Food Safety Education Fund grants program.
- Increase use and consumption of nutritious, locally grown products in feeding programs through continued involvement efforts with Farm to School, Farm to Early Care Education, Senior Project Fresh, and trainings and resources for farmers, producers and school food service staff.
- Collaborate with partners on food safety, food access, nutrition and education efforts.
- Support the Agriculture Development Division in grant reviews.
- Receive training in the areas of food safety, diversity, policy, nutrition, and emergency management to improve the program.



## KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- Early childhood centers, schools, universities, and other institutions.
- Farmers, producers, processors and distributors.
- Michigan departments of Health and Human Services; Education; Labor and Economic Opportunity; and Environment, Great Lakes and Energy.
- Michigan agriculture organizations and commodity groups.

## LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- Farm to School Procurement Act, Act 315 of 2008
- The State School Aid Act, Act 94 of 1979, as amended.  
Section 388.1631j, *Purchase of Michigan-grown fruits and vegetables.*





## Produce Safety Unit

**PROGRAM MANAGER:** Amber Matulis | 517-930-8048 | [matulisa@michigan.gov](mailto:matulisa@michigan.gov)

The Produce Safety Unit's (PSU) primary role is to ensure produce grown in Michigan is safe. This is accomplished by developing a program that supports implementation of the federal Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule (PSR) in Michigan to regulate the growing, harvesting, packing, and holding practices of produce farms. Outreach, education, and technical assistance are critical elements of current implementation efforts, and the PSU continues to use an "educate before and while you regulate" approach. The primary focus in 2024 will be continued farm inventory development, conducting inspections on PSR-covered farms, and supporting other on-farm food safety efforts such as foodborne illness investigations, response to pesticide contamination, and grower support through education and technical assistance.

### IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

The FSMA Produce Safety Rule implementation has broad and varied impacts for Michigan stakeholders. The PSR is designed to reduce risk of foodborne illness by taking a preventive approach to food safety. As a result, implementation will provide a positive public health impact. FSMA PSR compliance will ensure market access for Michigan farmers and others in the supply chain by aligning state and national requirements. In 2023, Michigan will continue to take the lead for on-farm inspections, education, and farm inventory development under an FDA Cooperative Agreement Program (CAP), ensuring Michigan growers are receiving education, technical assistance, and regulatory oversight tailored to Michigan.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Maintained an FDA Produce Safety CAP supporting implementation of a Produce Safety Program providing education, technical assistance, and PSR inspections. A Senior Produce Safety Inspector position was backfilled and revised to support enforcement/compliance, training, and CAP development.
- Maintained contracts with six conservation districts to support Produce Safety Technician positions, unique nationally to Michigan, to provide food safety technical assistance to produce farmers. In 2023, parameters for a cost-share program were established.
- Participated in national efforts to drive collaboration and consistency between state produce programs and FDA, including participation in three Produce Regulatory Program Standards workgroups.
- Assisted in development and implementation of a new electronic inspection system for produce farm inspection and inventory, the Food Inspection Regulatory System Technology (FIRST).
- Worked with PPPM to address pesticide contamination of produce intended for human consumption.

45

## MEASURING SUCCESS:

Metric	FY2022	FY2023
Number of Produce Farm Inspections Completed	104	116
Number of On-Farm Readiness Reviews Conducted	9	6
Number of Verified Farms in Farm Inventory	1,313	1,550
Number of Produce Safety Alliance Grower Trainings Conducted	9	7

## PROGRAM GOALS:

- Maintain a cooperative agreement with the FDA to allow Michigan to continue to develop and implement a produce farm inspection program for the 2024 growing season and beyond; support education, outreach, and technical assistance efforts; prepare for Produce Regulatory Program Standards implementation and ensure national consistency with PSR implementation efforts.
- Continue collaborating with MSU Extension, conservation districts and other key stakeholders to offer and build resources for outreach, education, and technical assistance for produce farmers to improve on-farm food safety practices and prepare for regulatory inspection in collaboration with MSU Extension, conservation districts and other key stakeholders.
- Work with conservation districts that house produce safety technicians to implement Michigan's Produce Safety Risk Assessment (PSRA) promoting on-farm food safety practices. Facilitate further development and implementation of the cost-share program and signage for farms successfully completing a PSRA.
- Utilize the Nutrition-Food Management Consultant position to facilitate engagement with agricultural stakeholders, integrate outreach efforts to fresh produce growers and provide support to external agency efforts with agricultural related efforts such as Farm to School, Poverty Task Force, and 10 Cents a Meal programs.



## KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- Consumers
- Produce farmers and food processors
- Michigan State University Extension
- U.S. Food and Drug Administration
- Conservation Districts of the following Michigan counties:
  - Berrien
  - Genesee
  - Grand Traverse Conservation District
  - Marquette
  - Newaygo
  - Ottawa

## LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- Michigan Food Law of 2000, Act 92, as amended





## POULTRY

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The Poultry Program is responsible for responding to cases of reportable avian diseases, maintaining an active and passive surveillance program for avian influenza in compliance with the National Poultry Improvement Plan, and collaborating with Michigan's commercial poultry industry and other stakeholders on emergency avian disease response planning. In addition, the program works with Michigan State University (MSU) Extension and Michigan Allied Poultry Industries, Inc. (MAPI) to maintain a statewide group of certified pullorum testers to meet the needs of poultry exhibitors at Michigan fairs.

### IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

Michigan's poultry industry contributed \$8.5 billion in total economic activity throughout the state in 2022, and the industry continues to grow. Michigan's poultry industry includes broiler, table-egg, and turkey flocks as well as breeding flocks of exhibition birds, table-egg hens, and upland game birds. In addition to the commercial industry, there are many small flocks throughout the state that are kept for exhibition, food, or simply as a hobby. The Poultry Program aims to protect all of Michigan's poultry flocks from reportable diseases and to respond quickly and effectively when a disease is detected. By protecting flocks, the program helps to safeguard Michigan's economy, food availability, and public health.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Maintained an Incident Management Team to efficiently respond to detections highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) and protect domestic flocks.
- Received 58 sick bird calls from domestic flock owners, leading to 22 investigations and the detection of seven HPAI-infected flocks: Four backyard premises, one upland gamebird hunting preserve, and two commercial facilities.
- Investigated 22 suspected reportable disease cases in poultry (aside from HPAI).
- Continued to coordinate with MAPI and the MSU Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory to offer pullorum testing certification, preparing for Michigan fairs and exhibitions.



Metric	2022	2023
County fairs participating in avian influenza surveillance	0*	0*
Birds tested as part of the active avian influenza surveillance program for the National Poultry Improvement Plan, Subpart E flocks	420	690

*\*Due to the nationwide outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza*

## PROGRAM GOALS:

- Continue to plan, prepare, and respond to emergency poultry diseases, particularly HPAI.
- Conduct a Certified Pullorum Tester School.
- Assist industry in compliance with the National Poultry Improvement Plan's H5/H7 avian influenza monitored and clean programs.
- Maintain Michigan's Initial State Response and Containment Plan for low pathogenic avian influenza, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's requirements.



## KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- Michigan Allied Poultry Industries, Inc.
- Michigan State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory
- Michigan State University Extension and 4-H
- United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services
- Michigan Farm Bureau

## LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- PA 466 of 1988, as amended, the Animal Industry Act
- Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) parts 145, 146 and 147, the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP)



# SMALL RUMINANTS

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The Small Ruminants Program focuses on ensuring sheep and goats have proper official identification and providing educational information to producers on scrapie and other animal health concerns. Scrapie is a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy affecting sheep and goats. The presence of scrapie in the U.S. sheep and goat population can have a noticeable economic impact through production losses, lost exports, and disease costs.

Reportable diseases for sheep and goats, such as scrapie, are tracked and investigated by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's Animal Industry Division when appropriate.

## **IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:**

Producers of sheep and goats in Michigan can participate in interstate and international trade because of a maintained scrapie-free status. Monitoring for proper official identification on sheep and goats at livestock markets provides for animal disease traceability and minimizes the use of resources in disease investigations.

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Investigated and responded to cases of reportable disease.
- Continued education and outreach efforts to sheep and goat producers about the importance of scrapie identification requirements and accurate recordkeeping.
- Continued to implement the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Consistent State Scrapie Program Review action plan.
- Initiated education and outreach to alpaca and llama producer groups regarding official identification.
- Worked to modify official identification requirements for exhibition/show camelids to parallel those in other states, while maintaining compliance with animal disease tracking requirements.

Metric	2022	2023
Compliance actions needed for inadequate official identification observed at livestock markets	70	70
Scrapie identification compliance at livestock markets for sheep	97.2%	97.5%
Scrapie identification compliance at livestock markets for goats	87.9%	87.7%

### PROGRAM GOALS:

- Maintain state status for the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Scrapie Eradication Program.
- Continue efforts to ensure all sheep and goats leaving a Michigan premises have proper official identification.
- Investigate reportable diseases in sheep and goats when needed.
- Continue efforts to educate small ruminant producers about official identification, reportable diseases, and small ruminant health programs.



### KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- Michigan small ruminant farmers
- Michigan livestock markets
- United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services
- Michigan Sheep Producers Association
- Alpaca Association of Michigan
- Michigan Llama Association
- American Goat Federation

### LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- PA 466 of 1988, as amended, the Animal Industry Act
- CFR 54, Control of Scrapie
- Scrapie Eradication Uniform Methods and Rules, effective April 25, 2019





## SWINE

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The Swine Program supports the state's swine industry through implementing, maintaining, and coordinating animal health programs. These programs focus on preventing foreign animal diseases, specifically African swine fever (ASF), classical swine fever (CSF), and foot-and-mouth disease (FMD). To be prepared for a disease response, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development creates emergency plans and participates in exercises. Also, the program manages swine importation requirements and Swine Health Plan agreements with other states.

### IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:

The swine industry in Michigan is a growing and significant part of the state's agricultural economy. To keep this industry vibrant, pigs and pork products must have access to both U.S. and international markets. It is vitally important that the U.S. remains free of foreign animal diseases to keep these channels open. In addition, other emerging diseases could cause significant economic impacts to the industry while zoonotic diseases could affect both swine and human health.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Held two Swine Health Committee meetings, attended by multiple key stakeholders.
- Participated in an ASF workgroup (which included regulatory staff from the 15 top swine-producing states, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and industry representatives) to develop consistent response plans.
- Worked in collaboration with the Michigan Pork Producers Association and Michigan State University Extension to advance Michigan's Secure Pork Supply planning and preparedness.
- Completed Michigan's pilot of the Certified Swine Sample Collector (CSSC) Program, successfully training 19 sample collectors under one Category II accredited veterinarian.

Metric	2022	2023
USDA pseudorabies and brucellosis Free, Stage 5 status	Maintained	Maintained
Number of Seneca Valley Virus-positive pigs/investigations	222/231	153/186

### PROGRAM GOALS:

- Work with external stakeholders to help producers develop, improve, and implement Secure Pork Supply Plans during a foreign animal disease outbreak.
- Increase producer awareness of biosecurity protocols and other mitigation practices to prevent the introduction of a foreign animal disease into Michigan’s production facilities.
- Maintain Michigan’s pseudorabies and brucellosis free status.



### KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- Michigan Pork Producers Association
- Michigan State University Extension
- Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine
- Michigan Swine Health Committee
- Michigan State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources

### LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- PA 466 of 1988, as amended the Animal Industry Act
- PA 239 of 1992, Pseudorabies and Swine Brucellosis Control and Eradication



# VETERINARY BIOLOGICALS

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Companies and manufacturers selling or distributing veterinary biologics in Michigan are regulated by the federal and state government. Veterinary biologics are regulated federally through Title 9, subchapter E, Part 101-123 of the Code of Federal Regulations. At the state level, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's (MDARD) Director has the authority to restrict the sale and distribution of veterinary biologics when necessary for the protection of domestic animals or the public's health, interest, or safety through the Animal Industry Act, 1988 PA 466, MCL 287.743. Sale and distribution requests are submitted to MDARD through the State Veterinarian's Office. Approvals or denials are based on requirements outlined in the statute and rules.

## **IMPACT FOR MICHIGAN:**

Michigan's 3,000 licensed veterinarians and 35 million domestic animals rely on veterinary biologics. These products help ensure animal health, create a safe food supply, and protect the general public from zoonotic diseases.

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

- Assisted with 14 studies exploring new products and/or uses for veterinary biologics.



Metric	2022	2023
Approvals for veterinary biologicals	168	174
Approvals for autogenous vaccine/bacterin	154	157
Doses of autogenous vaccine/bacterin	16,976,750	13,414,100
Approved veterinary biological studies	13	14

### PROGRAM GOALS:

- Ensure veterinary biologicals are safe, effective, and available for the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of animal diseases.
- Have an efficient and effective approval/denial process for veterinary biologicals.
- Improve the ability to measure the impact of the Veterinary Biological Program.



### KEY STAKEHOLDERS:

- Private veterinarians
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Livestock producers and pet owners

### LEGAL AUTHORITY:

- PA 466 of 1988, as amended, the Animal Industry Act, R 287.703 Importation, distribution, and use of veterinary biologicals

# APPENDIX A: 2023 REPORTABLE DISEASES

## LIVESTOCK DISEASES:

Disease	Species	Number of Animals
Bluetongue Virus	Bovine	1
Bovine Leukemia Virus	Bovine	94
Johnes	Bovine	90
Listeriosis	Bovine	1
Malignant Catarrhal Fever	Bovine	2
Toxic Substance Contamination (Lead)	Bovine	4 Herds
West Nile Virus	Camelid	1
CAE (Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis)	Caprine	21
Chlamydia	Caprine	1
Johnes	Caprine	12
Listeriosis	Caprine	5
CWD (Chronic Wasting Disease)	Cervid	4 Herds
Johnes	Cervid	1
EEE (Eastern Equine Encephalomyelitis)	Equine	1
EIV (Equine Influenza Virus)	Equine	2
Strangles	Equine	55
West Nile Virus	Equine	4
Johnes	Ovine	1
Listeriosis	Ovine	2
PRRS (Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome)	Porcine	1
Seneca Valley Virus	Porcine	153
Swine Influenza	Porcine	7
Avian Influenza, high path	Poultry	7 Flocks
ILT (Infectious Laryngotracheitis)	Poultry	4 Flocks
Mycoplasma gallisepticum	Poultry	7 Flocks
Mycoplasma meleagridis	Poultry	7 Flocks
Mycoplasma synoviae	Poultry	12 Flocks
Tuberculosis (Mycobacterium avium)	Poultry	1

## SMALL ANIMAL, EQUINE, AND EXOTIC DISEASES:

Disease	Species	Number of Animals
Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis	Amphibian	2
Ranavirus	Amphibian	2
Viral hemorrhagic septicemia	Aquaculture	1
Whirling Disease (Myxobolus cerebralis)	Aquaculture	1 Group
Tuberculosis (Mycobacterium genovense)	Avian	3
Rabies	Bat	34
Brucellosis	Canine	4
Leishmaniasis	Canine	2
Leptospirosis	Canine	36
Rabies	Canine	1
Toxic Substance Contamination (Methamphetamine toxicity and Harmful Algal Bloom)	Canine	2
Tuberculosis (Mycobacterium smegmatis)	Canine	2
Rabies	Feline	1
Tuberculosis (Mycobacterium abscessus)	Feline	1
Tuberculosis ((Mycobacterium bovis)	Primate	3
Tuberculosis (Mycobacterium intracellulare)	Reptile	1
Rabies	Skunk	19



# APPENDIX B: 2023 DEPREDAATION REPORT

Vendor Name	# Animals	Species	Reason	Amount
Bonamigo, Mary Ann	3	Ovine	Coyote - Kills	\$790.00
Campbell, Jake	1	Ovine	Coyote - Kill	\$292.23
Dematio, Brian	2	Ovine	Coyote - Kills	\$254.80
Martinez, Sara	3	Ovine	Coyote - Kills	\$566.35
Perttu, Thomas	2	Bovine	Wolf - Kills	\$1,800.00
Bultsma, Pete	1	Bovine	Coyote - Kill	\$408.50
Wernette, Anthony	6	Ovine	Coyote - Kills	\$1,516.04
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>18</b>			<b>\$5,627.92</b>