

**Agenda Brief:** SAAESD Spring Meeting

**Date:** March 31-April 3, 2014

**Presenter:** Phil Elzer

**Background Information:**

1. Committee Membership:

Amy Omer	FDA/CVM
Dorothy Bailey	FDA/CVM
Francis Galey (AA)	AA/UWY
Gary Jensen	USDA/CSRESS
Gary Sherman	USDA/CSRESS
John Babish (NC)	MUADP/NRSP-7
John C. Baker (AA)	AA/MI AES
Lisa Tell (RC)	MUADP/NRSP-7/UC Davis
Margaret Smith (AA)	AA/NY AES
Meg Oeller	FDA/CVM
Paul R. Bowser (RC)	MUADP/NRSP-7/Cornell U
Phil Elzer (AA)	AA/LSU Ag Center
Rod Getchell	MUADP/NRSP-7/Cornell U
Ron Griffith (RC)	MUADP/NRSP-7/Iowa State
Sandy Ogletree	MUADP/NRSP-7/UC Davis
Thomas Vickroy (RC)	MUADP/NRSP-7/U FL

2. Background:

The objectives of NRSP-7 are:

- a) Identify the animal drug needs for minor species and minor uses in major species.
- b) Generate and disseminate data for the safe, effective, and legal use of drugs intended for use in minor animal species.
- c) Facilitate FDA/CVM approvals of drugs for minor species and minor uses.

The project was scheduled to end September 30, 2014. A one-year extension was requested on January 15, 2014. If approved, the project will run through September 2015.

3. Challenges:

The Minor Use Animal Drug Program is the only national program designed and organized to address the issues of the prudent use of antibiotics, anthelmintics and production drugs in minor species of food- and fiber-producing animals. Until 2006 NRSP-7 was consistently funded through as a line item in the Federal Budget at \$588,000 per year. Due to the elimination of earmarks, the Program lost direct Congressional funding in 2007 and 2008. Federal support resumed in 2009 and 2010 but through Hatch funds provided by the SAES at a 70% level over the last four years. Hatch funding has supplied less than 40% of the operating budget of the Program, with all of these funds directly supporting research. While appreciated, the current level of support, with additional cuts through sequestration and increasing costs of research, is insufficient to maintain the NRSP-7 as a viable, robust national program.

4. Future:

Over the next year, the Program will pursue additional funding support from the Minor Use Minor Species Program of the FDA/Center for Veterinary Medicine and developers of organic or natural alternatives to antimicrobial and pesticide use in food animals. Additionally, USDA/NIFA has been exploring ways to consolidate related programs. This has been successfully implemented for a subset of programs related to plant protection, and task forces are currently working toward consolidation of selected water programs. Early-phase discussions concerning possible consolidation of animal protection and production programs, including NRSP-7, are now underway. Stakeholders will be engaged to further Congressional interest in tighter control of antimicrobial use in food animals through NRSP-7 research. These efforts, we believe, will assist the Program to be federally-funded once again. **If sustainable funding cannot be obtained, however, consideration will be given to termination of the Program.**

5. Next Meeting:

April or May 2014.

**Action Requested:** For information only.