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**PRESS RELEASE**

*For immediate release*

***National summit to examine policy, education and economics of antimicrobial stewardship***

A national summit highlighting policy, education and economic issues surrounding the stewardship of antimicrobial drug use in food-producing animals will take place Jan. 20-21, 2016, at the Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill, 400 New Jersey Ave. NW, Washington, D.C.

A collaboration of Farm Foundation, NFP, the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU), the Association of American Veterinary Medicine Colleges (AAVMC) and USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS), the summit will highlight the diverse issues involved in antimicrobial stewardship. Targeted to livestock producers, feed suppliers, veterinarians, academics and government agency staff, the summit is an opportunity to advance the conversation on the industry's adaptation to the changing landscape of antimicrobial drug use.

The summit will include a report of findings compiled by Farm Foundation after conducting 12 workshops across the nation on new policies issued by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on use of antimicrobial drugs in food-producing animals. The workshops were an opportunity for livestock producers, veterinarians and feed suppliers to broaden their understanding of the new policies, and for producers, veterinarians and feed suppliers to give feedback to FDA and USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service on the management challenges of the policy implementation. Sessions will focus on next steps for strengthening the judicious use of antimicrobial drugs in food-producing animals.

The summit will also focus on how agriculture and animal health can be full partners with the human medical community in a fully integrated national action plan to reduce and mitigate antibiotic resistance. The basis of these discussions is a report, *Addressing Antibiotic Resistance*, issued in October 2015 by a joint task force of APLU and AAVMC.

ERS will lead sessions examining the economics of antibiotic use in U.S. livestock production, as well as the interaction of farming practices and the requirements of food marketers.

Featured speakers at the summit will include:

- Catherine Woteki, USDA Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics;
- Bernadette Dunham, DVM, Ph.D., Director of FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM);

- William Flynn, DVM, Deputy Director of Science Policy at the CVM;
- Steve Solomon, MD, Global Public Health Consulting;
- Liz Wagstrom, DVM, National Pork Producers Council;
- Christine Hoang, DVM, MPH, CPH, American Veterinary Medical Association;
- Ashley Predith, Ph.D., President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology; and
- Livestock producers, feed suppliers, veterinarians and university leaders from across the nation.

A tentative program agenda is available here.

There is no fee to attend the summit but registration is requested and can be completed online by [CLICKING HERE](#).

The summit will begin at 1 p.m. on Jan. 20, and continue through the afternoon of Jan. 21. Preceding the summit on the morning of Jan. 20 will be a [Farm Foundation Forum](#) on the topic: *Antibiotic Use in Humans and Animals*.

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***Farm Foundation, NFP*** serves as a catalyst for sound public policy by providing objective information to foster a deeper understanding of issues shaping the future for agriculture, food systems and rural regions. The Foundation does not lobby or advocate. The Foundation's 83-year reputation for objectivity allows it to bring together diverse stakeholders for discussions on economic and public policy issues. [www.farmfoundation.org](http://www.farmfoundation.org)

***The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities*** is a research, policy and advocacy organization dedicated to strengthening and advancing the work of public universities in the United States, Canada and Mexico. With a membership of 235 public research universities, land-grant institutions, state university systems, and affiliated organizations, APLU's agenda is built on the three pillars of increasing degree completion and academic success, advancing scientific research, and expanding engagement. [www.aplu.org](http://www.aplu.org)

***The Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges*** provides leadership for and promotes excellence in academic veterinary medicine to prepare the veterinary workforce with the scientific knowledge and skills required to meet societal needs through the protection of animal health, the relief of animal suffering, the conservation of animal resources, the promotion of public health, and the advancement of medical knowledge. [www.aavmc.org](http://www.aavmc.org)

***USDA's Economic Research Service*** has a mission to inform and enhance public and private decision making on economic and policy issues related to agriculture, food, the environment and rural development. With more than 300 employees, the Economic Research Service is a primary source of economic information and research in the U.S. Department of Agriculture. [www.ers.usda.gov](http://www.ers.usda.gov)

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