



**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

***Farm Foundation Forum examines challenges
of antibiotic drug use in food-producing animals***

OAK BROOK, IL May 4, 2015: In response to human and animal health concerns, livestock producers and companies across the food and agriculture value chain are voluntarily taking steps to reduce the use of antibiotics in food animal production. The success of these actions is critical to public health, food prices and the future viability of animal agriculture in the United States.



At the Farm Foundation® Forum on Thursday, May 14, a panel of industry experts from production agriculture, the pharmaceutical industry and regulatory agencies will explore the challenges of phasing out antimicrobial drug use in food-producing animals.

Farm Foundation President Neil Conklin will moderate the panel, which will include:

- Cheri DeJong, a Texas farmer;
- Grady Bishop, Senior Director, North American Market Access, Elanco Animal Health;
- William Flynn, MD, Director of Science Policy at the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Veterinary Medicine; and
- John Clifford, DVM, Deputy Administrator of Veterinary Services for USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

The Forum will be 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the National Press Club, Washington, D.C. After short presentations by each panelist, the floor will be opened for discussion. For those unable to attend in person, a live audiocast is available free of charge.

Since December 2012, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has issued two Guidance for Industry (GFIs)—209 and 213—addressing “voluntary adoption of practices to ensure the appropriate or judicious use of medically important antimicrobial drugs in food-producing animals.” Increased veterinary oversight on the use of antimicrobials is also addressed. Most recently, FDA has also amended its Veterinary Feed Directive to require producers to have veterinary approval for the use of medically-important antibiotics in feed.

There is no charge to participate in the May 14 Forum, but registration is requested. Registration is required to access the live audiocast. [Register online](#) to attend the Forum at the National Press Club. To participate via the live audiocast, [register here](#).

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www.farmfoundation.org www.facebook.com/thefarmfoundation www.agchallenge2050.org

Audiocasting is made possible by a grant from Farm Credit. After the event, an audio file is posted to the [Farm Foundation website](#) for those unable to be part of the live event.

Who should participate in the Forum: People with an interest in agricultural, food and rural policy, including members of Congress, congressional staff, executive branch officials, industry representatives, NGO representatives, academics and members of the media.

The Forum: Farm Foundation, NFP organizes these public forums to engage all stakeholders in informed dialogue on food, agricultural and rural policies. Participants examine current policies, explore and analyze alternative policy proposals, and give voice to new proposals.

Audio from the session will be posted on the Farm Foundation [website](#). Presentations and audio files from past Forum sessions are also available at the website.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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Farm Foundation, NFP works 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 advocate or lobby. Farm Foundation has an 82-year commitment to objectivity, fostering the constructive debate that is essential to sound public policy development in a democracy.