PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

Workshop to examine incentives, disincentives of developing new antimicrobial drugs and antibiotic alternatives for food animals

Feb. 9, 2016: Incentives and disincentives to researching and developing new antimicrobial drugs and non-antibiotic alternatives for use in food-producing animals will be the focus of a workshop March 17-18, 2016, in Washington, D.C. Farm Foundation, NFP, and USDA’s Economic Research Service are collaborating to present the workshop, which will be at ERS offices at Patriots Plaza III, 355 E Street SW, Washington, D.C.

The rise of antibiotic resistance and the decline in the number of new antibiotics being developed has generated concern for the future of human medicine. Much less attention is being focused on similar concerns for food animal antibiotics.

The March 17-18 workshop will examine factors involved in creating incentives for research and development of new antimicrobial drugs and alternatives to antibiotics. These include: the market for animal pharmaceuticals, how to bring an alternative product to market, regulatory protocols required to bring products to market, regulations on use of antibiotics in food production, and the overlap between human and animal antibiotic use and development.

The workshop will also explore tools that might be used to incentivize research and development of new antimicrobial drugs and antibiotic alternatives for use in food animals. This workshop is not intended to explore the chain of antimicrobial resistance from farm to fork, or antibiotic stewardship practices in livestock production.

Keynoting the workshop will be Catherine Woteki, USDA Undersecretary for Research, Education and Economics. Other speakers will include representatives from FDA’s Center for Veterinary Medicine, academic researchers, and representatives of animal health pharmaceutical companies, global animal health associations and biotech development companies. The workshop agenda is available on the Farm Foundation website.

The workshop is targeted to policy makers, researchers and government agency staff, as well as representatives of the human health, livestock production, veterinary medicine and animal health industries.
There is no charge to participate in the workshop but registration is requested and can be completed online.

**For more information contact:**

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**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.

**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.

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