



**U.S. FOOD & DRUG
ADMINISTRATION**

Association of American Feed Control Officials Annual Meeting 2025

August 4, 2025

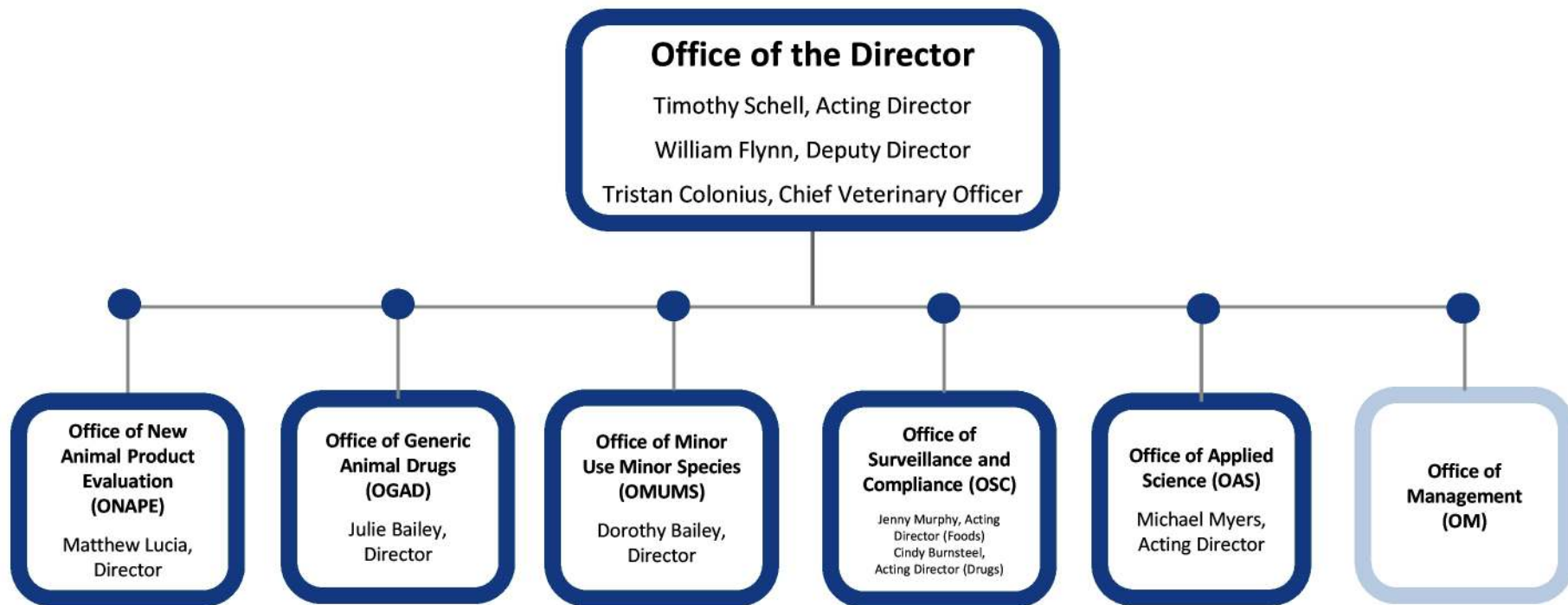


Tim Schell, PhD
Acting Center Director
Center for Veterinary Medicine
U.S. Food and Drug Administration

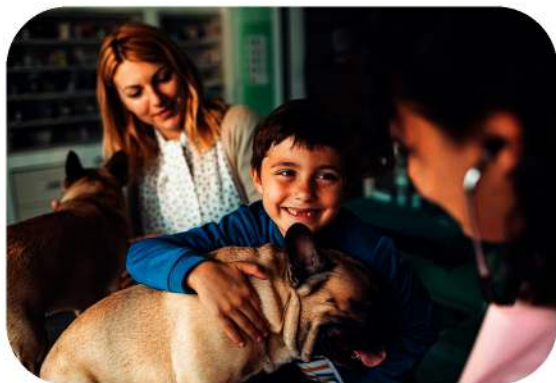
TOPICS

- Center Updates
- Priorities
- Current Topics
- Legislation
- Pre-market Animal Food
- Compliance Activities
- Future

CVM Offices



We serve the U.S. public by ensuring the safety, effectiveness and availability of products entrusted to the Center.



Animal Drugs and
Devices



Human and Animal
Food Safety



Animal
Biotechnologies

CVM Strategic Priorities



Spur and Increase Access to Safe, Effective Animal Products



Model a Modern, Agile Center



Lead Efforts to Solve Public Health Problems



Drive Collaborative Partnerships

Current Priorities

- Make America Healthy Again (MAHA)
- Simple reform
- New pathways
- Listening tours
- Reduce animal testing
- Utilize Artificial Intelligence

CVM's Impact on Making America Healthy Again

- Protecting the safety of our food supply by ensuring that eggs, milk, and meat derived from animals are safe for people to eat.
- Supporting domestic agricultural productivity.
- Approving products to treat and prevent zoonotic diseases; thereby preventing illness in humans.
- Supporting the human/animal bond leading to improved physical and mental health.
- Promoting the development of innovative products.

MAHA and Animal Food

- Color Additives
- Generally Recognized as Safe - GRAS Reform
- Chemical Contaminants (PFAS)
- Get better



CURRENT TOPICS

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H5N1

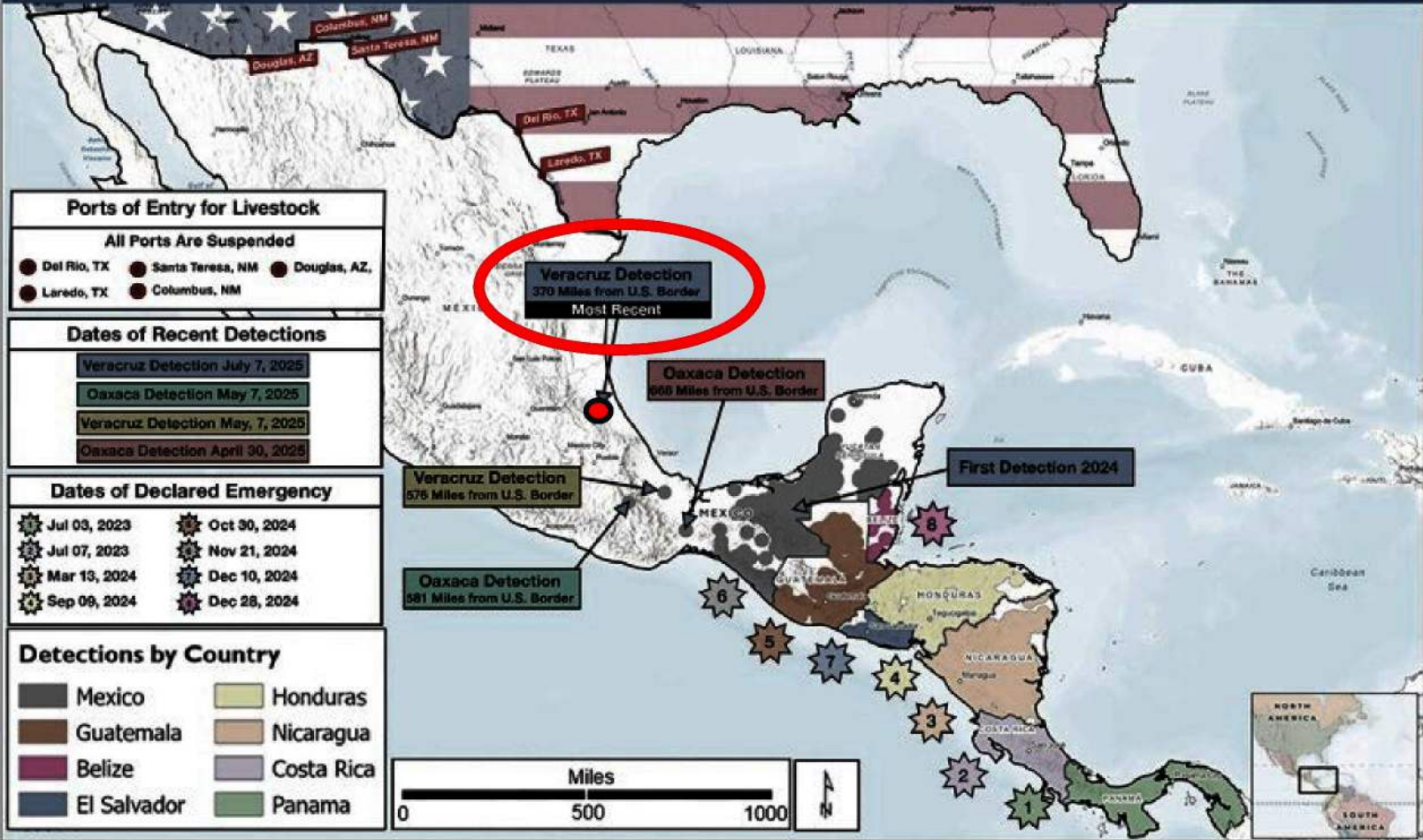


- Coordinated effort on pet food safety
 - Complaints, testing, inspections
- Vet-LIRN (Veterinary Laboratory Investigation and Response Network) laboratories conducted testing (animal samples and complaints)
- Known or reasonably foreseeable hazard

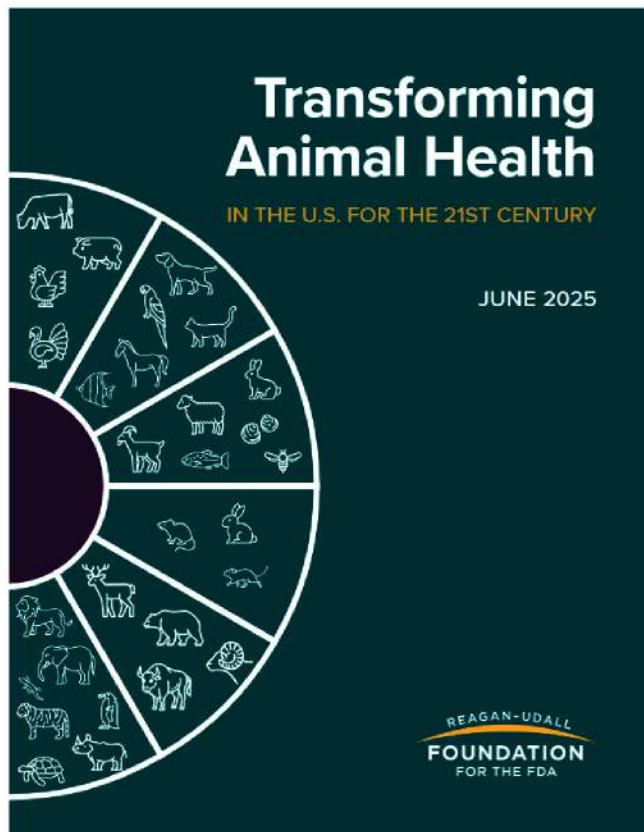
New World Screwworm

- Primary concern is livestock but can also affect wildlife, pets, and rarely humans
- Threat to animal health, food security, public health, and economy
- Currently no FDA approved drugs for treatment or prevention
- FDA is prioritizing potential countermeasure as part of a collaborative response





Reagan-Udall Report



- Advance Animal & Veterinary Innovation Agenda
- Identify opportunities and challenges in animal health and veterinary medicine
- Identify where new or adapted regulatory approaches are needed
- How animal health sectors integrate One Health



Food Highlights

- Modernize regulatory pathways – Food Additives, ZAFS
- Allow performance claims with nutritional ingredients
- Streamline processes
- Add expertise
- Harmonize labeling
- Global harmonization of ingredient regulation

LEGISLATION

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Legislative Activities

- **Pet Food Uniform Regulatory Reform Act of 2025** or the “**PURR Act of 2025**”
- **Innovative Feed Enhancement and Economic Development Act of 2025**’ or the “**Innovative FEED Act of 2025**”

Note: The agency typically does not publicly comment on pending legislation.

Zootechnical Animal Food Substances (ZAFS)



IFEED would give FDA legislative authority for a new pathway for ZAFS to utilize the **food additive petition** process, types of articles defined as ZAFS includes:

- substances that are added to animal food or drinking water of animals;
- And function solely in the gut of an animal to:
 - ✓ Affect the byproducts of the digestive process,
 - ✓ reduce the presence of food safety pathogens, or
 - ✓ affect the structure or function of the animal, e.g. production benefits.

ZAFS Without Legislation

- Draft GFI #289 – Use of Zootechnical Substances in Animal Food
- Draft GFI #291 – Animal Food Intended to Affect the Structure or Function of the Animal

PRE-MARKET ANIMAL FOOD ACTIVITIES

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Animal Food Ingredient Consultation

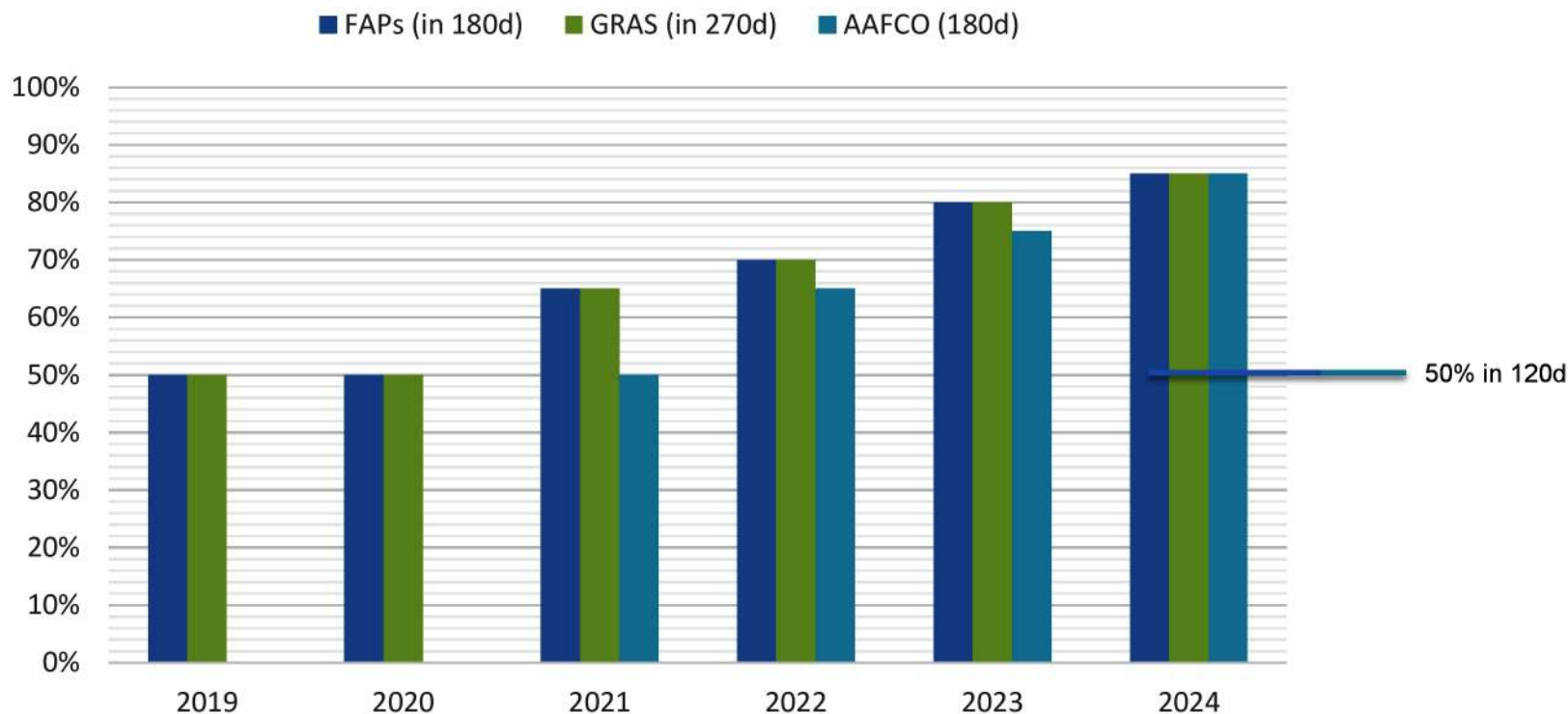


- Voluntary consultations
- Transition from AAFCO ingredient definition process
- Identify safety concerns
- Transparency and stability
- Timely accomplishment

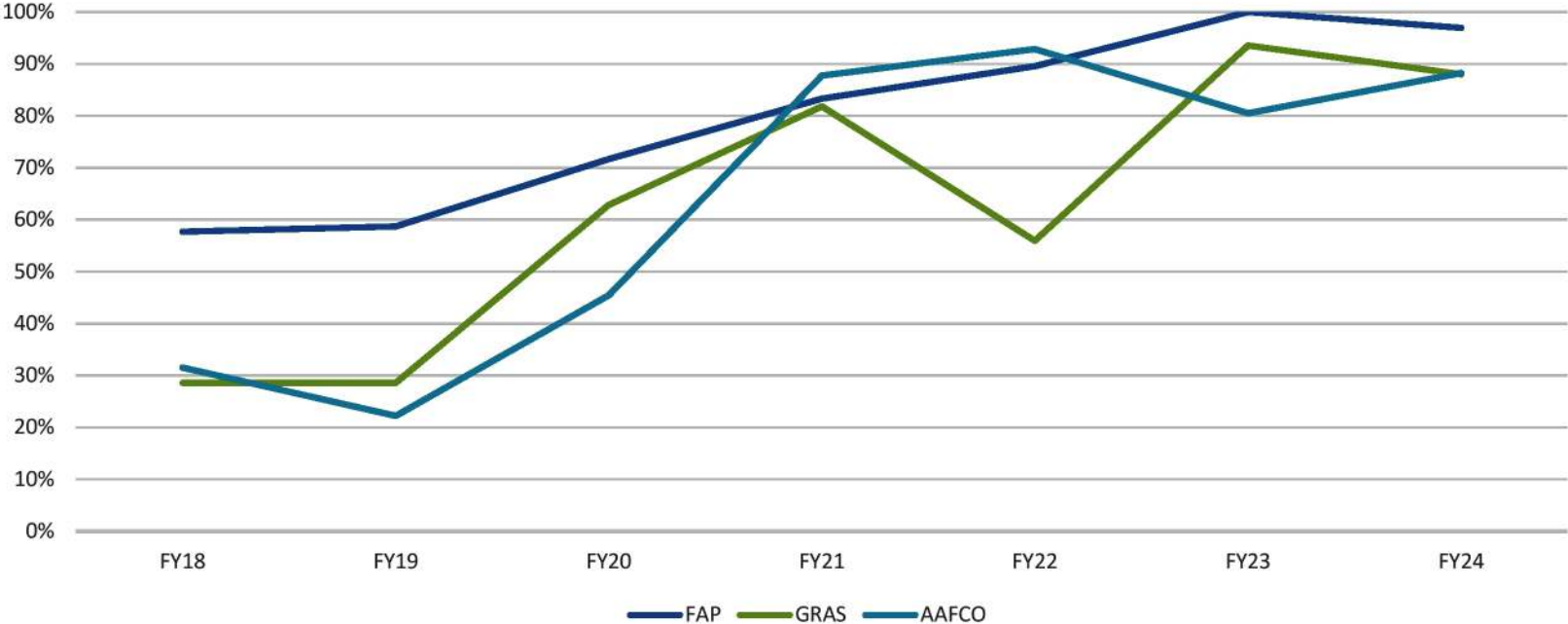
Pending AFIC Inventory

AFIC No.	Firm	Substance	Intended Use	Intended Species	Date Submitted	Status
0001	Hill's Pet Nutrition	Rice protein concentrate	For use as a source of protein	Cats and dogs	10/17/2024	Pending
0002	Oligofeed	Molybdenum compound	For use as a source of molybdenum	Honey bees	2/25/2025	Pending

Premarket Reviews - Performance Goals



Pre Market Reviews



Pre-market Program Review

Feedback:

- ☐ Greater efficiency and predictability
- ☐ Timeliness
- ☐ Desire for iterative process
- ☐ Flexibility
- ☐ Transparency on review process
- ☐ Education and outreach
- ☐ Next steps...

Generally Recognized as Safe (GRAS) Notification program



Feedback:

- ☐ Pre-submission consultations
- ☐ Increase flexibility – depend on summary information
- ☐ Transparency – what to expect when notice is under evaluation
- ☐ Next steps...

COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES

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Reorganization

- Office of Investigations and Imports (OII)
- Dedicated animal food inspectorate within OII
- All compliance activities moved to CVM
 - ✓ Consumer complaints
 - ✓ Recalls
 - ✓ Compliance actions

Integrated Food Safety System

State focus

- Quarterly calls share information
- Participation in regulatory meetings
- Providing technical assistance
 - Field assistance
 - Scientific
 - Analytical
 - Safety Assessments

Integrated Food Safety System

- Building a regulatory response network

- Leveraging sampling analysis to guide inspections and import activities
- Leveraging state inspections for regulatory actions
- Incorporating state regulatory responses and expertise

State focus



Human Food Inspections

The BRIDGE Project

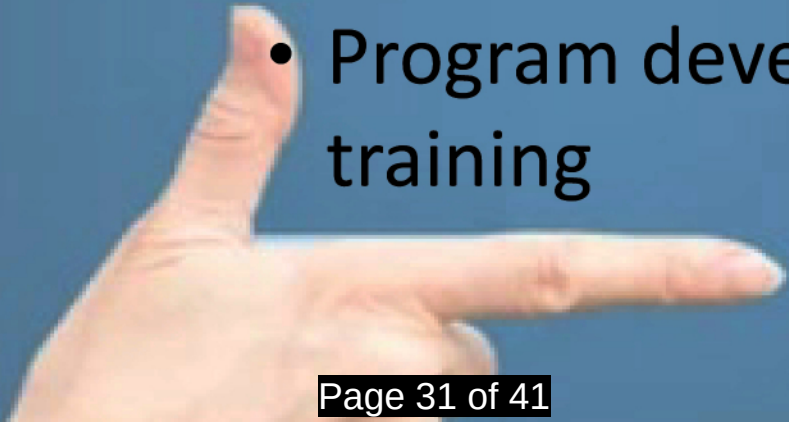
- Redefines the FDA-State relationship
- Co-Regulators
- Partnering
 - State knowledge
 - Nationwide priority setting
 - Strong regulatory infrastructure
 - Inspectional efficiency
 - Range of technical and regulatory expertise

Human Food Inspections

- Goal - collecting information at a greater number of sights
- Improved risk assessment
- Flexible model
- Optimize resources
- Relies on states more for some inspections

Human Food Inspections

FDA Focus

- 
- Specialized
 - Foreign and import
 - Emergency response
 - Program development and training

Human Food Inspections



- Work with a few states
- Expand over time
- Secure funding
- Implement broadly

Animal Food Future

- Learn
- Leverage
- Enhance
- Expand



FUTURE

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A silhouette of a person standing on a rocky outcrop, looking through a telescope. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow and lens flare effect. The background shows a hazy landscape with mountains or hills.

Shared Mission

Vision for Animal Food

- Partnering
- Coordinating
- Communicating
- Embracing Innovation

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Vision for Animal Food

Co regulate

- Reduce redundancies
- Remove obstacles
- Work together

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Future Animal Food

Starts with what you do here this week

- Build relationships
- Identify challenges
- Propose new ideas
- Work together

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A silhouette of a person standing on a rocky outcrop, looking through a telescope. The person is positioned on the left side of the frame, with their back to the viewer. The background is a bright, hazy sky with a sun or moon low on the horizon, creating a strong backlight effect. The overall tone is inspirational and forward-looking.

Shared Mission



Thank you!



For Industry



For Consumers



For Veterinarians



For Animals