



Health Care Practices for Our Food Animals

A CT, MA, RI SARE Professional Development Program 2014-2017

SARE PDP Tristate Projects

- 2014-2017 Health Care Practices for our Food Animals
- 2011-2014 Grass-Fed All Year Long
- 2008-2011 Producing Natural Local Meat for Consumers

Abstract: Close to 30 million pounds of the antibiotics sold in the U.S. are used in animal agriculture (80% of all antibiotics sold). The 2014 PDP project assessment questionnaire surveyed 110 agricultural service providers, veterinarians, and university educators. Eighty-four percent (84%) of respondents stated that agricultural service providers and farmers need education about the use of drugs/antibiotics in food animal production.

The grant creates a *Health Care Practices for our Food Animals Working Group* that will design educational programs for agricultural service providers to assist farmers with information and assistance from veterinary, university, and regulatory professionals to address the following key topics:

- Insuring adequate drug protocols to treat sick animals
- Antibiotic use and resistance
- Identify food animal production systems that prevent disease and reduce the need for antibiotics
- FDA and USDA regulations for uses of drugs/antibiotics/hormones

This grant will enhance the three components of sustainable agriculture:

- Environmental: reduce antibiotics in food production, soil and water
- Economic Viability: reduce off-farm inputs and meet increased consumer demand for local foods free of antibiotics and drugs
- Social: respond to concerns about the effects on humans of antibiotics in food animals and work to create successful strategies to preserve antibiotic efficacy.

Michael T. Keilty	Project Coordinator, UConn
Joseph Bonelli	UConn
Jean King	UConn
Katie Campbell-Nelson	UMASS
Sonia Schloemann	UMASS
Heather Faubert	URI

michael.keilty@uconn.edu
joseph.bonelli@uconn.edu
jean.king@uconn.edu
kcampbel@umass.edu
sgs@umext.umass.edu
hfh@uri.edu

www.meatsystems.uconn.edu