

# Veterinarian Shortage Situation Nomination Form

To be completed by the State or Insular Area Animal Health Official

## Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

### Nomination of Veterinarian Shortage Situations for the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) Authorized Under the National Veterinary Medical Service Act (NVMSA)

**Note: Please submit one separate nomination form for each position. See solicitation for number of nominations permitted for your state or insular area.**

**Veterinary Shortage ID Code: AZ112**

#### Location of Veterinary Shortage Area for this Nomination

Note: If this nomination is for a public practice position, please provide the location of the home office or the center of service area.

Location of Veterinary Shortage: Arizona Counties: Pinal, Yuma and Maricopa  
(e.g., County, State/Insular Area)

Center of Service Area or Location of Position: Casa Grande, Arizona 85222  
(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

#### Type of Veterinary Practice Area/Discipline/Specialty

Type I Shortage: Private Practice

Food Animal Medicine (at least 80 percent time)

Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- Beef Cattle
- Dairy Cattle
- Swine
- Poultry
- Small Ruminant
- Other : \_\_\_\_\_

Type II Shortage: Private Practice – Rural Area

Food Animal Medicine (at least 30 percent time)

Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- Beef Cattle
- Dairy Cattle
- Swine
- Poultry
- Small Ruminant
- Other : \_\_\_\_\_

Type III Shortage: Public Practice (at least 49 percent time\*)

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Position Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Please select **one or more** specialty/disciplinary areas.

- Food Safety
- Public Health
- Epidemiology
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please describe the objectives of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation as well as being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).**

This position will ensure food animal veterinary expertise is available for the farming and ranching region of central Arizona. The majority of the feedlot and dairy industry of Arizona is located in this region. Applicants for this position should be willing to provide veterinary service for the listed species in this region which includes private land, state trust range land, federal range land and tribal communities. This region contains the Fort McDowell and Gila River Indian Reservations. Applicants should be aware of the disease risks and plant toxicities associated with the region and the increased health risks of international livestock, poultry and bird importation. The successful applicant will be offered training to become a member of the Arizona Livestock Incident Response Team (ALIRT). ALIRT veterinarians are trained and equipped as first responders to adverse livestock health events. The successful applicant must have Category II accreditation with the USDA APHIS Veterinary Services and be actively engaged in food animal practice a minimum of 32 hours per week (80%).

**Please describe the activities of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation and being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).**

The following activities are for range beef cow-calf practice servicing Arizona producers, the majority of which have spring calving cowherds. This work is seasonal mostly performed in the fall and spring months. Spring: assist with dystocia; consultation on cow herd, herd bull and calf immunization and parasite control strategies; herd bull fertility exams including collection of samples for trichomoniasis lab analysis; Fall: Pregnancy testing cows; administer immunizations and parasite control; official calf hood vaccination of heifer calves; health certification for interstate shipment. Dairy practice in the region is the major food animal practice discipline and need of the region. Continuous activities focus on herd health and nutrition for the lactating herd and dry cows; herd bull management; calf rearing and managing replacement heifers; intensive management of calving intervals; immunization strategies; individual cow treatments; tuberculosis testing and brucellosis testing; health certification for interstate shipments; milk quality testing; official calf hood vaccination of heifer calves. Most of the swine and small ruminants in the region are owned by individuals that may request live animal exams, necropsies and diagnostics. This region has two poultry premises of commercial laying operations. These premises are family owned and retain a full time veterinarian. Clinicians may be contracted to do work on the reservation or may be full time employees of the Tribal Nation. One public food animal livestock market is located in the region.

**Please describe any past efforts to recruit and retain a veterinarian in the shortage situation identified above (limit your response to 100 words or less).**

Practicing veterinarians have assisted other veterinarians establish practice in the region in hopes of getting help with food animal work but in the last several years most of the of the new practices have evolved to focus mainly on small animal and equine practice. Even the group practices that focus almost exclusively on dairy practice have experienced difficulty in keeping associates the last 5 years.

**Please describe the risk of this veterinarian position not being secured or retained. Include the risk(s) to the production of a safe and wholesome food supply and to animal, human, and environmental health not only in the community but in the region, state/insular area, nation, and/or international community (limit your response to 250 words or less).**

Maintaining disease free herds and flocks is critical to maintaining market access for live animals and consumer confidence in meat, milk and eggs. Accredited food animal practitioners are the key veterinarians that ensure the herd and flock health that allows for the sale of live animals and animal derived products in local, national and international markets. Public investment to reverse the trend of declining numbers of food animal veterinarians is supported by the food animal practitioners within Arizona. They realize the risk to herd and flock health, to the marketplace, to livestock welfare, and to food safety and security if their numbers continue to decline. Practitioners also realize the critical role of the Arizona Livestock Incident Response Team. Most recent NASS numbers for all cattle and sheep inventory for the region: all cattle 710,000 head, all sheep and lambs 58,000 head.

**Please indicate whether you consider this situation/position a candidate for a “service in emergency” agreement (limit your response to 100 words or less). Please see solicitations for additional information regarding the obligation of participants who enter into the “Service in Emergency” agreement. [LEAVE BLANK – NOT FOR IMPLEMENTATION IN 2010]**

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

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John W. Hunt

Type Name

3-05-2010

Date

Public reporting for OMB control number 0524-0046 is estimated to average two hours, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless it displays a current valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to NIFA, OEP, 800 9<sup>th</sup> St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.