

FACTSHEET

Meeting Animal Health Needs

USDA recently completed facilities in Ames, Iowa, to meet national needs for animal health research, diagnosis, and product evaluation and to replace existing facilities that are antiquated and inefficient. The facilities modernize and update USDA's National Animal Disease Center (NADC), National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) and Center for Veterinary Biologics (CVB).

Improving competitiveness in the world market, enhancing our nation's livestock industries, and protecting against emerging diseases depends more than ever on maintaining disease-free animals and ensuring that systems are in place to respond to disease outbreaks. Healthy livestock are fundamental to a safe food supply for the American public and assuring international food security.

ARS-APHIS Collaboration

Following a 1992 report highlighting the serious facility problems at NADC, ARS developed a master plan for NADC in 1997. Implementation of this plan was estimated to take 19 years to complete. Independently, APHIS recognized its own building's shortcomings in 1988 and developed a master plan to upgrade its facility. In 1995, the APHIS project was estimated to take 10 years to complete.

In 1998, both agencies recognized an excellent new opportunity: to create a single new Center encompassing work of NADC, NVSL and CVB. The joint plan promised to provide many advantages over individual plans for separate new facilities, including a large cash savings and the much shorter time to completion. The logic of bringing NADC, NVSL and CVB together is compelling since this will lead to greater efficiencies of operation, even closer collaborative work, and the fostering of a world-class animal disease research and service culture.

Today, the plan is a reality.



AMES MODERNIZATION PROJECT COMPONENTS

Phase 1 Consolidated Laboratory

- ▼ 62,050 gross sq ft
- ▼ APHIS Pathobiology Laboratory
- ▼ APHIS Diagnostic Bacteriology Laboratory
- ▼ Office space/Conference space
- ▼ Completed in September 2004



Phase 2 Consolidated Laboratory and Administrative Facilities

- ▼ Approx. 550,000 gross sq ft
- ▼ BSL-2 & BSL-3 laboratories
- ▼ Caged animal facility
- ▼ Laboratory support services
- ▼ Administrative and CVB office space
- ▼ Conference space/Training facilities/Cafeteria
- ▼ Completed April 2009



Phase 3 High Containment Large Animal Housing and Training Facility

- ▼ 141,163 gross sq ft
- ▼ ARS research areas
- ▼ APHIS diagnostic and biologics programs/training
- ▼ 22 animal rooms
- ▼ Joint-use support areas
- ▼ Completed in February 2007



Phase 4 Low Containment Large Animal Housing Facility

- ▼ Housing for animals infected with BSL-2 or lower level organisms, including TSE's
- ▼ Completed February 2009

