

## Animal Industry Board Update

### Livestock Identification BA 4546

- Digital Brand Inspection is in the testing phase with one brand inspector (Jim Cooney) and all four of the enforcement officers. It has passed most of its major hurdles. A go live date has not been determined. Due to the budget we will be rolling the program out to 10-12 inspectors per year beginning with the 10-12 inspectors who perform the greatest amount of inspections per year.
- Head Tax, as of this writing (October 30<sup>th</sup>) it appears that we have had better success collecting our head tax payments.
- 4 separate traffic stops have been held, with warnings and citations given to producers transporting livestock without brand or health papers. Most of the offending parties have been horse owners.
- Cattle Shootings: We are firmly invested in tracking down the culprits who are shooting cattle all across northern Nevada. We are cooperating with several different sheriff's offices, states and other cooperating agencies in the process. We do have leads and some evidence but not enough to lead to an arrest at this time.

### Animal Health BA 4550

- Trichinosis testing is in full swing the staff have done an excellent job informing infected parties, and aiding producers in their clean up protocol.
- West Nile testing was very encouraging this year with over 4,000 pools tested and 98 positives, with the largest majority coming from Clark County. 1 horse contracted West Nile virus and 1 person. We are seeing interesting changes in the types of mosquitoes that test positive for West Nile, we don't know enough yet to come to any conclusion. Also the funding for West Nile was increased by \$8000.
- Rabies testing has also increased significantly due to heightened concerns caused by the positive puppy last spring.
- The lab is also investigating a strange abortion case that occurred in a mule which was positive for Equine Herpes 7. At this time we do not have enough information to share on that investigation.

### Wildlife Services BA 4600

- We are contracting with Nevada Dairies for the purpose of eradicating starlings and other pest birds.
- We will be looking to fill a vacancy position after Daryl Frye left this fall, sometime in the spring.