

NIAA Annual Meeting: Applying a Full-Court Press

Story by

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Livestock producers, veterinarians, state and regulatory officials, and other stakeholders in animal agriculture will unite at the 2006 annual meeting of the National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA) April 3-6 in Louisville, Ky., at the Galt House Hotel and Suites. The meeting is themed "Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Planning — Applying a Full-Court Press for Animal Agriculture."

"Because NIAA is a conduit to establish industry consensus, share information and provide continuing education credits, we strive to bring the industry's stakeholders together," says Glenn Slack, NIAA president and chief executive officer (CEO). "We anticipate exciting discussions from our species- and issues-based committees."

The annual membership meeting and opening general session will kick off the event on Monday, April 3. A "Welcome to Kentucky" reception will take place Monday night.

Committee seminars and business meetings start Tuesday, April 4. The Cattle Health Committee will meet in the morning, along with the Swine Health Committee, Poultry Health Committee and the Equine Identification (ID) Subcommittee. The afternoon highlights animal production food safety and security issues, along with meetings of the Equine Health Committee and the Sheep and Goat Health Committee. The day concludes with a reception and the NIAA annual recognition banquet. Tim Stivers, a country comedian and captivating storyteller, will provide the evening's entertainment.

Wednesday's morning seminars include animal care, animal health emergency management, animal health and international trade, and environmental issues. Afternoon seminars include animal ID and information systems, emerging diseases, and youth programs.

A special, full-day symposium Thursday, April 6, will be devoted to business continuity and disaster recovery planning. Increased threats of introduction of foreign animal diseases and the prospects of natural disasters have focused the industry on its future. A full-court press is needed to ensure that prevention and biosecurity measures are in place, response is rapid and deliberate, and business continuity is achievable. Industry experts will detail the steps that need to be taken from the onset of a disaster to the resumption of business and on toward full recovery.

Several other organizations will host meetings in conjunction with the NIAA event.

A special registration rate is available for spouses and includes a "Get Acquainted Tea," the "Welcome to Kentucky" reception, a tour to

area attractions and the NIAA annual recognition banquet.

Student registration is now available, and reduced fees are offered for the entire meeting or individual days. Student registration includes seminars, committee

meetings and banquet/receptions on the days attended.

A block of rooms is reserved at the newly renovated Galt House Hotel and Suites at the special nightly rate of \$81 if reserved before March 13. Reservations

can be made by calling 1-800-626-1814.

For more information about the 2006 NIAA annual meeting, visit www.animalagriculture.org or call (270) 782-9798.

