Program success requires active participation from the producer, the herd veterinarian, NYS Ag and Markets field veterinarians and other advisors.

Accurate animal identification and recordkeeping are essential for program participation.

If everyone takes responsibility for their part of a good herd plan, implementing it should not add substantial costs. The outcome is minimizing disease, maximizing production leading to increased profits and better overall cattle well being.

Consumer confidence in food safety and quality is very important to the success of the dairy and beef industries.

How to Enroll in NYSCHAP

To enroll in NYSCHAP, contact your herd veterinarian. He or she will then make arrangements with the regional field veterinarian from the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets. For additional information

- To enroll or contact a state field veterinarian, call NYS Division of Animal Industry at 518-457-3502 or visit their website at: ww.agriculture.ny.gov/AI/AIHome.html
- For diagnostic testing services or information, call the Animal Health Diagnostic Center at Cornell University, 607-253-3900
- For general information, call the NYSCHAP coordinator, Melanie Hemenway, DVM at 585-313-7541 or Email at melanie.hemenway@agriculture.ny.gov
- Visit the NYSCHAP website at: https://ahdc.vet.cornell.edu/NYSCHAP/
The New York State Cattle Health Assurance Program is an integrated disease prevention program that utilizes a team of advisors to develop a farm-specific herd health plan. The objectives of this plan are to

- Increase the herd's health, productivity and profitability,
- Assure food safety, public health and consumer confidence in animal agriculture
- Promote environmental stewardship.

The NYSCHAP farm team is comprised of the NYSCHAP herd planner (NYS Field Veterinarian or certified NYSCHAP Veterinarian), the producer, the herd veterinarian, key farm employees and other consultants used on the farm. Baseline information is collected and a walk-through risk assessment is completed. Intervention strategies are developed within the goals and resources of the farm operation and are the basis for the herd plan. The herd veterinarian will work with the producer over the next year to ensure progress is made with the herd plan.

Key points:

NYSCHAP is a sponsored program of the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets

There is no enrollment fee for participation.

Herd veterinarians are compensated for their time in the planning process by the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets.

Herd plans are herd specific and will be created within the goals and resources of the farm operation. Some plans will incorporate changes in management practices (BMPS’s) while other plans may include disease testing or facility changes.

All farms enroll in the core module which is basic biosecurity and BMP’s that cross all management areas and disease issues.

The core module of the program is represented by the hub of the wheel consisting of general “best management practices.” These best management practices occupy the center of the health assurance wheel because they will benefit production, animal health, food safety, product quality and ultimately profit, regardless of the pathogen or herd stressor involved. The individual modules “spin off” from the core and contain detailed and specific interventions designed to impact a particular issue or pathogen on the farm. The farm plan developed by the NYSCHAP team is farm-specific for each module. For example, if a producer wants to work towards the establishment of a Johne’s control program, elements of the core best management practices are implemented, along with specific interventions designed to control and reduce Johne’s disease on that farm.

NYSCHAP Modules

**Johnes** module helps identify risks for introduction and spread of Johne’s Disease and implements on farm practices for control.

**Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus** module helps identify and manage BVD.

**Salmonella** module helps with testing and management with the different strains that can affect cattle.

**Bovine Leukosis** module offers measures for prevention and control of BLV which can lead to lymphosarcoma.

**Milk Quality/Mastitis** module helps producers and their herd vets with record-keeping and udder health monitoring.

**Food Safety/Drug Residue Avoidance** module discusses prudent use of antibiotics and practices to reduce the chance of residues

**Foot Health** module addresses lameness and identifies on farm risk factors.

**Calf Health** module reviews all management areas of calf management.

**Cattle Care** module helps farmers create standard guidelines in the care of their animals.

**Herd Expansion** module defines safeguards when expanding herd numbers to prevent introduction of disease.

**Beef Quality** module discusses important practices to ensure beef quality.