

Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

Protecting North Dakota Herds, Flocks, and People

The **CHARGE** of the NDSU VDL is to conduct diagnosis of farm and domestic animals and poultry suspected of having diseases and report the findings as directed (Century Code section 15-12-20). Additionally, the NDSU VDL performs rabies tests as required by Century Code section 23-36-03. The **MISSION** of the VDL is to provide reliable testing and diagnostic support services to veterinarians, animal owners, producers, and the public health sector.

NDSU VDL supports Agriculture

- Animal health testing and diagnostic services to determine the cause of disease and death loss
- Foreign animal disease testing and surveillance as a member of the USDA National Animal Health Laboratory Network
- Specialized testing for mycotoxins, pesticides, phytoestrogens, blister beetle toxin (cantharidin) and petroleum compounds

NDSU VDL protects Communities

- Testing for diseases of public health importance such as rabies, anthrax, tularemia, fungal infections, and West Nile virus
- Member of the FDA Vet-LIRN antimicrobial resistance testing and surveillance network
- Capability to conduct overflow testing for ND DHHS during outbreaks of select agents and other infectious diseases

NDSU VDL Highlights

Averages per year

10K case submissions

100k tests performed

Income FY22-25

\$2.1M grant funding

\$4.1M collection fees

Foreign Animal Disease

100% ↑ testing equipment

67% ↑ daily testing capacity

NDSU VDL Challenges

- Rising costs of salaries, reagents, supplies, and equipment
- Service and preventative maintenance for current equipment >\$150K per year
- Loss of staff positions due to decreased NDAES budget
- Technician shortages for pathology and toxicology investigations, and during foreign animal disease outbreaks
- Difficulty recruiting veterinary specialists

SBARE Request

- Long-term sustainable funding for personnel, supplies, equipment, and maintenance
- Increase NDAES operating budget

For more information:

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