Clemson Livestock Poultry Health is tasked with protecting animal health through control of endemic, foreign, and emerging diseases in livestock and poultry and protecting the health of S.C. consumers by providing a comprehensive inspection service to ensure that meat and poultry products are safe, wholesome and accurately labeled. The Livestock Poultry Health Programs of Clemson University is composed of three areas of service:

- Animal Health Programs
- S.C. Meat and Poultry Inspection
- Veterinary Diagnostic Center

Livestock Poultry Health has a major role in protecting the health of food animals (cattle, poultry, swine, etc.), and other livestock which helps ensure not only their productivity but also their access to both domestic and export markets. These critical services to the agribusiness industry make significant impacts on economic activity in our state.

LPH functions include conducting surveillance for diseases that affect both humans and animals, providing the diagnostic expertise that allows for treatment and eradication of disease in domestic animals, identifying diseases in wildlife that could affect humans or domestic animals, inspecting and testing the processing of meat and poultry products, and coordinating state agricultural animal emergency response as lead agency of Emergency Support Function (ESF-17).

Livestock Poultry Health (LPH) is a unit of Clemson University’s Public Service Activities (PSA). Units of PSA provide practical new discoveries, outreach education and technical assistance in the areas of agrisystems productivity and profitability, economic and community development, environmental conservation, food safety and nutrition, and youth development and families in order to enhance the quality of life for South Carolina’s citizens.

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**Animal Health Programs**

Animal Health Programs coordinates activities designed to protect the health of South Carolina’s livestock and poultry. Documentation of the health status of livestock and poultry both on individual farms and also statewide is a critical factor in access to markets in both other states and other countries for SC livestock and poultry farms. This department is responsible for the enforcement of state and federal animal health laws and regulations designed to protect animal health through control of endemic, foreign, and emerging diseases. The programs regulate testing and movement of livestock and poultry, auction markets, sales, and all animal disease control programs in our state. The SC AgWatch Program administered in this department promotes basic animal disease prevention practices and disease & threat awareness among SC livestock and poultry producers. Animal Health Programs, under the guidance of the State Veterinarian, works closely with the USDA APHIS VS, as well as other state agencies in carrying out its mission. In addition, Animal Health Programs coordinates animal emergency response planning for the state, addressing both natural and man made disasters.

**S.C. Meat and Poultry Inspection**

The mission of this department is to protect the health of consumers by providing a comprehensive inspection service to assure that meat and poultry products are safe, wholesome and accurately labeled. In addition, the department also has public service and educational responsibilities.

The State Legislature established the S. C. Meat Inspection Department in 1967 and the State Poultry Inspection Act followed in 1969. Both laws and regulations were developed to comply with all essential features of the federal meat and poultry laws and regulations. These programs are jointly and equally financed by state and federal funding. The USDA, Food Safety and Inspection Service provides federal regulatory oversight and support for training and laboratory services.

**Veterinary Diagnostic Center**

The Clemson Veterinary Diagnostic Center (CVDCC) assists veterinarians, animal industry, and animal owners with livestock, poultry, companion animal, and wildlife disease problems. The Center is an integral part of a disease surveillance system that helps to assure a safe and adequate food supply in South Carolina and to protect the health and welfare of South Carolina citizens. The Diagnostic Center is “accredited for all species” by the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD) and is a member laboratory of the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN).

Capabilities include: necropsy, histopathology, bacteriology, molecular diagnostics, and serology.