



Pete Ricketts
Governor

Department of Agriculture
Greg Ibach
Director
P.O. Box 94947
Lincoln, NE 68509-4947
(402) 471-2341
Fax: (402) 471-6876
www.nda.nebraska.gov

NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release



August 21, 2015
www.nda.nebraska.gov

Contact: Christin Kamm
(402) 471-6856

NDA PROVIDES STRONG SUPPORT FOR AGRICULTURE ACTIVITIES
AT THE NEBRASKA STATE FAIR

LINCOLN – Attendees at the Nebraska State Fair in Grand Island will see a strong presence from the Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) as they visit the numerous sites on the fairgrounds. NDA staff members will be assisting in a variety of duties and activities ranging from animal care to ag education.

“The State Fair is a great platform for us to support and promote the state’s number one industry,” NDA Director Greg Ibach said. “Many of our highly trained and expert staff members provide numerous services during the fair as one way to put agriculture center-stage during this great event.”

Protecting animal health is one of the department’s biggest responsibilities at the State Fair. NDA Animal Health Protection staff inspects livestock entries before they enter the fairgrounds to ensure compliance with health regulations. Staff also will be onsite to address consumers and producers questions about Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus (PEDv) and avian flu (AI) These two viruses have impacted Nebraska’s swine and poultry industries and raised consumer interest. One of the major goals of consumer education is to maintain consumer confidence in the food system.

NDA staff members will also be assisting at the “Raising Nebraska” exhibit in the Nebraska building during the ten-day fair run. The exhibit, which made its debut at the fair last year, is open year round. A recipient of a merit award from the Agriculture Relations Council (ARC), “Raising Nebraska” offers several interactive opportunities to learn more about agriculture and the farmers and ranchers who grow our food.

-MORE-

The Grain Bin theatre within the “Raising Nebraska” exhibit will include showings of the Golden ARC winning video “Nebraska Agriculture”. Commissioned by NDA, the six-minute video has received more than 18,000 views on YouTube.

Other fair duties carried out by NDA staffers include coordination of the Elite Showmanship Competition, inspections of any weight or measuring devices on the grounds and inspections of the dairy parlor

The State Fair begins August 28 and ends September 7.

#