



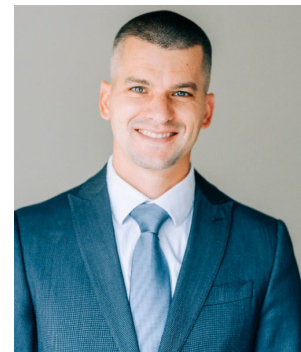
# Animal Health Update

UTAH DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

Fall 2023

ag.utah.gov

**New State Veterinarian:** Dr. Daniel Christensen was raised in Provo, UT where he attended Brigham Young University for his undergraduate degree. He then attended veterinary school at Kansas State University, where he was accepted into the Army Health Professions Scholarship Program. After completing veterinary school, Dr. Christensen was commissioned as an Army Captain and served in Active Duty for 12 years. While serving in the Army he became boarded as a laboratory animal medicine specialist, supporting the Army's infectious disease research program. He currently resides in Eagle Mountain with his wife, Britany, and his children Evelyn(12), Emmett(10), and Elizabeth(5). Dr. Christensen enjoys watching and participating in sports, escape rooms, geocaching, and fly fishing.



## News Briefs:

- **Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza:** On October 6, two facilities in Sanpete County were diagnosed with highly pathogenic avian influenza. This disease is highly fatal in poultry and can be spread by wild waterfowl. Backyard producers can find more information on how to protect their birds on the [UDAF Avian Influenza website](#).
- **Animal Health Personnel:** UDAF is looking for two field veterinarians to [join our team](#) to protect Utah's animal owners from disease! This position is eligible for loan repayment through PSLF, [VMLRP](#), and the [Utah loan repayment program](#).
- **USDA Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program:** In November, UDAF will be nominating six areas in the state that are underserved by food animal veterinarians for the [USDA Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program](#). To suggest an area for nomination, please contact Dr. Amanda Price at [amandaprice@utah.gov](mailto:amandaprice@utah.gov).
- **West Nile Virus:** There have been 17 cases of [West Nile Virus](#) reported in Utah horses since August. Most affected horses were not vaccinated for the disease. This disease is spread from birds to people and animals by mosquitoes.
- **African Swine Fever:** African Swine Fever continues to spread across the globe. UDAF is working with the Utah Pork Producers Association to increase awareness and preparedness for this disease. Swine owners can find more information on how to protect pigs through the [USDA Protect our Pigs website](#).
- **VetCVI:** UDAF is offering [VetCVI](#), a free program, to veterinarians for health certificates, brucellosis vaccination charts, and TB test charts. User guides are available by emailing [statevet@utah.gov](mailto:statevet@utah.gov). [Videos](#) are also available from the Kansas Department of Agriculture.
- **2023 Utah One Health Symposium:** The theme of [this year's symposium](#) is Urbanization in Utah. The Symposium will be held November 3 at the Davis Conference Center in Layton. CE is available for veterinarians.
- **Vesicular Stomatitis:** The outbreak of [vesicular stomatitis](#) is continuing in California. Texas and Nevada also experienced cases. Vesicular stomatitis causes blisters to form on hairless areas of horses, cattle, and some other species. A webinar for veterinarians on vesicular stomatitis can be [viewed here](#). Suspected cases should be reported immediately to UDAF.

