

## **9 FEBRUARY 2007**

### **Nonprofits Eligible for NIAS Agreements**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced a request for proposals (RFP) from nonprofit livestock and poultry industry organizations that wish to enter into cooperative agreements with USDA to advance the development of the National Animal Identification System (NAIS). These cooperative agreements will support the efforts of such organizations to promote NAIS and, specifically, increase participation in premises registration-the foundation of the program.

USDA will make up to \$6 million available for the cooperative agreements, subject to the availability of funding.

Organizations that receive these cooperative agreement funds will not be responsible for the actual administration or processing of premises registration applications. Rather, the agreements will be limited to outreach and promotional efforts that result in new premises registrations. Cooperating groups will promote premises registration to producers and increase their respective sectors' level of registration in secure databases maintained by state and tribal authorities.

Additional information about the NAIS program, along with a link to the RFP, is available at [www.usda.gov/nais](http://www.usda.gov/nais).