

## **Building Trust in the H5N1 Response: Perspectives from the Field**

**March 27, 2025**

### **Panelist Bios**

**Dr. Maggie Baldwin** joined the Colorado Department of Agriculture in January 2017, serving in several roles before being appointed as the Colorado State Veterinarian in May 2021. In this position she manages CDA's Animal Health Division through planning, directing and executing all programs, policies and cooperative agreements with other governmental agencies. Dr. Baldwin earned her DVM from the University of Minnesota's College of Veterinary Medicine in St. Paul. She began her career in public service as a Supervisory Public Health Veterinarian with USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service and also served as a Veterinary Medical Officer with USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

**Oscar Garrison** is Senior VP of Food Safety and Regulatory Affairs for United Egg Producers (UEP). Oscar joined the UEP team in 2013. Prior to this, Oscar had a broad regulatory based career for over 19 years at the Georgia Department of Agriculture where he held the executive positions of Assistant Commissioner of Consumer Protection, Director of Emergency Management, and Division Director Food Safety. Additionally, Oscar is a Past President of the Association of Food and Drug Officials "AFDO" where he led the national organizations efforts to promote an Integrated Food Safety System. Mr. Garrison currently serves on the Educational Advisory Board for the Food Safety Summit and as a subject matter expert on The Food Technology Advisory Panel for the American Egg Board. Oscar and His wife Jean are blessed with 4 children, one grandchild, and 2 Golden Doodles, Smith and Wesson and reside in Gillsville, Georgia.

**Juan Velez, M.V., M.S, DACT,** is the is Chief Agricultural Officer for Aurora Organic Dairy and oversees the health of 45,000 cows and 400 people. He was born and raised in Colombia South America and graduated from Veterinary School in 1988 from The University of La Salle, in Colombia. He obtained a Master of Science in physiology of Reproduction from Texas A&M University in 1990. He completed residency in production Medicine from the University of Florida in 1993 and earned Diplomate of the American College of Theriogenology in 1993. He worked in private practice in Beef and Dairy Cattle in Colombia from 1993 to 1995. He developed and supervised the herd health protocols for Aurora Dairy Corporation from 1995 until 2003. He has served at the Animal Welfare Committee of the American Association of Bovine Practitioners since 2006 and as president of the board of the Dairy Cattle Welfare Council from 2022-2023. He is an adjunct professor department of Animal Science Colorado State University and is a co-author on more than 20 scientific papers in peer review journals.

**Anna Meyerhoff** is the bilingual farm safety coordinator at the New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health (NYCAMH) and the Northeast Center for Occupational Health and Safety in Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing (NEC). Anna grew up on a dairy farm, lived and studied abroad in Central America, and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish from SUNY Geneseo. She has spent the last two decades of her career teaching Spanish-speaking farmworkers. In her role at NYCAMH/NEC, Anna delivers trainings on pesticides, tractors, and other farm safety topics. She

also teaches first aid, CPR and stress management. Anna creates easy-to-read bilingual print materials, conducts respirator fit testing, and helps farms choose appropriate personal protective equipment.