

# IN THE BEGINNING

*David E. Starling, DVM*  
*Aqueterinary Services®, P.C.*  
©2009

***In the beginning***, Congress looked upon the Nation and there was disease in the livestock and everywhere animals were taken, new disease erupted. Congress said let there be a Secretary of Agriculture to have all authority to battle disease in all animals. And, it was good and efficient. The evening and the day were the first day of Agriculture.

Congress looked again and saw that Agriculture was being hindered by wildlife brought in from other lands. The birds of benefit to crops and orchards were being decimated for fashionable hats. And Congress said let there be the Lacey Act to give the Secretary of Agriculture more authority to protect Agriculture. It was good and effective. The evening and the day were the second day of Agriculture.

Congress looked again and saw that Agriculture was competing with wildlife agencies for funding and said let wildlife and natural resources go forth to be their own and multiply. It made Agriculture pure and profitable. It was good and for all generations. The evening and the day were the Third day of Agriculture.

Congress looked yet again at the Nation and saw Agriculture lively and prosperous but troubled by access to foreign markets. Congress said let the Secretary of Agriculture have Port Authority and utilize veterinarians set apart with State License to be of good behavior and conduct to certify the interstate and international livestock movements. It was good and more efficient than USDA employees could otherwise accomplish in the vast nation. And the evening and the day were the Fourth day of Agriculture.

Congress looked at the Nation's Agriculture and saw that some farmers could ship livestock and some farmers could not - for lack of uniformity. Congress said who can withstand such iniquity and said let there be consistent and uniform interstate commerce in livestock. Congress set forth interstate commerce laws to protect livestock business. It was good and profitable. The evening and the day were the Fifth day of Agriculture.

Congress looked again and saw that not all farmers raising animals were given all the conditions of Agriculture set forth in previous labors. Congress said let there be the Animal Health Protection Act of 2002. It was good and consistent for all farmers. The evening and day were the Sixth day of Agriculture.

**But Aquatic Livestock had no rest, on the Seventh Day, because there were Executive Branch Agencies that did not want to understand, nor desire the Will of Congress to make all livestock safe from disease and profitable for the benefit of all the land.**

- There were persons innumerable that rumored all matters of aquatic livestock disease were subject not to the Secretary of Agriculture but to regulators of wildlife affairs.

- If the wildlife regulators are also producers in the same industry they regulate, who watches the regulators?

- Who is protecting livestock from wildlife regulators?