



One Health Commission
World Health Through Collaboration

Dr. Elizabeth Lautner
Director, National Veterinary Services Laboratories
USDA, Animal and Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services

Elizabeth Lautner, DVM, MS, was named the Director of USDA's National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) in Ames, Iowa, on May 7, 2006. In that position, she is responsible for the operations and programs of NVSL which is the only Federal facility engaged in the diagnosis of both domestic and foreign animal diseases with locations in Ames, Iowa, and Plum Island, New York. NVSL serves as the national reference laboratory for the National Animal Health Laboratory Network and as an international reference laboratory for the World Organization for Animal Health and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Previously, Dr. Lautner served as Center Director, Plum Island Animal Disease Center (PIADC) within the Science and Technology Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). She was the first DHS Center Director and served in that capacity from January 2004 until March 2006. As Center Director, Dr. Lautner was responsible for administration and operations of the Center, a Biosafety Level 3 and 3 Agriculture facility with a budget of \$50 million, and oversight of the DHS science program at the Center.

Prior to joining DHS, Dr. Lautner served as Vice President for Science and Technology at the National Pork Board where she oversaw the research and development programs on a variety of animal health and agricultural issues. In addition to these positions Dr. Lautner was a practicing veterinarian for more than 12 years. In 1986, she opened her own practice, Swine Health Services, in LeMars, IA, where she provided herd health programs and computerized records for area pork producers.

Dr. Lautner received a BS degree and a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Michigan State University. She also has a MS degree from the University of Minnesota. Lautner is a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association (IVMA), and the American Association of Swine Veterinarians (AASV). In 1994, she received the Howard W. Dunne Memorial Award for outstanding service to AASV and the pork industry. Dr. Lautner also received the APHIS Administrator's Award in 1997 in recognition of her contributions to the advancement of animal health. In 2002, she received the Meritorious Service Award from the National Institute for Animal Agriculture. In 2005, she received a DHS Under Secretary Award in recognition of her accomplishments in Program Management at PIADC.