

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: July 08, 2026

Report Number: IV2026-0008

Report Name: Cote d'Ivoire's SELAB 2026 Abidjan Livestock Show - A Prime Opportunity to Highlight American Agricultural and Livestock Export Excellence

Country: Cote d'Ivoire

Post: Accra, Abidjan

Report Category: Trade Show Announcement, Agriculture in the Economy, Agriculture in the News, Dairy and Products, Livestock and Products, SP1 - Expand International Marketing Opportunities, SP2 - Prevent or Resolve Barriers to Trade that Hinder U.S. Food and Agricultural Exports, SP3 - Build Demand in Developing Countries through Trade Capacity Building, Grain and Feed

Prepared By: Mariano J. Beillard, Regional Agricultural Counselor; Jeffrey D. Galloway, Regional Agricultural Attaché; and Isaac Yao, Agricultural Specialist

Approved By: Mariano Beillard, Regional Agricultural Counselor

Report Highlights:

Côte d'Ivoire's Le Sommet de l'Élevage d'Abidjan (SELAB) Abidjan Livestock Show 2026 presents a compelling opportunity for U.S. agribusinesses and USDA FAS cooperators to engage with one of West Africa's most significant agricultural trade platforms. With the United States designated as the Country of Honor, the event offers exhibitors high-visibility presence before an expected 30,000 visitors, 150+ exhibitors, and representatives from 16 countries. Organized in partnership with the Ivorian Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries (MIRAH), SELAB serves as the definitive business-to-business (B2B) and policy forum for Francophone West Africa's animal production sector, covering livestock genetics, animal feed and nutrition, and veterinary health. U.S. exporters, particularly those in tropical cattle genetics and climate-adapted animal feed formulations, will find a receptive market actively seeking U.S. expertise to modernize its livestock value chain.

DISCLAIMER: This report was prepared by the U.S. Embassy/U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)/Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Office of Agricultural Affairs (OAA) Accra, Abidjan for U.S. exporters of food and agricultural products. The information contained in this report is derived from multiple governmental and non-governmental sources. The U.S. Embassy/USDA/FAS OAA Accra, Abidjan, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and/or the U.S. Government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity. Neither the Government of Ghana or Côte d'Ivoire, nor any of those of the states mentioned herein, officially endorse this report. While every possible care has been taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers and partners, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped. FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY. [Note: Use Google Chrome to access the links that do not open in Microsoft Edge.]

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is primetime for the United States to shine at Côte d'Ivoire's SELAB Abidjan Livestock Show 2026 set for November 20-22, 2026 at the Palais des Sports in Treichville, Abidjan. Organized by Next Sustainable Initiatives (NSI) in partnership with MIRAH, this fourth edition serves as a key pan-African hub for sustainable livestock modernization, scientific innovation, and international commerce. The United States is the Country of Honor at SELAB, offering U.S. agribusinesses a premier entry point into the growing West African market.



SELAB seeks to spark U.S. agribusiness interest in strategic partnerships with the Ivorian livestock and animal feed sectors.¹ South Africa is a special guest to boost cross-continental collaboration. The event showcases regional herd genetics, animal feed formulations, and processing infrastructure modernization. SELAB 2026, offers U.S. exporters of livestock and genetics, a previously untapped way to engage with potential buyers of agricultural commodities. Of particular relevance, in terms of livestock modernization, is budding interest in U.S. Tropical Cattle and breeds climatically suited to Coastal West Africa's hot, humid, and pest-heavy environment, that necessitate trypanotolerance and the right animal feed formulations to thrive.

BACKGROUND

The 3-day SELAB 2026 exhibition aims to unlock market opportunities, boost value-chain competitiveness, and deploy cutting-edge technologies. It targets West Africa regional livestock farmers (e.g., Ivorian, Ghanaian, Liberian, and even Sierra Leonean and Togolese), processors, veterinarians,

¹ In Côte d'Ivoire, "SELAB 2026: U.S. Guest of Honor in Abidjan," located at: <https://www.incotedivoire.net/article-flash/SELAB%202026:%20U.S.%20Guest%20of%20Honor%20in%20Abidjan>.

agricultural research institutions, and international private investors.² The SELAB event organizers expect the fourth edition to feature over 150 exhibitors, 30,000 visitors, and 16 participating countries. SELAB is widely recognized as the key institutional platform for animal production in Francophone West Africa. While it differs from massive, open-air rural trade markets (like the ones found in northern Ghana or Nigeria), SELAB serves as the definitive B2B, scientific, and geopolitical cornerstone for agricultural modernization in the ECOWAS region.³

Event Details & Logistics

- **Dates:** November 20-22, 2026.
- **Venue:** Palais des Sports de Treichville, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.
- **Organizer:** NSI and MIRAH.
- **Official Website:** Registration, scheduling, and exhibitor booklets at the [SELAB Portal](#).⁴

Business Sectors Represented: Aligning with Côte d'Ivoire's production value chain to target regional roadblocks, the summit features key sectors including climate-adapted genetics and livestock production (cattle, small ruminants, swine, and poultry), veterinary pharmaceuticals and animal health, and industrial feed and nutrition manufacturing. The exhibition plans to show advanced ag-tech and automation (precision feeding, automated milking, and cold-chain logistics), aquaculture technologies, and agrifinance solutions such as rural credit, livestock insurance, and development banking.

Relevance to the West Africa Region: Livestock dominates West African intra-regional commerce; making SELAB 2026 a key forum for food security and regional policy harmonization. It serves as a venue for West African ministers to resolve cross-border trade hurdles and standardize veterinary health rules.⁵ It's a catalyst for introducing climate-resilient animal nutrition, processing technologies, and genetics. The government leverages the event to combat youth unemployment; rebranding animal husbandry as a lucrative, modern career.

Attachments:

No Attachments.

² AGROPASTOR, "Abidjan Livestock Show 2026/ November 2025: Aiming for a Strengthened and Sub-Regional Edition, the United States Country in Honour, South Africa Special Guest," (unofficial translation from French), (September 8, 2025), located at: <https://agropasteur.com/salon-de-lelevage-dabidjan-2026-novembre-2025-cap-sur-une-edition-renforcee-et-sous-regionale-les-etats-unis-pays-a-lhonneur-lafrique-du-sud-invite-special/>.

³ U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)/Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), GAIN-COTE D'IVOIRE | IV2024-0016 | "Côte d'Ivoire Designates the United States as the SELAB 2026 Country-of-Honor," (January 28, 2025), located at: <https://www.fas.usda.gov/data/gain/2025/01/cote-divoire-cote-divoire-designates-united-states-selab-2026-country-honor>.

⁴ SELAB Livestock Show (*Salon des Productions Animales*), "Animal Economy, Lever of Wealth, and Food Sovereignty," located at: <https://www.selab.ci/en>. It is marketed in French interchangeably as, *Le Sommet de l'Élevage d'Abidjan*.

⁵ West Africa is increasing encountering erratic weather patterns, expanding desertification, and shrinking water resources that disrupt traditional transhumance (i.e., seasonal cattle movement). Similarly, there is a need to better address transboundary animal diseases (TADs); where cross-border contamination results in devastating livestock diseases (e.g., Peste des Petits Ruminants, African Swine Fever, and outbreaks of Avian Influenza (HPAI, LPAI, and H5N1). Cross-border trade barriers are challenging; making navigating inconsistent tariff policies, informal border checkpoints, and poorly harmonized veterinary health certificates within the ECOWS trade block complex. There is also a critical need to address the lack of refrigerated transport and modern abattoirs, which causes high spoilage rates and limits processing efficiency.