



UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

115th Annual Meeting
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Buffalo, New York

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 3, 19 and 31 Combined APPROVED

SOURCE: USAHA/AAVLD COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL HEALTH
SURVEILLANCE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS
COMMITTEE ON TRANSMISSIBLE DISEASES OF SWINE
COMMITTEE ON SHEEP AND GOATS

SUBJECT MATTER: UNITED STATES NATIONAL LIST OF REPORTABLE
ANIMAL DISEASES

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

A National List of Reportable Animal Diseases (NLRAD) will be one uniform, science and policy based, nationally supported standard list of animal diseases. Standard uniform case finding and case reporting criteria will provide the basis for uniform reporting. The list will facilitate national and international commerce; assist in meeting international reporting obligations to the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) and trading partners; support generation of export certifications; and contribute to the assessment and reporting of the listed zoonotic and endemic animal diseases in the United States.

In 2006, the United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) and the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD) formally identified the need for a unified national list of reportable animal diseases. USAHA previously recommended that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS), Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health (CEAH) compile and evaluate current state reporting and notification requirements. Although all states have a required reportable diseases list, there is large variability in these lists. Requirements for federal reporting are related only to program diseases or foreign animal diseases.

In 2007, USAHA and AAVLD formally requested that USDA-APHIS-VS, in cooperation with state animal health officials and industry, develop a United States NLRAD. The NLRAD should include appropriate reporting criteria. The USDA-APHIS-VS supported drafting a list of diseases that may be considered national reportable diseases.

In 2008, USAHA and AAVLD requested that USDA-APHIS-VS task the existing National Animal Health Reporting System (NAHRS) subcommittee of the USAHA/AAVLD Joint Committee on Animal Health Surveillance and Information Systems, with support from the USDA-APHIS-VS-CEAH-National Surveillance Unit (NSU), with developing the NLRAD as well as the case definitions and reporting criteria for each disease on the list. The USDA-APHIS-VS supported this request.



From 2008-2010, the NAHRS Steering Committee in conjunction with the NSU has developed a NLRAD overview draft white paper and a proposed NLRAD. The NLRAD white paper describes the NLRAD reporting structure, the standard operating procedures for the approval and maintenance of the NLRAD, and case definitions and reporting criteria development.

USDA-APHIS-VS and the National Animal Health Reporting System (NAHRS) subcommittee of the USAHA/AAVLD Joint Committee on Animal Health Surveillance and Information Systems continue to move forward with implementing a United States NLRAD.

The NLRAD is under review by National Assembly of State Animal Health Officials and VS Area Veterinarians in Charge with comments requested by September 23, 2011. The NLRAD has also been distributed to USAHA animal disease commodity committees with a request for discussion in Buffalo at the USAHA meeting and comments by October 30. After considering the current round of stakeholder comments with concurrence of the NAHRS subcommittee and final approval by VS management, it will be published as a cooperative State-Federal set of guidelines for reportable disease. In addition, once the NLRAD is finalized, VS will be requested to initiate the regulatory process to establish and maintain the NLRAD and associated reporting requirements.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association and the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians request that the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services, finalize the United States National List of Reportable Animal Diseases (NLRAD) and related NLRAD white paper and initiate the regulatory process to establish and maintain the NLRAD and associated reporting requirements.

INTERIM RESPONSE:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services (VS), acknowledges the support of the United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) and the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD) and appreciates the opportunity to respond.

VS and the National Animal Health Reporting System (NAHRS) subcommittee of the USAHA/AAVLD Joint Committee on Animal Health Surveillance and Information Systems continue to move forward with implementing a National List of Reportable Animal Diseases (NLRAD).

Currently, the NAHRS subcommittee is reviewing stakeholder comments that were provided after the 2011 AAVLD/USAHA meeting in Buffalo, New York. After considering the comments with concurrence of the NAHRS subcommittee and final approval by VS management, the NLRAD will be published as a cooperative State-Federal set of guidelines for reportable diseases. We project that the NLRAD will be finalized in



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September 2012. In addition, once the NLRAD is finalized, VS will initiate the regulatory process to codify the NLRAD and associated reporting requirements.