



UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

2014 RESOLUTION

118TH ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 16-22, 2014 ~ KANSAS CITY, MO

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 3 APPROVED

SOURCE: USAHA/AAVLD Committee on Environment and Toxicology

SUBJECT MATTER: Reportable Toxicoses

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Following the observation that animal disease diagnostic laboratory Toxicology sections provide analytical services that often cross state lines, this Committee found that a vast majority of states (42 of 50) have no requirement for reporting toxicoses or toxicants that could be of a food safety or animal population concern. Laboratories certified by accrediting bodies generally have "Client Confidentiality" policies that prevent the release of testing data to third parties unless authorized by the owner/submitting party or required by law. This Committee has reports of cases where the reporting of toxicoses or toxicants could have been important from an animal health or food safety standpoint but a lack of requirement for reporting has resulted in non-reporting. This Committee also recognizes that the required reporting of all toxicants identified by a Toxicology laboratory would be overwhelming, because all compounds can be potentially toxic.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association requests all members of the National Assembly of State Animal Health Officials include toxicoses/toxicants as part of their required reportable diseases. This required reporting should be inclusive of cases of toxicoses, identification of adulterated products, and cases in which toxicants could contaminate the feed or food supply. The Committee recommends that the wording for these reportable conditions be written such that it would not require the reporting of all measured chemicals found by the laboratory (e.g. the reporting of every measured nitrate test whether of clinical concern or not).

The Committee recommends that the following could serve as a template for inclusion in a state's reportable disease list:

Cases of toxicoses, large mortalities of unknown cause, or identification of adulterants/toxicants that have the potential to be a public health, animal health or food safety threat must be reported.

The Committee believes that such timely reporting will serve to increase the protection of animal and public health.