



UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Resolution

114th Annual Meeting ~ November 11-17, 2010

Minneapolis, MN

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 22 APPROVED

SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON BRUCELLOSIS

SUBJECT MATTER: UPDATING THE BRUCELLOSIS IN CERVIDAE UNIFORM METHODS AND RULES

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

New brucellosis serological tests for cervids have been approved and validated since September 2003, the last time the Brucellosis in Cervidae Uniform Methods and Rules was adopted.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association requests that the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services issue a policy statement that updates and includes all approved and validated cervid brucellosis serological tests along with appropriate diagnostic values.

INTERIM RESPONSE:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services (VS) recognizes that new brucellosis serological tests are available for use in cervidae brucellosis testing. To proceed with the new direction for the brucellosis program, VS is currently revising brucellosis program rules to be consistent with the published concept paper, endorsed by the United States Animal Health Association (USAHA), and the interim rule. In conjunction with the revised rules, VS will develop brucellosis program standards to support and facilitate administration of the revised rules. Part of this process will be to develop program rules and update program standards for cervidae. The new program standards will include brucellosis serologic tests and appropriate diagnostic values for cervidae.

VS is finalizing the revised brucellosis program rules and new program standards. We will appreciate receiving input from USAHA during the comment period.

FINAL RESPONSE:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) recognizes the concerns of the United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) and appreciates the opportunity to respond.

USDA APHIS VS recognizes that new brucellosis serological tests have been investigated for use in cervidae. However, these tests have not been validated by a review panel such as the United States Animal Health Association's Brucellosis Scientific Advisory Subcommittee. Prior to approving any test, VS will request an evaluation and validation of the available data by this

group. Once data associated with the use of these tests has been evaluated and approved by VS, they will be incorporated into the new brucellosis program under development. It is our intent to cover cervids in the new regulations and in the program standards that will include brucellosis serologic tests and appropriate diagnostic values for cervidae.