RESOLUTION NUMBER: 28 - APPROVED

SOURCE: **COMMITTEE ON TUBERCULOSIS**

SUBJECT MATTER: **CLASSIFICATION OF CERVIDS FOR TUBERCULOSIS STATUS**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

There is a lack of information on the use of the Dual Path Platform in the extensive general captive cervid population.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association urges the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services to allow the Designated Tuberculosis Epidemiologist to consider the herd and animal history in addition to test results when arriving at the final tuberculosis classification of a cervid.

INTERIM RESPONSE:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services (VS) recognizes the concerns of the United States Animal Health Association and appreciates the opportunity to respond. VS must classify a cervid as a TB suspect or reactor in accordance with sections 77.20 and 77.34 in title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations, which stipulate TB classifications of animals based on the test results. In addition, VS has developed a guidance document on the Stat-Pak/Dual Path Platform to give staff additional information on how to determine classifications under the regulations. The guidance document states that exceptions to reactor classification may be considered but must be justified by the VS epidemiologist in writing.