



UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Resolution

114th Annual Meeting ~ November 11-17, 2010

Minneapolis, MN

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 31 APPROVED

SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON INFECTIOUS DISEASES OF HORSES

SUBJECT MATTER: EQUINE PIROPLASMOSIS – CLEARANCE TEST RESEARCH

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Equine piroplasmosis (EP) is classified as a foreign animal disease. The identification of EP-positive imported equids prior to the designation of the competitive enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (cELISA) test as the official test in August 2005 and the recent large-scale EP incident in a domestic population of horses have increased the need and interest for an effective treatment in the management of EP-positive equids identified in the United States. The research advances by the United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Services in the development of an aggressive EP treatment protocol have shown encouraging results for the limited number of horses that have completed the treatment protocol. This progress necessitates not only continued research and refinement of protocols, but also the development and validation of a post-treatment clearance assay for determining and monitoring the status of equids following completion of an approved treatment protocol.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association requests the United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service to prioritize and fund the research for a safe and effective treatment for elimination of the carrier state for *Babesia caballi* and *Babesia equi* and for the development and validation of a post-treatment clearance assay for establishing and monitoring the status of equids following approved equine piroplasmosis treatment protocols.

RESPONSE:

USDA ARS

As you know, ARS has an active research program at our Pullman, Washington location to solve problems related to equine piroplasmosis. We agree that this work is critical to ensuring the protection of the U.S. horse population. Although immediate and long-term budget uncertainties prevent us from making any commitments regarding funding requests, we will consider your input as we formulate future budget initiatives for Congress.