

UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION – 2004

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 41 **APPROVED**

SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON SCRAPIE

SUBJECT MATTER: SCRAPIE FLOCK CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

DATE: OCTOBER 27, 2004

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

There have been significant changes in the scrapie program since implementation of the accelerated scrapie eradication program.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) urges the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) to thoroughly review the Scrapie Flock Certification Program (SFCP) and determine the best method to bring the SFCP into consistent status with current World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), standards. The changes proposed should be subjected to public review prior to implementation.

RESPONSE:

The Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services, in consultation with the National Scrapie Oversight Committee, has been, reviewing the Scrapie Flock Certification Program (SFCP). APHIS, along with the committee, supports the adoption by USDA of an export certification level within the SFCP that would meet OIE (World Organization for Animal Health) requirements. Since the OIE requirements place a significant increase in the cost of participation on enrolled producers, participants who are not interested in enhanced export opportunities will be allowed to continue to participate with the current standards. USDA will provide a draft this year of the proposed changes for comment.