

## UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION - 2006

### RESOLUTION NUMBER: 42 APPROVED

**SOURCE:** COMMITTEE ON SCRAPIE

**SUBJECT MATTER:** SUPPORT THE NATIONAL SURVEILLANCE UNIT'S SCRAPIE PROGRAM LEADERSHIP

**DATES:** MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, OCTOBER 12-18, 2006

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS), National Surveillance Unit (NSU) was formed to develop a comprehensive integrated national animal health surveillance system. They have recently reviewed the scrapie surveillance program and have identified some shortcomings. VS has determined that a change in scrapie surveillance is warranted.

### RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) requests that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) charge the National Surveillance Unit (NSU) with leading the effort and work with state and VS national, regional and field staff to improve the plan for the nationwide scrapie surveillance system to achieve eradication on schedule by 2010 and provide the necessary resources.

### RESPONSE:

#### **United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS)**

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS), National Surveillance Unit (NSU) looks forward to working with State and VS national, regional, and field staff on the planning effort to improve the nationwide scrapie surveillance system, and integrate it with the overall surveillance plan. The NSU will focus on this planning effort as soon as resources are available. Barring unforeseen occurrences, this is likely to happen in the last quarter of 2007. Until the FY 2007 budget is passed, and only if it includes adequate resources, will a significant expansion of surveillance be possible. While we

remain committed to improved surveillance, changes requiring substantially greater resources will not be possible before FY 2009 because of the budget cycle.