

## UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION 2007

**RESOLUTION NUMBER:** 57 APPROVED

**SOURCE:** COMMITTEE ON TRANSMISSIBLE DISEASES OF POULTRY AND OTHER AVIAN SPECIES

**SUBJECT MATTER:** NEED FOR ONGOING FUNDING FOR DEVELOPMENT OF ADDITIONAL METHODS FOR DEPOPULATION OF POULTRY AND LIVESTOCK

**DATES:** RENO, NEVADA, OCTOBER 18 – 24, 2007

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) applauds the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) support over the last year in the development of practical and humane solutions for mass depopulation of poultry in response to disasters and epizootic and zoonotic diseases. However, gaps still exist in our response capability and ongoing funding is needed beyond the current avian influenza response commitment. For example, adequate solutions for depopulation of caged layers have not been developed sufficiently to address both the need for timely disease containment and limiting the exposure of personnel performing the depopulation.

### RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) requests that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS), and the USDA Cooperative State Research, Extension, and Education Service continue to fund research and implement policy in support of new practical methods and humane solutions for depopulation and disposal of poultry.

### RESPONSE:

#### **USDA, Agriculture Research Service**

For Resolution 57 regarding poultry depopulation and disposal methods, the Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has primary responsibility over these areas. Therefore, ARS has referred this resolution to APHIS, which has agreed to take the lead on these issues and to respond on behalf of USDA. However, ARS will be pleased to offer our support to APHIS, the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, and other Federal institutions on any actions that are initiated to address needs in these areas.

### **USDA, APHIS, Veterinary Services**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services recognizes the United States Animal Health Association's concerns and appreciates the opportunity to respond. In 2008 APHIS is planning to fund additional projects to examine this technology with the University of Georgia at Athens, University of Delaware, Texas A&M University, Mississippi Board of Agriculture, and North Carolina Department of Agriculture. Each of these groups will look at different foam compositions and methods of generating compressed air gas-infused foam (specifically for layers) and developing a universal system for all field and poultry applications.

The Cooperative State Research, Extension, and Education Service's (CSREES) Avian Influenza Coordinated Agricultural Project ([www.aicap.umd.edu](http://www.aicap.umd.edu)) will continue investing in this area in upcoming years. It has conducted studies on virus inactivation in a windrow during cold weather and is currently evaluating sanitation of mechanical equipment. In addition, CSREES developed a catastrophic poultry emergency management training program and distributed it to 26 states in 42 sessions. Funding for fiscal years 2008 to 2010 will support the evaluation of the use of compost additives, cover materials, bulking agents, and carcass:carbon ratios for catastrophic mortality composting. U.S. training modules will be expanded and catastrophic poultry mortality training materials for Central and South America will be developed in coordination with APHIS.