The Mid-Atlantic Secure Milk Supply Project

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Topics

- Project justification
- The Mid-Atlantic Secure Milk Supply Plan so far
- Next Steps
FMD Control Measures

- Restrictions may cover all or large parts of a state and affect interstate and intrastate movements of livestock and products.
- Restrictions may last from 2 to several days.
- Many dairy farms may be affected, with a substantial economic cost to the dairy industry.
Dairy Economic Activity in MD, NC, SC, TN, & VA

- 2,100 dairy farms sold ~$900 mil. of milk in 2010
- Dairy processors sold ~$4.5 billion of dairy products in 2009, 5 X the farm gate value, and employed ~ 7,500 people
- IF two days worth of production was lost:
  - ~ $2,600 per farm in lost milk sales
  - ~ $5,000,000 in lost farm milk sales
  - ~ $25 million in lost plant sales
FMD Control Measures

- Control Areas would be set up around infected farms to control spread.
- Movements within these Control Areas are restricted and stay in place until the disease is controlled.
- Restrictions may last for weeks, with severe, perhaps catastrophic, economic consequences for uninfected dairy farms lying within the Control Area.
The dairy industry (producer and processor) business flow is complex.
How do you eat an elephant?

- SMS is the first bite
- SMS applies to Grade A milk only
Mid-Atlantic SMS Project

- Initially, five states are cooperating – MD, NC, SC, TN, and VA
- The five State Veterinarians have developed biosecurity measures that will allow milk from dairy farms in a movement restricted area to move to processing plants
- The added risks of disease spread are deemed acceptable
- Reciprocal agreement among the five states will allow interstate movement of permitted milk
Milk moves!

- 78% of VA milk and 60% of MD milk was processed out-of-state in 2010
- NC processed more VA milk than VA did
- PA shipped 2.2 bil. lb of milk into the five-state area for processing
- Cooperation and collaboration are required to sustain the dairy industry
Mid-Atlantic SMS Plan

- The plan builds on the national SMS biosecurity performance standards and The Red Book definitions of premises and zones
- Considers permits for the two types of movement restrictions
  - Stage 1 of an outbreak – initial disease investigations are ongoing
  - Stage 2 – Control Areas are in place around Infected Premises
Mid-Atlantic SMS Project

- Is still under development, not finalized
- Industry ideas have been sought
- Biosecurity measures are required on farms, for haulers and for processors
- Pre-event: Farms passing a “Biosecurity Preparedness Audit” will get top priority for a permit if an FMD outbreak occurs
- Post-event: Additional farm biosecurity and livestock inspection requirements must be met to get a permit
- Participation will be voluntary
M-A SMS Biosecurity Plan

- Pre-event biosecurity readiness audits
  - Pre-event audits are necessary because many resources (people) will be fully occupied with disease control activities if FMD hits and movements will be restricted
  - Businesses passing their most recent audits are given top priority for permitting if there is a FMD event
  - Businesses failing an audit get a lower priority
  - Businesses choosing not to participate get the lowest priority
Farm biosecurity includes:

- Controlled and recorded access of vehicles and visitors to the farm
- Milk truck washing and disinfection both going on to and leaving the farm
- Full protective wear for truck driver while on-farm
- Farm staff assist with implementing milk pick up biosecurity measures
- The plan requires appropriate facilities, equipment, supplies, SOPs, and training
M-A SMS Biosecurity

- Milk haulers must
  - Wear full PPE while on-farms and in milk receiving areas at plants
  - Carry disinfectant and sprayer

- Milk plants must
  - Control access
  - Wash and disinfect trucks
  - Segregate raw milk areas from processing
  - Treat milk spillage

- All parties must report observed failures to comply with biosecurity procedures
M-A SMS Biosecurity Plan

- If there is an FMD outbreak, top priority dairy farms would be
  - Given a partial biosecurity audit and, if passed, a movement permit
  - Inspected by a qualified animal health professional as resources permit and disease conditions require. If there are no clinical signs the farm permit would remain in effect.
  - Farms would be re-audited and re-inspected periodically
M-A SMS Plan

- Post-event, continued
  - Haulers and plants that passed their last pre-event audits would be permitted and subject to random audits
  - Dispatchers would get frequent information on movement restricted areas, permitted farms, Free Area farms, etc. from Incident Command. This is work in progress.
  - Dispatchers would give haulers their farm route information
  - Plants would be notified of deliveries
M-A SMS Audits

- Audits and inspections will be conducted by State Veterinarian’s staff and Milk Inspection agency staff

- Pre-event
  - Initial audits
  - Follow-up audits on a regular basis

- Post-event
  - Farm biosecurity audits and spot checks of haulers and processing plants
  - Livestock inspections on dairy farms
M-A SMS Plans for Year 2

- Pilot test of the pre-event biosecurity procedures on dairy farms, with milk haulers and in dairy processing plants
- Training programs for auditors and others involved in implementation
- Expanding to add DE and WV
- Coordinating with the PA/NY/NJ project
Summary

- An outbreak of FMD would be devastating to the dairy industry.

- The SMS plan will allow some milk to move from dairy farms to processing plants and thereby reduce the collateral damage of disease control efforts.

- Planning ahead with an SMS plan is necessary because there will be limited resources available if there is an FMD event.
Summary

- The plan builds on the national SMS initiative’s Biosecurity Performance Standards and The Red Book.
- Requires biosecurity procedures on farms, for haulers and in processing plants.
- Passing a pre-event “audit” is required to gain top priority for a permit if FMD hits.
- Farms must pass post-event biosecurity audits for a permit, with separate livestock inspections. Spot check haulers and plants.
- SMS will be a voluntary program.
Questions?

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