

Update: Animal Health Information Exchange Standards

Sara Ahola, DVM, MA
Colorado State Department of Agriculture
&
Michael McGrath
Trace First



Background

- Emergence of multiple electronic health certificates
- Each with a unique way of reporting data
- Cost associated in building a “schema” to import data from any new forms coming into the marketplace
- It became apparent that data standards need to exist to enhance the quick and accurate flow of data



Growing Marketplace of IT

- eCVI Systems
 - Private, state-based, federal-based
- Animal Health Management Systems
 - USAHerds, SCS/Trace First, “home-grown” systems
- Auction Market Management Systems
 - Proprietary or “home-grown”
- Laboratory Information Management Systems
 - Proprietary or “home-grown”

Need a language to “Cross-Talk”

USAHA 2012 – Creation of Committee

- Subcommittee on Information Standards

(Parent committee: Animal Health Surveillance and Information Systems)

- Four Constituents

- State
- Federal
- Private-Sector
- Academia

Meeting regularly by phone and online via
“group” websites

First Project: eCVI

- Determined XML to be the common language for data transmission
- Accommodated USDA-APHIS-VS Data Standards for ICVIs (July 2012)
- Input from State Animal Health Officials' Subcommittee on Traceability
- Writing XML schema for the transfer of ICVI data

eCVI XML Schema

- Significant progress – majority of schema written
- Devil's in the details:
 - A few sticky issues of coding data
 - Simple: enumerating of sex-type (castrated, intact, etc.)
 - Complicated: Reporting of test data

eCVI XML Schema

- Next Steps:
 - Come to agreement on known issues
 - Test the schema between systems
 - Launch the schema to interested parties

Note: This is a voluntary schema – a suggested guideline, the free market will bear out the need to follow the guideline



Questions & Discussion