CAHPS Outreach

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Commercial Aquaculture Health Program Standards

• Partnership USDA-APHIS Veterinary Services and the National Aquaculture Association

• Aquatic animal health management challenged by:
  • Species, production system, and location diversity.
  • Variation in state-to-state aquatic animal health regulations.
  • Expensive and potentially meaningless testing.

• CAHPS includes:
  • Farm level health management practices
  • Farm biosecurity
  • Consistent, science-based standards.
  • Flexibility - Establishment, Zone, Compartment
CAHPS Principles

Aquatic Animal Health Plan:

• Farm Specific Aquatic Animal Health Team
• Risk Characterization and Management
• Surveillance
• Investigation and Reporting
• Response
CAHPS Challenges

- State Lead Agency – Agriculture or Natural Resources/Fish and Game
  - Multiple agencies and regulations
  - Regional Fish Health Guidelines
  - AFS Blue Book
  - OIE
  - No consistency
- Voluntary and Rigorous
- State Level Recognition
Throwing Down the Gauntlet; Not Throwing in the Towel

Southern Animal Health Association – Nashville, TN.
NE Fish Health Committee Meeting – Bellefonte, PA.

• Initiated an outreach and challenge to state agencies (Agriculture and Natural Resources) to evaluate the utility of CAHPS as an alternative to historic pathogen list driven (hazard-based) regulations.
Thank You!

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