



UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

2013 RESOLUTION

117TH ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 17-23, 2013 ~ SAN DIEGO, CA

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 4 - APPROVED

SOURCE: USAHA/AAVLD COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE

SUBJECT MATTER: AQUATIC ANIMAL DRUG APPROVAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Due to budgetary constraints, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (U.S. FWS) has discontinued funding for the Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership (AADAP) program.

The AADAP program is an integral component in the drug approval process. Its goal is to “... ensure continued progress towards obtaining Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-compliant new animal drugs for Federal, State, tribal and private aquaculture programs in the United States...”

The AADAP program administers the compassionate Investigational New Animal Drug (INAD) program that allows access to drugs which would be otherwise unavailable to those involved in aquaculture. The AADAP program also generates drug efficacy and safety data necessary to support FDA approval of new drugs for aquatic species. It has been involved in almost all aquatic animal drug approvals since its inception. The program also plays an important role in dissemination of information and drug use guidance through its newsletter, website, Aquaculture Drug Update list-serve, and the annual drug approval coordination workshop. Aside from U.S. FWS facilities, the private aquaculture industries, the veterinary profession, and animal health and welfare have all benefited from the AADAP program.

The drug approval process is long and expensive, with limited returns on the investment for pharmaceutical companies. However, approved drugs are an integral component of the management and control of diseases, while at the same time ensuring the quality and safety of our aquaculture products. Loss of this critical component for the drug approval process would further hamper the development and success of the U.S. aquaculture industry and deepen our dependence on foreign imports. The availability of FDA-approved drugs would enhance the harvest of safe and wholesome aquaculture products to meet growing consumer demand.

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RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association strongly recommends that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service acknowledge the critical role that the Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership program plays for federal, state, tribal and private aquaculture by restoring the financial support for the program for 2014 and beyond.