

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON IMPORT-EXPORT

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The Committee met on October 12, 2009 at the Town and Country Hotel, San Diego, Calif., from 1-4 p.m. There were 11 members and 14 guests present. The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming members and guests, requesting all to sign in, reviewing the agenda and asking for any requests to modify the agenda. A review of where to find 2008 resolutions on the website was given.

Mr. Effingham Embree, Livestock Exporters Association (LEA) presented Livestock Exports from the Exporters Perspective. The complete text of this presentation is included at the end of this report.

Dr. Peter Merrill, National Center for Import and Export (NCIE), United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services (USDA-APHIS-VS) presented Organizational Structure and Activities of the National Center for Import and Export (NCIE) Live Animals and Germplasm and Animal Products. The complete text of this presentation is included at the end to this report

Dr. F. Horn and Dr. M. Lowrence presented Progress Toward State of the Art Multiplex Pathogen Detection System for Animal Health. The complete text of this presentation is included at the end of this report

Committee Business

The Committee reviewed the two resolutions passed in 2007 Resolutions 28 and 66. USDA-APHIS-VS staff updated the committee on the progress of USDA actions in addressing these resolutions.

The Committee reviewed and discussed a resolution presented to the committee for consideration. After review and discussion by members and comment by USDA, APHIS, VS staff the resolution was passed as presented.

Livestock Exports from the Exporters Perspective

Effingham Embree, Jr.
Livestock Exporters Association of the USA

There are U.S. Cattle moving to Mexico, Turkey, Russia, Central America and other destinations. There was recently a shipment of dairy cattle to Iran under special license. There are a few pigs still being shipped to Latin America and other places. There seems to be more interest in imports of sheep and goats. There was a project for about 2,000 sheep and goats to the Philippines that was recently cancelled when the U.S. and the Philippines could not agree on a health protocol.

Many markets are again open to U.S. Breeding Cattle, but some, notably in Latin America remain closed due to the BSE issue. The EU still does not allow entry or transit of most U.S. Livestock. This is a critical issue because air shipments of U.S. Livestock going to Eastern Europe and Africa would in most cases need to transit in Europe.

A very short time ago everyone in the world wanted our Dairy Cattle, and there were not enough cattle to go around. The year, 2009, should have been a good year for U.S. Livestock Exports, however several things happened that changed everything. World Wide demand for Dairy Heifers declined as milk prices dropped, and the unfortunate naming of H1N1 Flu as Swine Flu was a death sentence to the already struggling Swine Industry.

China was by far the largest importer of U.S. Breeding Swine before the announcement of H1N1 Flu. After the news of H1N1 in Mexico, China shut down imports of all of U.S. Pork and Breeding Swine. China has not imported U.S. Cattle since the discovery of the Canadian Cow with BSE in Washington State in 2003. Prior to 2003, China was rapidly becoming the most promising market for U.S. Dairy Cattle.

When a market closes and then reopens, the health protocols have to be re-confirmed or re-negotiated, and that is where the real problem begins. The OIE has become the reference for importing countries to determine what should be required. In many cases, a new breed of bureaucrat takes the opportunity to excerpt their authority and require certifications and tests for every reported disease in the history of the country. More often than not, the negotiations about health issues are used by our trading partners to gain leverage to get concessions for items that they want to sell to us. Whatever happened to the idea that Health Issues were supposed to be based strictly on Science?

If we are going to use the OIE as the reference for reported disease, then we should follow the OIE guidelines in determining what is both practical and appropriate to require. If a country refuses to follow the guidelines perhaps they should be penalized or at least there should be some recourse. A bloated health protocol that requires many un-necessary tests and requirements is truly an Artificial Trade Barrier. The most important issue to Livestock Exporters today is the escalating requirements which are in most cases making exports difficult, if not impossible, increasing cost, and making us less competitive.

**National Center for Import and Export (NCIE)
FY 2009 Activities**

Dr. Peter Merrill,
National Center for Import and Export
USDA-APHIS-VS

NCIE is responsible for facilitating international trade in animals and animal products. NCIE evaluates the animal disease status and veterinary infrastructure of foreign countries, represents APHIS in international forums, and protects and supports American agriculture through regulating imported animal commodities. Customer service is also provided to the general public typically in the form of assisting with the movement of companion animals to foreign countries or importing items such as animal hides and trophies.

I. ANIMAL EXPORT

A. Trade negotiations

NCIE develops export protocols, participates in negotiations, and provides technical expertise in developing, retaining, and expanding export markets for US-origin animals and germplasm.

In fiscal year 2009, NCIE opened or retained about 100 markets for animals in over 45 countries and advanced protocols for over 100 other different country/commodity combinations. NCIE animal export staff are also responsible for requesting and negotiating exceptions to normal trade circumstances for shipments that need special consideration, or for shipments that have been detained at a foreign port, and for reviewing and harmonizing testing that is required for exported animals.

NEW, RE-OPENED OR RETAINED MARKETS (FY 2009)

COUNTRY	COMODITY
Argentina	horses
Aruba	cattle, alpaca and llama, horses
Australia	horses (temporary and permanent)
Barbados	breeding cattle
Belize	cats and dogs
Bermuda	horses
Brazil	horses, equine semen, equine embryos, pet birds, day-old chicks, hatching eggs
Canada	equine semen, equine embryos, horses, cattle
Chile	day-old chicks and hatching eggs, horses
China	aquaculture
Colombia	horses, aquatic animals
Costa Rica	horses
Dominican Republic	cats and dogs, horse
EU	day-old chicks and hatching eggs
Guatemala	horses, swine
Honduras	horses
India	bovine semen
Indonesia	llamas/camelidae
Iran	cattle
Israel	laboratory rodents, pet birds, equine semen
Japan	commercial pet rodents, camelids, horses, bovine semen, wart hogs, bears
Korea, Republic of	aquaculture
Kuwait	horses
Madagascar	swine, swine semen
Malaysia	bovine semen

Mexico	wild birds, tapir, breeding cattle, poultry, horses (temporary and permanent), captive wild ruminants, slaughter horses, ornamental fish, temperate bass
Moldova	bovine semen
Mongolia	bovine semen
New Zealand	horses
Nicaragua	cattle
Panama	horses, sheep, goats, cattle
Peru	horses, giraffes, bovine semen, specified pathogen-free eggs
Philippines	horses
Qatar	horses (permanent)
Saint Kitts and Nevis	cats and dogs
Saudi Arabia	equine semen
Serbia	breeding swine, bovine embryos
Singapore	pets
South Africa	dogs
Sri Lanka	bovine semen
Suriname	breeding cattle, sheep, goats, horses
Taiwan	laboratory dogs, laboratory rodents, laboratory ferrets, primates, day-old chicks
Turkey	breeding bulls
Uruguay	horses, equine semen
United Arab Emirates	horses (temporary, permanent and sport)

NEGOTIATIONS IN PROGRESS TO OPEN NEW MARKETS, RETAIN OLD, OR IMPROVE EXPORT CONDITIONS (FY 2009)

Argentina	equine semen, equine embryos
Australia	cattle, turkey meat
Barbados	sheep, goats, swine, horses
Belize	breeding cattle
Bolivia	bovine semen
Brazil	sheep, goats, sheep semen, goat semen, goat embryos
Cambodia	bovine semen, bovine embryos
Chile	pullets, bovine semen, bovine embryos, swine, swine semen
China	pets, mink/ferrets, swine, swine semen, IVF bovine embryos, horses, chicken and other poultry, bovine semen, bovine embryos, commercial canines
Colombia	trout eggs
Costa Rica	pet birds
Croatia	bovine semen
Dominican Republic	breeding cattle
Ecuador	poultry genetics
EU	swine, day-old chicks, hatching eggs, finfish, horses, equine semen, equine embryos
Guatemala	breeding cattle
Hong Kong	horses, turtles
India	poultry, horses, bovine embryos
Indonesia	cattle, poultry, horses,
Israel	bovine embryos, cattle, horses, day-old chicks, hatching eggs, cats and dogs
Jamaica	swine, horses
Japan	swine, equine, giraffes
Korea, Republic of	cattle, bovine embryos, swine

Kazakhstan	bovine semen, bovine embryos
Macedonia	bovine semen
Malaysia	cattle, bovine semen, sheep/goats
Mexico	swine semen, horses, cattle
Mongolia	bovine embryos
Morocco	horses, bovine semen
New Zealand	bovine semen, lamoids, hatching eggs
Nicaragua	small ruminants, horses
Pakistan	cattle
Panama	horses
Peru	breeding cattle, bovine semen
Philippines	sheep/goats, bovine embryos
Qatar	horses (temporary)
Russia	day-old chicks, hatching eggs
Saudi Arabia	horses
Serbia	bovine semen
Taiwan	swine, swine semen, cattle, bovine embryos, horses/donkey,
Thailand	swine, swine semen, hatching eggs/day-old chicks, sheep/goats, sheep/goat semen, bovine semen, bovine embryos, cattle, horses
Turkey	sheep/goats
Ukraine	horses, swine, cattle
Uruguay	equine semen, equine embryos
Vietnam	cattle, swine, swine semen

B. Additional Examples of NCIE Animal Export Activities in FY 2009

1. General responsibilities

In addition to negotiating export protocols, NCIE facilitated international trade by serving as a technical liaison, providing technical support for visits (for audits or training) from foreign veterinarians, participating on international committees, attending meetings/conference calls, preparing letters/reports/briefings for senior level leaders, responding to notices (issued by foreign countries) to the World Trade Organization and responding to the impact of US animal disease outbreaks on exports. NCIE negotiates the release of detained shipments and receives derogations from foreign requirements for trade in animals. NCIE staff officers provided support to the VS field staff by providing direction and responding to questions from VS Regional and Area Offices, the US animal export industry, and the public. NCIE staff also interpret foreign animal import requirements and develop associated policies and programs to facilitate trade. NCIE staff handles dozens of queries each month about companion animals (including securing the release of pets detained by foreign countries) as well as negotiating protocols for moving pets around the world. NCIE staff develop and participate in training and mentoring programs which, in FY 2009, included an Import Export training course for VS staff and initiating the development of an export animal course for AgLearn (for internal training).

US animal disease outbreaks have substantial repercussions on the activities of NCIE staff. In FY 2009 the US reported outbreaks involving contagious equine metritis, vesicular stomatitis and piroplasmiasis. Animal export staff needed to provide technical support (typically in the form of detailed and specialized scientific reports and updates) for the international diplomatic community as various countries imposed trade bans often without scientific substantiation. Animal export staff also needed to request derogations from foreign countries for shipments in progress as new outbreaks were reported. US animal disease outbreaks also require NCIE animal export staff to provide additional epidemiological updates to individual countries as well as renegotiate foreign import protocols that reflect the current (and sometimes emerging) disease status of the US. Many countries imposed bans on US animals following reports of the US human outbreak of H1N1: Korea, China and Thailand, for example, still have bans on trade in swine and negotiations are continuing. Substantial effort was needed to lift the bans imposed by Eastern European countries and a limited ban imposed by Russia still remains (but is expected to be

removed shortly). Reports of all types of avian influenza continue to influence international market access and require additional research and correspondence to trading partners to limit or lift trade restrictions.

In FY 2009, NCIE **met with industry groups** such as the Livestock Exporters Association, the Holstein Association USA, Inc. and the National Association of American Breeders and provided speakers to the annual meetings of the American Embryo Transfer Association and the US Livestock and Genetics Association.

NCIE animal export staff participated in a variety of bilateral **technical meetings** including: the Australia Standing Technical Working Group and the EU Animal Health Technical Working Group, and the US-EU Joint Management Committee meeting, technical animal health bilateral with Japan and The Republic of Korea. Staff provided translation services as well as technical input on conference calls with Colombia and Mexico (regarding poultry and slaughter horse protocols, respectively) and Central America and the Caribbean. Similar activities were involved with the Animal Health Trilateral Meeting between Canada, the US and Mexico.

NCIE organized and led several **foreign delegations** on audits of the US veterinary infrastructure and animal production. In FY 2009, a Standard Operating Procedure was developed to coordinate the logistics of the tours and audits of foreign officials. Animal export staff planned and facilitated several audit visits of equine pre-export quarantine facilities by high level Australian officials.

Other foreign visitors were part of **technical exchange programs** and NCIE staff provided presentations on the roles and responsibilities of APHIS, explained our veterinary infrastructure and described US systems of animal disease control. These training activities build more personal international relations and help build foreign veterinary capacity both of which indirectly facilitate the flow of international trade in animals and animal products. In FY 2009, presentations were given to delegations from Croatia, Egypt, Kazakhstan, Macedonia, Moldova, Saudi Arabia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Taiwan, Thailand, China, and India.

2. Specific events or commodity-based activities

Some trade negotiations for animal export cut across all commodity lines and have significant impact for US exporters. In FY 2009, NCIE animal export staff established the use of **electronic signatures** for equine infectious anemia test results for export to AU, Canada, China, EU, Mexico, NZ and Taiwan. Staff was successful in negotiating with Brazil to remove a burdensome administrative requirement. A **Brazilian consulate authentication is no longer needed** on the veterinary health certificate used to export animals. This has provided significant relief for US exporters as they trade live animals and germ plasm.

NCIE staff have participated in special USDA **tours of duty or working groups**. One staff member recently worked to help improve animal inspection facilities at the US-Mexican border. Another is participating in developing VS's role in "One Health" initiatives designed to increase interdisciplinary activities among those protecting animal and human health and ecological well-being. Another member is involved with the working group charged with the revision of the national animal identification system (NAIS).

NCIE continues to develop US trade in aquaculture. NCIE is developing laboratory and surveillance systems for mollusk diseases and is developing ornamental and catfish training workshops for VS aquaculture liaisons across the US. Negotiations are continuing with several Central and South American countries for many types of aquatic animals. Responses to WTO notification on aquaculture have been submitted for The Republic of Korea, Malaysia, and Taiwan. In addition, protocols for aquaculture export to The Republic of Korea and China have been finalized. NCIE and NOAA-Fisheries are also co-developing protocols designed to facilitate the complex types of health and food safety certifications that may be necessary for live animals and their products exported to a large number of countries worldwide.

Negotiations for trade in **cattle** were completed with Turkey and Iran. FY 2009 saw the continued export of cattle to Mexico, Russia, Egypt, Morocco and Kazakhstan – markets that were opened the previous year. VS provides technical assistance to US exporters to assure that trade moves smoothly. As international cattle markets are only now re-opening after many years of inactivity, the US industry is developing the infrastructure (e.g., pre-export isolation facilities) to assemble and move herds of cattle across the US and into ships and planes: Animal export staff assists with these endeavors. Improvements in existing markets and additional new markets are being pursued in Asia, Australia, the Middle East, Eastern Europe, the Caribbean, Central America and the Pacific. Israel has agreed to trade

requirements but final authorization is pending. Negotiations continue to seek Mexico's agreement to accept cattle of all ages. More inquiries are originating from politically sensitive or economically challenged countries as US State Department programs encourage and enable foreign agricultural development to support social, and therefore political, stability. For example, a trial export of cattle to Iran is underway and contact with NCIE has been made to send cattle to Afghanistan. In spite of the US receiving a BSE controlled risk status from OIE, many countries, including some in Asia, are still creating technical trade barriers for US cattle and beef: USDA continues to address the entire range of this situation from technical reports through top level trade international delegations. During bi-lateral negotiations and in international forums, USDA continues to emphasize the importance of following the requirements of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE).

Opportunities for trade in **germplasm** are also being developed around the world. While trade in bovine semen and bovine embryos dominate, trade is also active for equine semen, swine semen, small ruminants and occasionally equine embryos or canine semen. In FY 2009, a new program was developed for APHIS oversight of export of equine embryos. Foreign countries raise an array of objections to accepting trade protocols for germplasm based on: the disease status of the US (e.g., BSE, bluetongue); inspection requirements; testing requirements (e.g., epizootic hemorrhagic disease); a perceived lack of knowledge about the US veterinary infrastructure (e.g., the Ukraine); their own national requirements (i.e., a regulation to test all species for classical swine fever); or for political reasons unrelated to veterinary health (e.g., Croatia's intention to join to EU). Some countries are unresponsive to diplomatic inquiries others are simply obstreperous. NCIE continues to provide technical evidence and arguments for assuring animal health and for using science-based decisions (e.g., OIE does not consider BSE restrictions pertinent to bovine germplasm). Difficulties in finalizing export protocols for swine semen often involve the type of tests needed to assure the health of the donors: The Ukraine, for example, is seeking test results on donor boars for diseases that aren't present in the US. VS continues to work with APHIS International Services and USDA Foreign Agricultural Services to address diplomatic and political issues blocking trade in germplasm. Trade in germplasm that is already established must be maintained by routine APHIS VS inspection of semen collection centers and embryo transfer teams and maintaining the records and developing checklists used by inspector also requires attention from NCIE staff. Staff are preparing a VS memorandum on inspection and approval processes necessary to trade bovine germplasm with the EU.

The international market dynamics for **primary poultry breeding products** (e.g., day-old chicks and hatching eggs) continue to shift as concerns about avian influenza (AI) persist. Some countries, such as Russia, Albania, Kazakhstan, Japan and China require or impose limits on exports of poultry or primary poultry breeding products from states where AI of any level of pathogenicity has been reported. This year Taiwan ceased the State based bans of live poultry and birds related to low pathogenic AI; however, discussion continue to remove the bans for all commodities. NCIE provides the technical information to foreign countries to report the status and resolution of the outbreak, to reassure the country that a particular shipment is free of disease or to request the end to the imposed trade limits. Negotiations with Russia to establish a bi-laterally agreed upon trade protocol continue slowly: The US is proposing to use the National Poultry Improvement Plan as the means of US inspection and approval of poultry breeders. Detailed technical responses to questions on US control and surveillance programs for poultry diseases are provided routinely to foreign countries (e.g., Israel and the EU). Efforts are being made in the US EU Animal Health Technical Working Group meetings to change the certification requirements for day-old chicks and hatching eggs.

Progress has been made in negotiating with the EU for market access for live **swine**. NCIE has provided extensive information to the EU and hosted (in FY 2008) an audit on US swine and swine semen health and production. As part of the follow-up to this audit, NCIE staff provides significant amounts of technical material for the EU's continuing evaluation. Opening the EU for trade in swine would also facilitate trade in Eastern Europe and other countries by allowing swine to transit the EU. However, political constraints confound.

Horses are shipped around the world to new owners or moved in association with sporting events. The US advises foreign countries of our equine disease status and reports of outbreaks in FY 2009 have resulted in restrictions on equine movements and NCIE efforts to provide status reports and, eventually, lift the restrictions. Modifying foreign import requirements for contagious equine metritis continued as the outbreak was controlled, testing completed and quarantines lifted. Export requirements to send horses to the Middle East (i.e., Kuwait, Qatar, United Arab Emirates) have been clarified. Changes in requirements

for the export of equine meat to the EU have created the need for NCIE staff to re-examine the requirements for the export of slaughter horses to Canada and Mexico.

NCIE has also been asked to address trade issues for **small ruminants** (e.g., sheep or goats), cervids and camelids. Technical difficulties tend to center around testing requirements especially the validity of testing requirements for those particular species. The market for exporting sheep and goats to Panama was closed in 2003 due to concerns about scrapie but was re-opened as technical negotiations resolved issues.

B. ANIMAL IMPORT

1. Live Animals

Among other activities in FY 2009, NCIE's Live Animals import staff participated in international meetings, developed import protocols, responded to requests for special projects, and developed additional policy for the movement of ruminants and other livestock into the United States. These activities are summarized in the bullet points below:

- Processed and issued over 3,000 import permits for live animals, embryos and semen (AES) consignments. An additional 1500 permits were issued directly by the three APHIS Animal Import Centers for animals going to quarantine at those facilities.
- Assisted an additional approx. 14,000 stakeholders with live animals, embryos and semen import information requests.
- Continuously monitored world animal disease status reports for all countries as issued by OIE, CEAH/CEI, FAO and others, and coordinated review/response involving appropriate import requirements and/or restrictions
- Issued Import Alerts for changes in H5N1, screwworm and tuberculosis status resulting from foreign outbreaks
- Revised or developed 65 import protocols for live animals, embryos and semen
- Revised or created 8 VS Memoranda
- Facilitated 15 FOIA requests for historical animal import or export data and documents
- Made numerous changes to APHIS Import-Export websites for clarity and understanding
- Assisted with the continuing development and implementation of new database systems including ePermits for Live Animals, the Live Animal Import Module for VSPS, and the Animal Import Center Reservation Module for VSPS
- Attended two Bi-national Committee meetings with Mexico
- Attended US-Canadian cross-border animal imports working group meeting
- Attended US-MX-Canadian trilateral meeting
- Participated in aquatic animal technical working group with Canada
- Participated in March 2009 technical working group sessions with the European Commission for swine, equine and poultry import-export issues
- Participated in numerous commodity-specific trade meetings and conferences to interact with key stakeholders for import-related issues
- Collaborated with Biotechnology Regulatory Services and FDA-CVM to better understand and assess the roles VS might undertake for the regulation of transgenic animals (including insects and synthetic genomics)
- Provided technical expertise and trade updates as member of CEM Coordination Group, responding to 2008 CEM outbreak in the US; drafted initial CEM testing protocol.
- Planned and presented training on CEM testing and regulations for State and APHIS personnel in Pennsylvania and Oregon.
- Are currently drafting MOU concerning the dual US-Canadian use of certain land border port facilities
- Gave video conference presentation on live animal import requirements for Iraqi delegation, facilitated by US Army.
- Continued evaluation of risk assessment for import of cloned equine tissue. Implemented decision memo for import of cloned equine tissue, to facilitate import of tissue samples for cloning from the EU.
- Worked with domestic programs on development of draft recommendations for handling domestic equine piroplasmiasis cases and reactors. Helped finalize document for distribution during 2009 Missouri piroplasmiasis situation.

- Finalized workplan for interim rule updating CEM testing procedures, and drafted the rule
- Published a final rule on standards for privately owned quarantine facilities for horses; drafted VS Memo for implementing the rule
- Drafted rule for Equine Viral Arteritis, coordinated with domestic programs
- Finalized workplan for scrapie and BSE requirements for imported sheep, goats and non-domesticated ruminants
- Collaborated with Products staff to finalize draft/proposed BSE Comprehensive rule; expected publication date December 2009
- Coordinated numerous complex import, export and transit requests for live animals with importers and VS field staff
- Co-organized and participated in Animal Import Center directors' meeting in Los Angeles
- Co-developed and finalized Northern Border Port manual for Canadian land border port animal import operations; published on intranet
- Reviewed and commented on approximately 20 WTO TBT/SPS notifications for aquatic and other animals
- Worked with CFIA and NCIE regionalization/Programs staff to review and adequately assess CWD status for cervid populations in and around EINP in Alberta, Canada
- Developed and disseminated State Veterinarian Contact lists to VS field staff as part of development of VS Memo
- Participated in continued APHIS-wide IT development ('Deep Dive') for the integration of ePermits, Veterinary Services Process Streamlining (VSPS) and the ACE/ITDS systems.
- Developed and implemented public access email box for Import-Export questions
- Developed and implemented database for Canadian import non-compliance issues for follow-up with CFIA
- Developed and implemented database for all live animal shipments that were refused entry to the U.S.
- Archived current and previously-issued NCIE Import and Export Alerts on intranet
- Gave presentations at 2008 USAHA meeting (Import/Export, Parasitic Diseases, Bluetongue, Infectious Diseases of Horses committees)
- Reviewed and commented on 19 chapters for the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code and Manual

2. Products:


NCIE's Products staff likewise engaged in numerous and ongoing activities during FY 2009, as summarized in bullet format below:

- Issued approximately 15,000+ permits for animal products and by-products.
- Assisted stakeholders with expediting permits
- Collaborated with FSIS on the issuance of permits for animal origin foodstuffs containing small amounts of animal origin material.
- Continue to cancel permits issued for China due to conflicts with FSIS regulations
- Authorized/inspected USDA-approved establishments
- Provided guidance to VS Field on reviewing approved establishments.
- Provided amendments and changes in VS import Policies to APHIS' Veterinary Regulatory Services
- Drafted various Decision Memos and Communication Memos.
- Drafted Swine Trophies from CSF Rule; Drafted Table Egg rule
- FSIS Joint Jurisdiction Implemented to facilitate the import of meat, poultry and egg products.
- Approved Establishment module in VSPS went into production
- Completed Swine Hide rule.
- Project manager for BSE Comprehensive Rule
- VS on court-order OTM notice and comment for extension.
- Working with Live Animals group to develop proposed rule for import regulation on BSE and scrapie in small ruminants and wild ruminants
- Drafted Workplan for the importation of Fetal Bovine Serum from FMD-Affected countries considered as free w/vaccination.
- Conducted ongoing US/Canada petfood negotiations due to new CFIA regulations


- Communicated with VS field via e-mails and phone calls regarding deficiencies in inspection reports
- Convened bi-weekly conference calls with field and industry to explain inspection requirements
- Held meetings with USTR, FAS, TST, other government agencies and industry to set priorities for negotiations, determine negotiation strategies
- Approx 750 export inspection packages reviewed yearly for products being exported to the EU, Japan, Canada, China, Indonesia, Australia, Mexico, and Korea
- Made quarterly or monthly notifications to trading partners as required with updated lists of approved exporting facilities
- Maintained and updated all export product IREGS; implemented a new web format.
- Provided numerous responses to e-mails in the export products mailbox
- Continued to revise/update EU inspection packages based on new EU regulations published this year.
- Reviewed documents/notices for removing or adding regions for H5N1 recognition status prior to sending to the field and other stakeholders, i.e. CBP, PPQ-VRS, FSIS.
- Provided monthly Avian Influenza reports to departmental administration
- Established an Import Animal Products mailbox to help VS field have better access to central headquarters staff for products-oriented import problems

II. Import-Export Statistical Data Graphs

Aquaculture Imports FY 2007–2009			
	FY07	FY08	FY09
Fish Eggs	4,554	0	0
Fish Live	13,241,962	14,145,557	10,498,564



Safeguarding Animal Health



Aquaculture Exports FY 2007–2009

	FY07	FY08	FY09
Fish Eggs	279,415,760	77,370,813	70,754,911
Fish Live	7,583,230	29,839,663	41,425,945



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Bison Imports From Canada FY 2007–2009

	FY07	FY08	FY09
Feeder	4,010	8,778	8,252
Immediate Slaughter	15,339	18,515	16,871
Total	19,349	27,293	25,123



Safeguarding Animal Health



Bison Exports FY 2007–2009

	FY07	FY08	FY09
Canada	2	845	0
Mexico	0	0	0
Total	2	845	0



Safeguarding Animal Health



Canada Feeder Cattle Imported by Port FY 2009

Port	2009
Anchorage, AK	13
Dunseith, ND	105,804
Eastport, ID	40,369
Niagara Falls, NY	3,532
Oroville, WA	22,885
Pembina, ND	56,957
Portal, ND	71,995
Raymond, MT	38,279
Sumas, WA	69
Sweetgrass, MT	10,386
Port Huron, MI	1,124
TOTAL	351,498



Safeguarding Animal Health



Canada Slaughter Cattle Imported by Port FY 2009

Port	2009	Port	2009
Alexandria Bay, NY	84,715	Oroville, WA	8,302
Champlain, NY	1,092	Pembina, ND	66,546
Derby Line, VT	850	Port Huron, MI	451
Detroit, MI	37,328	Portal, ND	59,188
Dunseith, ND	46,872	Raymond, MT	3,888
Eastport, ID	238,977	Sumas, WA	50,284
Highgate Springs, VT	2,871	Sweetgrass, MT	106,293
Houlton, ME	275	Total	758,663
Niagara Falls, NY	50,731		



Safeguarding Animal Health



Mexico Feeder Cattle Imported by Port FY 2009

Port	2009
Columbus, NM	33,288
Del Rio, TX	64,512
Douglas, AZ	86,723
Eagle Pass, TX	70,282
Hidalgo, TX	31,820
Laredo, TX	35,805
Nogales, AZ	128,077
Presidio, TX	206,604
San Luis, AZ	18,857
San Jeronimo, NM	238,500
TOTAL	910,468



Safeguarding Animal Health



Bovine Exports Top Five Countries FY 2009

Country	FY 2009
Mexico	12,647
Russia	9,451
Canada	3,481
Morocco	2350
Saudi Arabia	2,285
(Total all countries)	(60,299)



Safeguarding Animal Health



Caprine Exports Top Five Countries FY 2009

Country	FY 2009
Mexico	2,489
Canada	854
Cayman Islands	56
Trinidad and Tobago	52
Guatemala	22
(Total all countries)	(3537)



Safeguarding Animal Health



Cervid Imports from Canada FY 2007–2009

	FY07	FY08	FY09
Deer	292	24	191
Elk	957	505	1,249



Safeguarding Animal Health



Cervid Exports FY 2007–2009

	FY07	FY08	FY09
Elk and Deer	176	555	453



Safeguarding Animal Health



Equine Live Animal Imports FY 2007, 2008, 2009

	FY07	FY08	FY09
Equine	30,414	26,523	35,966



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Equine Live Animal Imports Top 5 Countries FY 2007, 2008, 2009

	FY 07	FY 08	FY 09
Canada	19,324	17,564	13,520
Mexico	3,203	2,592	2,307
Netherlands	2,147	1,663	966
Germany	1,501	1,173	759
United Kingdom	805	693	510
Top 5 totals	26,980	23,685	18,062



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Equine Live Animal Exports
Top 5 Countries
FY 2007, 2008, 2009

	FY 07	FY 08	FY 09
Mexico	32,136	42,242	70,109
Canada	54,352	89,984	68,098
Venezuela	750	1,006	784
United Kingdom	1,064	894	736
Finland	25	27	654
Top 5 totals	88,948	134,743	140,381



Safeguarding Animal Health



Ovine Imports
FY 2009

Country	FY 2009
Australia	1,767
Iceland	400
Canada	52
Total	2,219



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Ovine Exports FY 2009

Country	FY 2009
Mexico	41,017
Canada	19,541
Trinidad and Tobago	93
Suriname	15
Bermuda	2
Total	60,668



Safeguarding Animal Health



Semen and Embryo Exports Major Species FY 2009

SPECIES	EMBRYO	SEMEN	TOTAL
Bovine	5,846	6,064,609	6,070,455
Caprine	0	0	0
Cervid	0	195	195
Equine	65	40,2233	40,298
Ovine	0	0	0
Porcine	0	14,938	14,938
Totals	5,911	6,119,975	6,125,886



Safeguarding Animal Health



Progress Toward State of the Art Multiplex Pathogen Detection Systems for Animal Health

**Matthew Lorence, PhD, MBA
Floyd Horn, PhD**

Protecting the nation from infectious disease pathogens carried by imported animals is a critical need. Current protocols require regulatory agencies to balance the health of an imported animal that may be pathogen-free versus the costs of failing to identify infected animals during lengthy and expensive quarantine periods. A superior protocol may be achieved through genomics-based diagnostic assays that greatly reduce or eliminate quarantine periods through rapid detection and definitive identification of infectious disease pathogens. Resequencing microarray technology developed by TessArae has the capability to support a comprehensive differential diagnosis of multiple viral and bacterial pathogens simultaneously, including co-infecting pathogens either previously known, unknown, emerging or deliberately altered. The resulting pathogen-specific nucleotide sequences of this test also support epidemiological surveillance of detected pathogens, including tracking back to putative sources.

Development and deployment of such genomics-based diagnostic assays to detect and definitively identify infectious disease pathogens will significantly improve protection of the nation's animal population, as well as the human population at risk from exposure to many zoonotic diseases directly through livestock, wildlife, companion animals or animal products. A resolution urging the USDA to fund the development of new genomics-based diagnostic technologies was unanimously passed at the 2008 USAHA conference, and we request that the Committee on Import-Export specifically recommend the application of these technologies to the testing of animals imported into the United States.