



# Committee on Equine A Look at the Past, Present and Future

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# Topics Covered 2004-2018

Equine Piroplasmosis	20
Equine Infectious Anemia	14
General	12
EHV	10
Contagious Equine Metritis	7
EDCC	7
Equine Viral Arteritis	7
Import/Export	7
NAHMS	7
USDA Update	7
CVI/ID	6
Vesicular Stomatitis	5
Influenza	4
Biosecurity	3
WNV	3
AAEP Updates	3
African Horse Sickness	2
AHC Updates	2
Epizootic Lymphagitis	1
Glanders	1
Leptospirosis	1
Salmonella	1
Strangles	1
Surra	1
Other	1
	133



Total Number of  
Resolutions  
per year

2018	2
2017	2
2016	3
2015	1
2014	4
2013	3
2012	2
2011	3
2010	5
2009	2
2008	3
2007	2
2006	3
2005	2
2004	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>



## Resolution Topics 2004 - 2018

<b>EQUINE EUTH &amp; DISPOSAL</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>EP</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>EIA</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>General</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>CEM</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>ID</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>EDCC</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>EHV-1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>EIA Electronic Form</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>EIA/EP</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Import</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>NAHLN</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>NVAP</b>	<b>1</b>





# 5 Year Resolution Review - USDA Focused

- 2014
  - Equine Veterinary Accreditation Modules
  - Enhancements to the CEM Quarantine and Testing Program
  - Development of an EIA Working Group
- 2015
  - Record and electronically capture name and description of Mexican Imported Equine
- 2016
  - Laboratory approval for regulatory diseases
  - EIA and EP testing of Racing Quarter Horses
- 2017
  - Microchip identification of imported horses
  - EIA testing for Horses Imported through Southern Border Ports
- 2018
  - National Equine Communication Center
  - Equine Euthanasia and Disposal





# Status of USDA Resolutions - 2014

- **Equine Veterinary Accreditation Modules**

- The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) urges the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) to develop National Veterinary Accreditation Program (NVAP) Equine Disease Modules to address the current science and epidemiology of equine regulatory diseases of interest, including but not limited to, equine herpes virus myeloencephalopathy, equine infectious anemia, equine piroplasmiasis, equine viral arteritis, and contagious equine metritis. Additionally, the USAHA encourages USDA-APHIS-VS-NVAP to collaborate with the USDAAPHIS equine specialists and state animal health officials in equine disease module development.

- ***STATUS: Partial completion: Has been developed in final review stages***





# Status of USDA Resolutions - 2014 (Cont.)

- **Enhancements to States' Contagious Equine Metritis Post-Entry Quarantine and Testing Programs**
- The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) urges the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) to:
  - Define **specific benchmarks for annual evaluation of each approved state's Contagious Equine Metritis (CEM) Import Quarantine Program**. USAHA requests USDA-APHIS-VS develop a standard Annual CEM Import Quarantine **State Report Form and Annual Facility Inspection Report Form**. The Annual State Report includes **an assessment of the state's infrastructure for CEM oversight** and the standard operating procedures utilized by CEM import quarantine facilities. The individual facility inspection report should, at a minimum, include evaluation of housing, horse handling, equine care practices, movement within the facility, record keeping, biosecurity practices of facility employees and veterinarians, and knowledge and training related to reproductive anatomy, sample collection, or handling protocols.
  - ***STATUS: Partial completion: New VG Guidance Memo in Final Review which includes annual facility inspection template.***





# Status of USDA Resolutions – 2014 (Cont.)

## CEM Resolution

- Develop **protocols for suspending or revoking** state approval or individual facility approval when there is a failure to meet the established program standards.
  - **STATUS: Not Complete.** *No written protocol has been provided for state approval revocation. However, proposed MOU attached to the new VG Guidance Memo addresses this issue as it states the USDA Administrator can remove state approvals if not in compliance with federal regulations.*
- **Require approved states to have trained qualified personnel**, who have completed the USDA CEM training course, to manage the state's CEM Program.
  - **STATUS: Partial Complete.** *USDA training courses were held in 2017, 2018 and 2019. USDA is not aware of requirement for coordinator to attend course.*





# Status of USDA Resolutions – 2014 (Cont.)

## CEM Resolution

- Work with CEM state coordinators to **review and modify the CEM quarantine facilities' data reporting protocols and to develop a searchable data repository** which can produce industry requested summary reports.
  - ***STATUS: Not Complete. USDA is looking into developing a searchable database through VSPS.***
- Provide an annual report of the CEM Import Program to the state animal health officials and equine stakeholders.
  - ***STATUS: COMPLETE : USDA provides summary data at USAHA, AAEP and AHC annual meetings.***





## Status of USDA Resolutions - 2014 (Cont.)

- **Development of Equine Infectious Anemia Working Group**
  - **STATUS: COMPLETE.** VS convened the EIA Discussion Group in 2015, composed of State, Federal, and industry representatives, to discuss goals for addressing EIA in the United States and to propose non-regulatory and regulatory options. This group could not provide a collective recommendation as it was not an official Federal Advisory Committee, but rather, obtained information and viewpoints from the attendees:  
[https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/animal\\_diseases/eia/downloads/eia-discussiongroup.pdf](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/animal_diseases/eia/downloads/eia-discussiongroup.pdf).
  - **VSG 15201.1, EIA Laboratory Approval is expected in CY 2019 and will significantly increase oversight of EIA control where there is existing Federal authority – approval and oversight of EIA laboratories.**





# Status of USDA Resolutions - 2015

- **Record and Electronically Capture Name and Description of Mexican Imported Equine**

- The United States Animal Health Association urges the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services to require USDA border personnel to electronically capture and record adequate official animal identification on all equids imported into, or returning to, the United States from Mexico. Adequate official animal identification, at a minimum, is the equid's name and any permanent identification present, to include radio frequency identification microchip number, and breed, sex, age, color, and all markings. Record of this information should be on all border crossing laboratory testing paperwork and be captured electronically in a searchable database accessible to state and federal animal health officials for use during a disease investigation.
- ***STATUS: Partial completion. System is available to capture RFID microchips, however there is a lack of consistency in capturing this data at all ports and challenges in searching for microchip information in the database.***





# Status of USDA Resolutions - 2016

- **Laboratory Approval for Regulatory Diseases**

- The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) urges the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services to restrict foreign animal disease diagnostic testing to laboratories approved by the USDA and to take regulatory enforcement action against non-approved laboratories conducting testing for foreign animal diseases. If USDA doesn't currently have authority for these actions, USAHA urges USDA to take measures to establish those authorities.
- Additionally, the USAHA recommends state animal health officials assess state authority or oversight over laboratories conducting diagnostic testing for diseases of regulatory importance on samples obtained from livestock and poultry.
- **STATUS:** *USDA published a proposed rule streamlining laboratory approval process in July 2019, however, the proposed rule fails to provide authority for USDA to take action against non-approved laboratories. This issue has not been addressed at the federal level. Status at the state level is unknown at this time.*





## Status of USDA Resolutions - 2016 (Cont.)

- **Equine Infectious Anemia and Equine Piroplasmiasis Testing of Racing Quarter Horses**
  - The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) urges state animal health officials and Quarter Horse racing jurisdictions to impose equine infectious anemia (EIA) and equine piroplasmiasis (EP) testing requirements for Quarter Horses entering a racing venue. Additionally, USAHA urges the American Quarter Horse Association to encourage the EIA and EP testing of racing Quarter Horses and assist in the education of the racing Quarter Horse owners and trainers as to the risks of the diseases. Lastly, the USAHA urges the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services to continue to compile national epidemiologic EIA and EP data for the high-risk group of horses and provide issue.
  - ***STATUS:*** *With VS' strong encouragement, educational outreach and pursuit of trace backs, EP surveillance testing of high risk animals has increased over 50% (22,615 to 35,208) from 2016 to 2018. Currently, there are at least 9 states with EP testing required to enter Quarter Horse racetracks (CO, IN, IA, LA, NV, NM, TX, UT, and WY). VS strongly supports both EP and EIA surveillance on multiple fronts, including: approval of diagnostics, performing diagnostics, confirmatory testing, technical training, laboratory approval, outbreak investigation and trace-back, risk analysis and collection and publication of national level surveillance information. These high risk groups were originally identified through this surveillance and analysis, which continues. Institution of VSG 15201.1 should have demonstrable positive effects on the quality and timeliness of EIA data.*





# Status of USDA Resolutions - 2017

- **Microchip Identification of Imported Horses**

- The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) urges the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) to revise the Code of Federal Regulations to require all equids imported into, or returning to, the United States be identified with an implanted radio frequency identification (RFID) microchip that complies with the International Organization for Standardization 11784 and 11785 standards (134.2 kHz), unless already implanted with a readable 125 kHz microchip. Universal RFID readers should be present at all import centers and border stations to read both 125 and 134.2 kHz microchips. Additionally, the USAHA urges USDA-APHIS-VS to, at the time of equid importation into the United States, record microchips of imported equidae and electronically capture microchip data in a searchable database accessible to animal health officials during a disease investigation.

- ***STATUS: NOT COMPLETE: No changes have been made to CFR or policy to require microchip on imported horses. However, readers are available at the ports of entry. Microchip data is inconsistently being recorded at the ports of entry and retrieving microchip data is possible if recorded in the appropriate data field.***





# Status of USDA Resolutions – 2017 (Cont.)

- **Equine Infectious Anemia Testing for Horses Imported through the Southern Border Ports.**
  - The United States Animal Health Association urges the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services to take the following actions regarding equine entering through the southern border ports:
    1. **Implement a 45-90 day pre-import negative Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA)** Agar Gel Immunodiffusion (AGID) test requirement for all equidae entering through a Southern Border Port. Test must be performed by a Laboratory Approved by the National Government Animal Health Authority.
    2. **Require a statement on the importing** health certificate which states “Between the time of EIA test and export, the equid has not been on an EIA infected premises or exposed to an EIA positive equid.”
    3. **The positive equid and all exposed equidae in the lot with the EIA reactor animal shall be requested to be microchipped** and the identification information be recorded in a searchable database. This database shall be developed to have the ability to identify and recognize these equidae and prevent the exposed equidae from being allowed entry for 45 days.
  - ***STATUS: No changes have been made in the import testing requirements for horses imported through the southern border port.***
- **USDA RESPONSE:** There is already a statement on the HC that horses have not been exposed to or been on premises of EIA positive. We have no reason to require pre-import testing. Any positives/cohorts found are refused entry. We are looking at traceability options to track horses in a searchable database developed through VSPS. USDA has revised the quarantine requirements for horses coming from Mexico so there is no exposure or commingling with positive horses.





# Equine Disease Forum and Equine ID Forum

- Great Collaborations
- Great List of Action Items
  - Limited Completed Action Items
- Next Steps?
  - Review Action Item List
  - Identify Completed Tasks
  - Plan Next Forum to Complete Pending Tasks





# The Future

- Evaluation of Resolution Process
  - Are resolutions successful for this committee?
- How can we engage industry in regulatory issues?
  - Equine Forum in 2021?
- Diseases of the future
  - Endemic diseases vs regulatory disease
    - Pigeon Fever, Strangles, Flu, Coronavirus





# Questions

