

Report of the Committee on Johne's Disease
Chair: David Smith, NY
Vice Chair: Vacant

Bruce Addison, MO; Paul Anderson, MN; Richard Breitmeyer, CA; Charles Brown II, WI; Todd Byrem, MI; Michael Collins, WI; Stephen Crawford, NH; Ria de Grassi, CA; Anita Edmondson, CA; William Fales, MO; Kathy Finnerty, MA; Keith Forbes, NV; Mallory Gaines, DC; Robert Gerlach, AK; Stephane Guillossou, NJ; William Hartmann, MN; Linda Hickam, MO; Donald Hoenig, ME; David Hunter, MT; Carla Huston, MS; Marv Jahde, KS; Annette Jones, CA; Jamie Jonker, VA; Susan Keller, ND; Gerald Kitto, ND; John Lawrence, ME; Donald Lein, NY; Tsang Long Lin, IN; Mary Lis, CT; Laurent O'Gene Lollis, FL; Travis Lowe, MN; Chuck Massengill, MO; Jay Mattison, WI; Sara McReynolds, ND; Antone Mickelson, WA; Eric Mohlman, NE; Jeffrey Nelson, IA; Dustin Oedekoven, SD; Kenneth Olson, IL; Lanny Pace, MS; Elizabeth Parker, TX; Boyd Parr, SC; Elisabeth Patton, WI; Janet Payeur, IA; Kris Petrini, MN; Jewell Plumley, WV; Suelee Robbe-Austerman, IA; Paul Rodgers, WV; Allen Roussel, Jr., TX; Patricia Scharko, SC; Andy Schwartz, TX; Kathryn Simmons, DC; Marilyn Simunich, ID; Shri Singh, KY; Julie Smith, VT; Rebecca Smith, IL; Scott Stuart, CO; Tahnee Szymanski, MT; Robert Temple, OH; Brad Thurston, IN; James Watson, MS; Robert Whitlock, PA; Ching Ching Wu, IN.

The Committee met on October 25th, 2015 at the Rhode Island Convention Center in Providence, Rhode Island from 12:30 to 4:00pm. There were 14 members and 12 guests present. 2014 USAHA resolution #8, *Assess Johne's Disease Fecal Check Test Performance* was briefly discussed and the committee recognized that USDA's resources had to be diverted to the HPAI outbreak and therefore APHIS Veterinary Services was forced to delay its intention to assess test performance until the following fiscal year.

Johne's Diagnostics at the Pennsylvania Veterinary Laboratory

Dr. Deepak Tewari, Director, Pennsylvania Veterinary Laboratory

The Pennsylvania Veterinary Laboratory offers Johne's diagnostics for cattle, small ruminants, and cervids. Dr. Tewari presented the lab's experience with fecal culture, PCR, and Johne's ELISA. The presentation is attached at the end of this report

USDA APHIS Veterinary Services Update

Dr. Michael Carter, USDA APHIS VS, Cattle Health Programs

Dr. Carter reviewed the status of funding for cattle health programs and described the structure of Veterinary Services' program areas.

Johne's Disease Fecal Check Test

Dr. Kevin Stokes, USDA APHIS Veterinary Services, National Veterinary Services Laboratory

A total of 61 laboratories participated in the 2015 Johne's Disease Fecal Proficiency Panel (7 Canadian, 4 European Union, 1 New Zealand, 1 Australian and 48 USA laboratories). Compared to 2014, the number of individual proficiency panel requesting laboratories increased for direct PCR, decreased for liquid, and remained the same for solid culture methods. Requests for pooled proficiency panels increased for direct PCR, and remained constant for liquid and solid culture methods. A total of 160 panels were requested; results were not returned for 5. None of the kits were reported to be faulty this year. If preliminary results indicated that the laboratory had failed, it was given the opportunity to retake the proficiency panel provided the results were completed by September 30th, 2015. The full report is attached at the end of this report.

MDA AAMD Update

Dr. Vivek Kapur, Penn State University

Dr. Kapur gave a thorough update on Mycobacterial Diseases of Animals initiative. The mycobacterial diseases of animals coordinated agricultural project (MDA-CAP) grant application was not successful, but efforts continue. AAMD is in its second year and a new website is active www.mycobacterialdiseases.org. Advances in Johne's Disease control and prevention will depend

on revising our strategy and seeking new allies and sources of funding. The full presentation is attached at the end of this report.

Committee Business:

A discussion was held regarding the future of the committee's efforts. The members present agreed that communication throughout the year in the form of conference calls every 2 months may be helpful to keep the committee moving forward. Committee Chair David Smith will coordinate the calls.

A draft resolution, which would request that USDA APHIS VS encourage coordination in research on mycobacterial diseases, including Johne's Disease, was presented to the members in attendance. After comment, the authors decided not to advance a motion for adoption.

OTHER NOTES: