

# UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION - 2009 RESOLUTION

OCTOBER 14, 2009, SAN DIEGO, CA

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**RESOLUTION NUMBER:** 1 APPROVED

**SOURCE:** COMMITTEE ON JOHNE'S DISEASE

**SUBJECT MATTER:** PROGRAM STANDARD REVISION WITH UPDATED HERD  
CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

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## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The *Uniform Program Standards for the Voluntary Bovine Johne's Disease Control Program* was last revised in 2006. The Committee on Johne's Disease Scientific Advisory Subcommittee has been tasked to propose an improved basis for the Herd Classification System to provide better scientific accuracy for defining herd levels based upon true within herd prevalence. The new proposed Herd Classification System would have 6 levels of quantified risk for Johne's disease with increased flexibility on testing options to advance to the next level in the classification system. This increased flexibility allows producers more options in determining how to spend their own dollars in the program. The new proposed Herd Classification System would also allow transition from the current system to the new system to ensure continued producer participation.

## **RESOLUTION:**

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) requests the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) adopt the draft *Program Standards for the Voluntary Bovine Johne's Disease Control Program* including the new Herd Classification System. Additionally, USAHA requests USDA-APHIS-VS develop associated educational materials for the Johne's Program to inform producers about the new program standards including changes and transition to the new Herd Classification System.

## **INTERIM RESPONSE:**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services (VS) plans to adopt the concept of the new herd classification system by incorporating it into the *Program Standards for the Voluntary Bovine Johne's Disease Control Program*. The changes are expected by late spring. Additionally, VS will work through the National Johne's Disease Education Initiative to develop materials to prepare producers and veterinarians for changes to the program standards.