



UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

2013 RESOLUTION

117TH ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 17-23, 2013 ~ SAN DIEGO, CA

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 9 - APPROVED

SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON TRANSMISSIBLE DISEASES OF SWINE

SUBJECT MATTER: EMERGING DISEASES RESPONSE INFRASTRUCTURE AND PLANNING

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Since the mid-1980s, the United States pork industry has experienced multiple emerging animal issues that have adversely affected swine health and production resulting in economic losses to the industry. The discovery of melamine in feed inputs incorporated into swine diets, porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome, porcine circovirus 2, novel H1N1 influenza and porcine epidemic diarrhea virus have made it clear that the industry is vulnerable to disease introductions and feed adulterations from global sources. These vulnerabilities need to be rapidly addressed to protect the United States pork industry.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association urges the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services to provide the infrastructure necessary to support the response to emerging diseases and support the pork industry as it develops an emerging diseases response plan.

INTERIM RESPONSE:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services (VS) recognizes the concerns of the U.S. Animal Health Association and appreciates the opportunity to respond. VS agrees that a more structured process for responding to emerging diseases is necessary for all livestock industries. VS is developing an emerging disease framework that will include processes and procedures for notification of disease events, characterization of the disease through time and by location, assessment of the event to determine next actions, and reporting mechanisms. A preliminary discussion of this framework was shared with members of the pork industry in a December 2013 meeting on responses to emerging diseases. This framework document will be completed in the third quarter of fiscal year 2014 and will be shared with a larger group of stakeholders for their input.



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VS is working with the pork industry to develop and deploy Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) to investigate emerging disease issues. VS is finalizing a cooperative agreement with the National Pork Board for collaboration on RRTs.