RESOLUTION NUMBER: 18  APPROVED

SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON SCRAPIE

SUBJECT MATTER: Identifying Non-Traditional Sheep and Goat Marketing and Slaughter Channels

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

While the National Scrapie Eradication Program (NSEP) has been successful in decreasing the prevalence of scrapie in the United States, eradication has not yet been achieved. With all disease eradication programs, as prevalence of the disease declines the ability to identify the remaining cases becomes an ever greater challenge.

There is evidence that increasing numbers of sheep and goats are marketed and slaughtered outside of the traditional marketing system and may not be available for scrapie surveillance, the impact of which may prolong the time until eradication is achieved. It is also likely that the demand for nontraditionally marketed animals will continue to rise resulting in negative ramifications for the program.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association urges the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services to actively pursue identifying nontraditional sheep and goat marketing and slaughter channels and to create a program to obtain samples from these channels.