



UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

2016 Resolution

120th Annual Meeting

October 13-19, 2016 ~ Greensboro, NC

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 20

APPROVED

SOURCE:

COMMITTEE ON BRUCELLOSIS

SUBJECT MATTER:

**Brucellosis Milk Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay
Validation as an Additional Test for Brucellosis in Bulk
Milk**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

At present, the Brucellosis Ring Test (BRT) is the only approved test for detection of antibodies to *Brucella spp.* in bulk milk tank samples, but this test consistently demonstrates false positives. If the brucellosis milk enzyme linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) is demonstrated to have improved sensitivity and specificity, the United States Animal Health Association supports work by the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services to validate the ELISA, in addition to the BRT, as an approved brucellosis bulk milk surveillance test.

The IDEXX milk ELISA test was available for bulk milk tank sampling from the early 2000s until 2006 or 2007. During that time, the milk ELISA was utilized for bulk milk tank samples due to the superior sensitivity when compared to the BRT. When IDEXX discontinued the production of the milk ELISA test, the BRT was the only approved test for bulk milk tank sampling in the United States.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association urges the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service to direct the National Veterinary Services Laboratory to pursue validation of the brucellosis milk enzyme linked immunosorbent assay.