
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 26 APPROVED

**SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON PARASITIC & VECTOR BORNE
DISEASES**

**SUBJECT MATTER: Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease and Blue Tongue Virus
Data**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) and Blue Tongue Virus (BTV) are caused by a virus of the genus *Orbivirus* and are considered some of the most significant diseases affecting North American cervidae. The EHD and BTV viruses are wide spread and periodically cause serious epidemics in the cervid species. The diseases are carried by biting flies and occur on a seasonal basis.

These diseases infect and kill thousands of farmed and free ranging deer each year. There is little data compiled and disseminated by the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service that details the estimated number of deaths related to known EHD/BTV infections and the specific strains per state. Strains of EHD and BTV vary by state and by year.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) urges the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services to prepare a descriptive report to present at the 2018 USAHA Annual Meeting and each annual meeting, thereafter. The report shall include the following data that is available:

- 1) Number of estimated farmed cervid deaths related to Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) and Blue Tongue Virus (BTV) per state and cervid species in the previous year.
- 2) Number of estimated wild cervid deaths related to EHD and BTV per state and cervid species in the previous year.
- 3) Strains of EHD and BTV that have been known to be found in each state for both farmed and wild cervidae in the previous year.