
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 20 APPROVED

SUBJECT MATTER: Foreign Animal Disease Prevention

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The incursion of foot and mouth disease virus (FMDV), classical swine fever virus (CSFV), and African swine fever virus (ASFV) into the United States (US) would result in the immediate loss of export markets for live swine, pork, and pork products. A Center for Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD), Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute (FAPRI) study led by Dr. Dermot Hayes, economist at Iowa State University, estimated that in the first year of an African swine fever (ASF) outbreak in the US revenue loss by commodity would be \$8 billion for pork, \$4 billion for corn and \$1.5 billion for soybeans. According to Dr. Hayes, it would take over 10 years after an ASF outbreak for these impacted commodities to approach pre-outbreak commodity prices. Based on the same study, estimates for revenue losses were similar for FMDV and CSFV.

The increase in global prevalence of ASFV elevates the current risk for introduction of a foreign animal disease (FAD) of swine through ports of entry into the US by international travelers and visitors returning from ASFV, or other FAD, positive regions who have had exposure to farms, livestock, wet markets, laboratories, or harvest facilities. This risk also includes travelers entering the US that are carrying non-US origin meat and meat products on their person, carry-on, and checked luggage or parcels. Screening of travelers and interdiction and destruction of meat and meat products is critical to protecting US animal agriculture. While the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) works to address the risk, more could and should be done to understand risk, educate passengers, and screen travelers entering the US at all ports of entry.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) urges the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to 1) on a quarterly basis, provide interdiction metrics to pork industry representatives, 2) work with the foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) Cross-Species Team to develop education designed to increase awareness for passengers that are in transit from foreign ports into the United States (US) on the importance of protecting agriculture and being truthful on

the US Customs Declaration form, 3) work with the FMD Cross-Species Team to develop biosecurity education for travelers diverted for secondary screening after declaring they have been on a farm or in contact with animals in a foreign animal disease positive nation, and 4) modify the US Customs Declaration form to include language regarding a traveler's proximity to packing and processing plants, live and/or wet markets, research facilities, laboratories, or any other location where there is a likelihood that cross-contamination could occur directly or indirectly between the traveler and animals, fresh animal products, or animal excretions.