



United States Animal Health Association

**2019 Resolution**

123rd Annual Meeting

Oct. 24-30, 2019

Providence, RI

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**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 21    APPROVED**

**SUBJECT MATTER:        Evaluating and Recognizing Compartments**

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

In April 2018 the United States Department of Agriculture’s (USDA), Animal and Plant Health and Inspection Service (APHIS) notified stakeholders that the agency is proposing criteria that will be used to evaluate and recognize livestock compartments in other countries. In this announcement APHIS proposes that the evaluation criteria for compartmentalization will be similar to what the agency already uses for regionalization requests with a few differences. The information gathered from the evaluation of the proposed criteria, combined with site visits from agency personnel, would allow *“APHIS to determine whether the animals within the compartment are managed in a way that keeps them distinct and separate from other animal populations within the country”*.

Prior to China’s report of African swine fever (ASF) in August 2018, the United States (US) pork industry had been heavily engaged in the development of the Secure Pork Supply (SPS) Plan, a business continuity plan for pork producers. The plan incorporates principles specific to compartmentalization and could serve as a mechanism for implementing compartmentalization plans for the pork industry in the event of an outbreak of a foreign animal disease. Since August 2018, the US pork industry has stood up multiple groups that are addressing ASF prevention, response and business continuity. Better understanding of compartmentalization has been a common theme among these groups. An open frank dialogue between industry and federal animal health officials regarding compartmentalization, the proposed criteria, and how compartments are evaluated and recognized would be beneficial.

**RESOLUTION:**

The United States Animal Health Association urges the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services to host a meeting with the United States pork industry and State Animal Health Officials to discuss the proposed criteria that will be used to evaluate and recognize livestock/livestock products compartments domestically and internationally.