

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 22 **Approved**

SOURCE: **COMMITTEE ON SWINE**

SUBJECT MATTER: **Request for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) to Define When Authorization of Indemnity for Depopulation will be Approved by USDA-APHIS-VS During a Foreign Animal Disease Outbreak that Involves African Swine Fever**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Policy development during a foreign animal disease outbreak is difficult. It will require time and input from many stakeholders. During an African swine fever (ASF) outbreak, it is critical to detect and respond quickly to cases of ASF.

Confirmation of cases by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL) is critical to safeguard against a false positive and responding inappropriately. It is important for USDA-APHIS-VS to confirm the presence of ASF in each state or territory.

Confirmation of cases by USDA-APHIS-VS-NVSL does, however, slow down USDA-APHIS-VS authorization of indemnity for depopulation.

Diagnostic testing is conducted at one of the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) laboratories approved for ASF testing and confirmed at the USDA-APHIS-VS-NVSL Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory/USDA-APHIS-VS-NVSL. Confidence in NAHLN comes from the oversight and testing proficiencies required by USDA-APHIS-VS. In addition to NAHLN diagnostic laboratory testing, field responders will provide objective assessments of ASF clinical signs for disease observed during investigations for each affected premises in outbreaks.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) requests that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) adopt the following policy regarding indemnification prior to an outbreak:

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During an African Swine Fever (ASF) outbreak, the USDA-APHIS-VS authorization for indemnity to depopulate the first detected case within a state or territory will require confirmation by the USDA-APHIS-VS National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL). The USDA-APHIS-VS authorization for indemnity to depopulate any subsequent cases in a state or territory will not need to be confirmed by USDA-APHIS-VS-NVSL but will require: 1) ASF non-negative or presumptive positive result at an approved National Animal Health Laboratory Network laboratory, and 2) determination of clinical signs compatible for ASF on the affected premises. Detected cases would include feral and domestic swine.