BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) is a detrimental threat to the farmed cervid populations, especially whitetail deer. The committee encourages the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Research Service (ARS) to develop a vaccine that will protect against all known strains of this disease.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) requests the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Research Service (ARS) initiate research in developing a vaccine that will adequately protect the farmed cervid population from all strains of epizootic hemorrhagic disease (orbiviral hemorrhagic disease).

RESPONSE

USDA, Agriculture Research Service

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) has allocated resources to support EHD research, focusing on understanding the pathogenesis of the disease, at the Arthropod-Borne, Animal Diseases Research Laboratory in Laramie, Wyoming. This research will facilitate the future development of EHD vaccines, however, we do not currently have any projects on EHD vaccination development. As we formulate future budget initiatives, we will consider an expansion of our research in this area.