



## UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

### Resolution

114th Annual Meeting ~ November 11-17, 2010

Minneapolis, MN

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**RESOLUTION NUMBER:** 6, 7, 9, 41, 43 and 46 Combined **APPROVED**

**SOURCE:** USAHA/AAVLD COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL HEALTH  
SURVEILLANCE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS  
USAHA/AAVLD COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE  
COMMITTEE ON INFECTIOUS DISEASES OF CATTLE,  
BISON AND CAMELIDS  
COMMITTEE ON TRANSMISSIBLE DISEASES OF SWINE  
COMMITTEE ON TRANSMISSIBLE DISEASES OF POULTRY  
AND OTHER AVIAN SPECIES  
COMMITTEE ON SHEEP AND GOATS

**SUBJECT MATTER:** UNITED STATES NATIONAL LIST OF REPORTABLE ANIMAL  
DISEASES

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

A National List of Reportable Animal Diseases (NLRAD) will be one uniform, science and policy based, nationally supported standard list of animal diseases. Standard uniform case finding and case reporting criteria will provide the basis for uniform reporting. The list will facilitate national, interstate, and international commerce; assist in meeting international reporting obligations to the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) and trading partners; support generation of export certifications; and contribute to the assessment and reporting of the listed zoonotic and endemic animal diseases in the United States.

In 2006, the United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) and the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD) formally identified the need for a unified national list of reportable animal diseases. USAHA previously recommended that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS), Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health (CEAH) compile and evaluate current state reporting and notification requirements. Although all states have a required reportable diseases list, there is large variability in these lists. Requirements for federal reporting are related only to program diseases or foreign animal diseases.

In 2007, USAHA and AAVLD formally requested that USDA-APHIS-VS, in cooperation with state animal health officials and industry, develop a United States NLRAD. The NLRAD should include appropriate reporting criteria. The USDA-APHIS-VS supported drafting a list of diseases that may be considered national reportable diseases.

In 2008, USAHA and AAVLD requested that USDA-APHIS-VS task the existing National Animal Health Reporting System (NAHRS) subcommittee of the USAHA/AAVLD Committee on Animal Health Surveillance and Information Systems, with support from the USDA-APHIS-VS-CEAH-National Surveillance Unit (NSU), with developing the NLRAD as well as the case definitions and reporting criteria for each disease on the list. The USDA-APHIS-VS supported this request.

From 2008-2010, the NAHRS Steering Committee in conjunction with the NSU has developed a NLRAD overview draft white paper and a proposed NLRAD. The NLRAD white paper describes the NLRAD reporting structure, the standard operating procedures for the approval and maintenance of the NLRAD, and case definitions and reporting criteria development.

**RESOLUTION:**

The United States Animal Health Association requests that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS), after engagement of stakeholders and state animal health officials, finalize a United States National List of Reportable Animal Diseases (NLRAD) and related NLRAD white paper. In addition, once a NLRAD is finalized, USDA-APHIS-VS should initiate the regulatory process to establish and maintain the NLRAD and associated reporting requirements.

**INTERIM RESPONSE:**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services (VS) continues to move forward with developing and implementing a U.S. National List of Reportable Animal Diseases (NLRAD). VS does this in coordination with the National Animal Health Reporting System (NAHRS) subcommittee of the United States Animal Health Association/American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians Joint Committee on Animal Health Information Systems. VS agrees to engage stakeholders and State animal health officials before finalizing the NLRAD and related NLRAD white paper. In addition, once the NLRAD is finalized, VS will initiate the regulatory process to establish and maintain the NLRAD and necessary reporting requirements.

**FINAL RESPONSE:**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) recognizes the concerns of the United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) and appreciates the opportunity to respond.

USDA, APHIS, VS and the National Animal Health Reporting System (NAHRS) subcommittee of the USAHA/American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians Joint Committee on Animal Health Surveillance and Information Systems continue to move forward with implementing a U.S. National List of Reportable Animal Diseases (NLRAD).

Currently, NLRAD is under review by National Association of State Animal Health Officials and VS Area Veterinarians in Charge with comments requested by September 23, 2011. The NLRAD has also been distributed to USAHA animal disease commodity committees with a request for discussion in Buffalo at the USAHA meeting and comments by October 30. After considering the current round of stakeholder comments with concurrence of the NAHRS subcommittee and final approval by VS management, it will be published as a cooperative State-Federal set of guidelines for reportable disease. In addition, once the NLRAD is finalized, VS will initiate the regulatory process to establish and maintain the NLRAD and associated reporting requirements.