



# UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

2013 RESOLUTION

117<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 17-23, 2013 ~ SAN DIEGO, CA

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**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 29 - APPROVED**

**SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON TUBERCULOSIS**

**SUBJECT MATTER: IMPROVING REPORTING AND TRACEABILITY OF TUBERCULOSIS (TB) SUSPECT LESIONS**

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## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Surveillance for bovine tuberculosis (TB) in United States cattle is largely dependent on the efforts of State and Federal meat inspectors to submit TB suspect lesions detected in slaughter cattle to the diagnostic laboratory for evaluation. Success in tracing TB suspect lesions confirmed to be positive to their respective herds of origin is directly related to the quality of identification collected from the animal and submitted with the sample.

At times, TB suspect lesions are submitted without official identification devices, resulting in the inability to successfully trace the sample to the origin herd. Through the collection and reporting of all animal identification devices, the Granuloma Submission Report may improve tracing of TB positive lesions. This effort may serve as a more immediate means of augmenting and prioritizing ID collection at cattle slaughter plants.

## **RESOLUTION:**

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) urges the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services and USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service to improve the collection of animal identification devices and the recording of animal identification device information on the existing Granuloma Submission Report. In addition, USAHA requests that the Granuloma Submission Report be submitted to State Animal Health Officials.

## **INTERIM RESPONSE:**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services (VS) recognizes the concerns of the U.S. Animal Health Association and appreciates the opportunity to respond. VS completed training to standardize data entry for animal ID information for granuloma submissions at the National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL). In addition, NVSL is revising the database structure in a way that specifically identifies whether official animal ID was submitted. VS will continue to work with FSIS to ensure all animal ID is submitted with granulomas. VS will provide a preliminary analysis of animal ID information by slaughter establishment later in fiscal



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year (FY) 2014 to State Animal Health Officials, though a complete analysis is not expected until FY 2015.