



UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Resolution

114th Annual Meeting ~ November 11-17, 2010

Minneapolis, MN

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 30 APPROVED

SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON INFECTIOUS DISEASES OF HORSES

**SUBJECT MATTER: EQUINE PIROPLASMOSIS WORKING GROUP
RECOMMENDATIONS**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In November 2009, the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services established an Equine Piroplasmosis Working Group (EPWG) to study the occurrence of equine piroplasmosis (EP) in the United States and to make recommendations for its management. In February 2010, the EPWG submitted interim recommendations that were implemented in the March 2010 version of VS Memorandum 555.20. The EPWG recently completed a set of long-term recommendations that includes more comprehensive perspectives and recommendations. These additional recommendations on response to domestic EP findings include surveillance, education and outreach, research needs, importation of horses, data gaps and data analysis needs, national perspectives, and the current EP disease status of the United States. A final version of this document was distributed to state and industry representatives for review and comments. The comment period was extended through October 2010.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association urges the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services to consider submitted public comments on the April 2010 Equine Piroplasmosis Working Group Long-Term Recommendations and promptly accept and implement those recommendations.

INTERIM RESPONSE:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services (VS) appreciates the interest of the United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) in addressing equine piroplasmosis (EP) in the United States. VS has reviewed the long-term recommendations for managing EP submitted by the Equine Piroplasmosis Working Group (EPWG). VS is also identifying what resources are available to implement those recommendations in light of immediate and long-term budget uncertainties.

VS will continue to work closely with the EPWG, the membership of the USAHA Infectious Diseases of Horses Committee, and other external stakeholder groups as we determine how best to implement the EPWG's recommendations.

FINAL RESPONSE:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) appreciates the interest of the United States Animal Health

Association (USAHA) in addressing equine piroplasmosis (EP) in the United States.

VS has reviewed the long-term recommendations for managing EP submitted by the Equine Piroplasmosis Working Group (EPWG). VS is also identifying what resources are available to implement those recommendations in light of immediate and long-term budget uncertainties. VS will continue to work closely with the EPWG, the membership of the USAHA Committee on Infectious Diseases of Horses, and other external stakeholder groups as we determine how best to implement the EPWG's recommendations.