

Equine ID Subcommittee Report

April 7, 2004

Amy Mann, Chair
J Amelita Facchiano, Vice Chair

Number of Attendees: 17

Presentations: by Neil Hammerschmidt

- a. Update on Plan – Species Work Groups
- b. Update on USDA vis a vis Animal ID
- c. Update on Legislation affecting animal ID

- d. Equine ID Outside the US – Amy Mann
- e. AHC National Equine ID Task Force – March 18-19, 2004 meeting and that task force's incorporation into the USAIP Equine Work Group.

Handouts: An update: AHC National Equine ID Plan Task Force Report - March 18 and 19, 2004 meeting in Dallas, TX. AHC National Equine ID Task Force overview: Benefits of a National Equine ID Program.

Business Session:

Open Forum discussions included:

- Understanding the AIN numbering system as outlined in the USAIP,
- Privacy / confidentiality issues,
- Federal legislation
- USDA plans to move forward
- Incorporating / interface of existing ID systems together
- Recognition of the 840 + 12 digits in the DFR possibly later this fall and interim rule
- Summarizing what type of ID is in use in the USA today
- Retinal / iris and other biometric methods of ID
- Use of visible mark for those horses with electronic ID
- Implantation application – Vet Practice Act vs. individual owners
- Numbers distributed from the AIN manager need to be controlled / policed via awareness and education as to individual responsibility and
- The ease and benefit of tracking ID thru health certificates

Robert Fordraine, Ph. D., answered questions regarding the actual AIN number and reasons to Not assign any meaning to it as we look to interface existing breed registry systems.

Committee Actions – 3-5 actions items for next steps consideration:

- a. Seek assistance and clarity on understanding the “number” structure as outlined in the USAIP and why that number as a meaningless feature is a benefit to the equine industry and why.
- b. ID devise standards – provide question / answers regarding technologies in use today to the industry.
- c. Appreciate USAIP as the umbrella for which AHC, NIAA and USAHA equine ID committees can work seamlessly together w/o duplication of efforts.
- d. Provide draft of USAIP Equine Work Group report for the May ID / Expo.