

## Swine Committee Report

2009 NIAA Annual Meeting

Tuesday, March 31, 2009



The Swine Health Committee met on Tuesday, March 31, 2009 from 1:30 pm to 5:00 pm EDT, during the 2009 NIAA Annual Meeting in Louisville, Kentucky with 32 people present. Dr. Harry Snelson served as the Vice Chair.

### The following speakers presented relevant information:

**Sherrie Niekamp, National Pork Board**, presented “Swine Euthanasia Guidelines.” The National Pork Board’s Welfare committee and the AASV Pig Welfare committee collaborated to review and revise the Euthanasia Guidelines for Producers. The guidelines were originally produced in 1999 and revisions were based on a systematic literature review funded by the AASV Foundation and conducted at Iowa State University. The lit review found 4500 articles, of which 70 were deemed relevant. The guidelines are not considered all-inclusive and do not cover mass euthanasia. The guidelines established the fundamentals of effective euthanasia methods as: 1) minimal pain/distress, 2) rapid loss of consciousness, and 3) death is achieved quickly and consistently. The key changes in the revised guidelines include: 1) addition of non-penetrating captive bolt, 2) limiting electrocution to animals > 10 lbs. and 3) establishing a side position for gunshot (behind the ear).

**Liz Wagstrom, National Pork Board**, presented “Surveillance of Swine Influenza in Pig and Human Populations.” The SIV surveillance program exists through USDA using CDC funding. NPB and AASV are collaborating. The objective is to: 1) detect changes in SIV genome, 2) look at the epidemiology related to genomic sequences and 3) identify isolates to share with public health. Unusual or untypeable isolates are eligible for submission as are human SIV isolates. Investigation of human infection with SIV may or may not involve on-farm sample collection.

**Liz Wagstrom, National Pork Board**, presented “MRSA and the Swine Herd.” Methicillin Resistant Staph Aureus are found as part of the normal flora of many species including humans. Historically this is considered a nosocomial infection from association with hospital stays. Now it’s also found in community-acquired situations. A new clone, ST398, has recently been detected in animals (horses, pets, livestock, etc). Studies have found the presence of this clone in humans associated with swine in Europe, Canada and the US. This clone appears to be less virulent. There is no evidence that swine producers/veterinarians are at any increased risk of developing clinical disease.

**Dr. Patrick Webb, National Pork Board**, presented “Swine ID Plan Update.” The Swine ID Plan is built on existing animal identification programs in effect in the swine industry. It has 3 components: 1) premises registration, 2) animal identification, and 3) animal movement tracing. Currently, approximately 80% of swine facilities have a premises identification number. Markets, shows, and fairs are beginning to require premises identification at presentation.

**Dr. Patrick Webb, National Pork Board**, presented “Pork Industry’s Efforts in FAD Response Capabilities.” Exports are critical to the swine industry:

- 1986 – exported 0.61% of production which contributed \$1.97/head marketed domestically
- 2007 – exported 16% of production which contributed \$28.91/head marketed domestically
- 2008 – exported 24% of production which contributed \$42.31/head marketed domestically

Premises identification numbers are critical to enhance the speed at which animal health officials can respond to an animal health emergency.

**Dr. Troy Bigelow, USDA/APHIS/VS,** presented “USDA Swine Health Program Updates.”

*PRV*: In FY08, 6 transitional herds identified (3 in TX, 3 in FL (2 dually infected with SB)). Surveillance plan: Decreasing funds will be available to states other than Kansas and Kentucky for surveillance testing. Testing is declining to 5%, and all tests are going to be conducted at USDA labs in KS & KY. States can do additional testing at their own cost. Other cooperative agreements with states are being dropped to redirect funding. NAHLN labs can submit case compatible samples for testing and herds with confirmed exposure to feral swine are eligible.

The *Trichinae certification program* has been finalized. It’s a voluntary certification program.

A *FMD surveillance program* has been developed by NSU.

The number of *garbage feeding inspections* increased in FY08. Also, the number of garbage feeding facilities has increased since FY07.

Progress continues on the *HACCP* plan to replace program standards. The program has been renamed *Swine Disease Analysis Program (SDAP)*.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

- No new resolutions were accepted.
- Two existing resolutions were amended or revised.
- No resolutions were removed.

**Committee Session adjourned at 5:04 pm EDT.**