

**Bovine  
Committee Report**

**2011 NIAA Annual Conference**

**Tuesday, April 12, 2011**



The Bovine Committee met on Tuesday, April 12, 2011 from 10:30 pm to 12:30 pm during the 2011 NIAA Annual Conference in San Antonio, Texas with 49 people present. Dr. Karen Jordan served as Chair with Mr. Nathan Jaeger as Vice Chair.

The committee session focused on FMD response plans, screening tools and bio-security challenges of FMD for animal agriculture. The following speakers presented relevant information pertaining to FMD and bovine:

**Dr. Pam Hullinger, DVM, MPVM, DACVPM, Dept of Veterinary Medicine and Epidemiology, UC - Davis,** presented “The National Secure Milk Supply Project and the California Bulk Milk Tank Sampling Strategy.” A system like NSMSP could be very applicable to other potential disease threats like FMD. Understanding where a disease is not may be more valuable than identifying where it is. A Bulk Milk Tank Sampling Strategy could also apply to FMD control. However, a test is only the beginning of a successful control strategy; communicating the test results to control commanders is the real challenge. Understanding milk-sheds and interstate movement of fluid milk will be vital as well.

**Dr. Tammy Beckham, DVM, Ph.D., Director, National Center for Foreign Animal and Zoonotic Disease Defense,** presented “Protecting Agriculture Infrastructure: Defining the needs and requirements for agriculture screening tools”. The time to identify an FAD is directly proportional to the economic impact on a segment of animal agriculture. The FAZD has conducted two workshops to develop new rapid result screening tools for FADs. FMD is the model the FAZD is using for developing tools of other high consequence disease outbreaks. Pen side tests are not currently sensitive enough to rule out a disease. Serological assays must be rapid and high volume, a difficult combination for an accurate result. Dual purpose assays (testing of high consequence diseases with everyday surveillance) are being considered. The take home message is that NAHLM’s is a very robust system but still has gaps that need to be addressed when using screening tools for FAD to ensure business continuity.

**Lieutenant Cornel Jerrod Killian, DVM,** presented “Foot and Mouth Disease: Challenges from a military perspective.” The economic impact of FMD in the US is estimated to be in the billions for both direct and indirect costs. The role the military plays with the Veterinary Corps of Officers is to provide logistical support in the event of an outbreak.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

- One resolution was reaffirmed.
  - Managing the Risk of Brucellosis Transmission from Bison and Elk to Cattle in the Greater Yellowstone Area (GYA)
    - Dr. Jamie Jonker made a motion to reaffirm this policy. Mr. Jon Johnson offered the second. The motion passed via voice vote.

**General Discussion:** Chairman Jordan asked for other new business and/or suggestions and comments for the committee. Four action items were requested. One education and three solution items are detailed below to help the committee achieve its goals.

- Education
  - One member suggested that NIAA spearhead a national gap analysis of an FMD response plan. The analysis should focus on regional cooperation of data sharing and multi-state communications.
- Solutions
  - One member suggested that future NIAA meetings include other industry stakeholders such as retailers, distributors and certain NGOs. An example that demonstrates the benefit of this expanded audience could be greater acceptance of products from animals that could be FMD vaccinated “to live.”
  - One member suggested that movement control of bovines be addressed in future NIAA meetings in the event of an FMD (or FAD for that matter) outbreak.
  - One member suggested that a future topic for an NIAA Annual Conference revolve around judicious use of antibiotics and antimicrobials.

**Committee Session adjourned at 12:30 pm.**