

**Animal Health and International Trade
Committee Report**

2006 Mid-Year Report

August 24, 2006



Chair: Dr. Valerie Ragan

Vice Chair: Dave Harlan

There is a new Chair for this committee, who has been in place for less than a month, so there is no new activity to report for this committee at this time.

However, it is anticipated that the mission of the committee will be revisited and affirmed or modified. The mission of this committee currently is to "Identify current problems with national and international trade by cross-disciplinary discussion between Government, Academia, and Industry and recommend solutions through the novel application of information, communication, and technology."

There are many current issues of significance which may impact the activities of this committee. They include:

- The global concern and multi-national activities related to H5N1 Avian Influenza
- The BSE situation in Canada and the pending minimal-risk rule
- OIE's move towards basing disease status of a country on risk and risk mitigation as opposed to numbers of cases disclosed.
- The collapse of the Doha trade negotiations.

We anticipate having speakers to address some or all of these topics and their impacts on trade at the NIAA annual meeting.