

**Cattle Health  
Committee Report**

**2006 Mid-Year Report**

**August 24, 2006**



**Chair: Karen Jordan**  
**Vice Chair: Perry Mobley**

Issues within the cattle industry:

The efforts of the BVD Working Group that have been meeting each year at the National Cattlemen's and Beef Association are growing. There is now some discussion of possibly starting a control program for the control/eradication of BVD.

Momentum continues from the efforts of the Business Continuity symposium held last April. Dr. Jimmy Tickel of North Carolina Department of Agriculture is working toward a national meeting. FMD would be the disease with key livestock states (dairy, and pork producing states) working through an outbreak with business continuity as the goal. Hopefully this will occur in the early part of 2007.

In North Carolina a milk tanker truck decontamination exercise was held at a milk plant. Attending were representatives from the State Department of Water Quality, people from the local water treatment plant, and those in charge of storm sewer runoff. This was a simple approach, but yet gave way to many questions. A very effective 75 feet catch mat was used to contain the washing solutions. After the solution was neutralized a sump pump was used to empty the catch mat. After dirt was pressure washed from the truck a foamer was used to apply the disinfectant, however, most farms don't have a foamer sitting around. The company that made the foamer has now made a portable foamer that can ride with the truck for about \$500 and works with the air system of the truck. The product used to decon the tanker was a peroxy acetic acid. The concerns that this product prompted was the cost of the acid and would this product be readily available. (Citric acid would be preferred by those doing the exercise.) The tanker decon exercise occurred in April. In June North Carolina hosted EPA and USDA officials to tour a dairy, poultry and hog farm in order to see first hand the challenges with decon of large trucks on the farm. USDA was encouraged to consider the use of citric acid for decon as it is more readily available. There has continued to be some conversation on this topic between the officials in Washington (USDA and EPA) and the members of the NC Dairy Biosecurity committee that are pursuing effective decon of large trucks.