

2011-2012 NIAA Resolutions

Swine

Mission: To develop a comprehensive swine health agenda that includes regulatory animal health, animal welfare, biosecurity and food safety assurance.

Funding for Infectious Disease Research and Field Studies

BACKGROUND: Due to the increased risk of foreign animal disease introduction and heightened awareness of potential emerging swine pathogens, the National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA) is concerned about maintaining balanced funding by Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for infectious animal disease research, particularly for field-based epidemiological studies at the farm level and applied research.

RESOLUTION: The NIAA requests that DHS and USDA direct increased funding for epidemiological field studies and applied research that adequately serve the swine industry, and that industry priorities, as identified by the National Pork Board Swine Health Committee, continue to be considered in the allocation of funds and projects.

Adopted: 2000 | Amended: 2002 | Amended: 2003 | Amended: 2004 | Reaffirmed: 2009

Swine Health Protection Act Enforcement

BACKGROUND: The risk of foreign animal disease introduction into the United States (U.S.) has increased due to recent global disease outbreaks. One potential route of entry for foreign animal diseases is the feeding of uncooked meat products to pigs.

RESOLUTION: In the high-risk global environment of foreign animal disease, the National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA) urges the U.S. Department of Agriculture to continue vigilant enforcement of the current law and inspections of all garbage feeding operations in the U.S. and provide an annual report to the NIAA.

Adopted: 2001 | Amended: 2003 | Amended: 2004 | Reaffirmed: 2009

Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS) Research Need

BACKGROUND: PRRS is endemic in all major swine production regions in the United States (U.S.). Due to the ability of the PRRS virus to mutate and the lack of heterologous antigen/antibody protection, current biologics are marginally efficacious.

PRRS is indisputably the most economically important infectious disease affecting the U.S. pork industry. Today there is a relatively small amount of funding, public and private, available for research on the prevention and control of PRRS. This lack of funding and ongoing research is due to this disease being relatively new, along with restrictive patents and no mandatory control program.

RESOLUTION: The National Institute of Animal Agriculture (NIAA) requests that the U.S. Department of Agriculture continue expansion of program funding for basic research, applied research, field studies, control and elimination plans, and national prevalence studies for PRRS.

Adopted: 2003 | Amended: 2004 | Amended: 2005 | Amended: 2009

Swine Health Protection Act Support – Commercial Waste Processing Methods

BACKGROUND: Current regulations that cover the Swine Health Protection Act do not recognize commercial manufacturing methods now used for processing and cooking methods used by the food industry to produce human food products that also could be available for feeding to pigs with limited or no further cooking. Current regulations do not allow for alternative cooking methods for food waste that effectively kill foreign animal disease (FAD) organisms.

RESOLUTION: The National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA) encourages United States Department of Agriculture/Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service/Veterinary Service (USDA/APHIS/VS) to propose changes to 9 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 166, related to the Swine Health Protection Act, to recognize commercial food waste processing methods that effectively kill potential animal disease organisms and allow for alternative cooking methods that effectively kill infectious disease agents; while fully protecting the health of the U.S. herd from possible FAD introduction via food waste feeding. CFR language must in no way compromise the safety of the treatment process; all proposed alternate processing must be scientifically proven to consistently and effectively kill all pertinent disease organisms.

Adopted: 2004 | Reaffirmed: 2009

Marine Act of 1920 (Jones Act) Exemption

BACKGROUND: The Marine Act of 1920 established, for security and protection of the maritime industries, a regulation that prevents a foreign flagship from loading and unloading in a United States (U.S.) port. However, it may load at any port in the world and unload at any U.S. port. Thus, over time, this legislation has resulted in a substantial reduction in the number of U.S. flagships because of competition with foreign operated ships. Therefore, U.S. rates are NOT competitive, and free trade of U.S. products is prevented, and imports are encouraged. Examples include U.S. feeder cattle produced in Hawaii that have to be shipped through Canada to make feedlots in the U.S.

RESOLUTION: The National Institute for Animal Agriculture supports an agricultural exemption of the Marine Act of 1920 that would eliminate the inequities so created by the Act and requests its staff and membership to join with National Pork Producers Council and other interests and organizations that also seek out such an amendment.

Adopted: 2004 | Reaffirmed: 2009

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Comprehensive National Surveillance Plan for Swine Diseases

BACKGROUND: Implementation of a comprehensive national surveillance plan for swine diseases is critical to maintenance of United States (U.S.) free status and early detection in case of introduction or re-emergence.

RESOLUTION: The National Institute for Animal Agriculture requests the U.S. Department of Agriculture/Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service/Veterinary Services (USDA/APHIS/VS) immediately take the following actions concerning surveillance for swine diseases.

1. Evaluate and redesign surveillance programs for pseudorabies, swine brucellosis and other diseases identified by the National Pork Board's Swine Health Committee, with the goal of evolving the programs into a comprehensive swine surveillance program based on risk assessments.
2. Assign staff to be responsible for program analysis and implementation.
3. Coordinate work between the National Surveillance Unit and Animal Health Programs staff.
4. Reassign pseudorabies funding and secure additional funding to better implement these ongoing surveillance efforts.

Adopted: 2005 | Amended: 2006 | Amended: 2008

Free Ranging Species Research

BACKGROUND: There has been a marked lack of funding for researching methods to prevent, control, manage and eliminate disease processes in free ranging species occurring as a result of natural exposure and/or introduction by a bioterrorist.

RESOLUTION: The National Institute for Animal Agriculture urges Congress to allocate additional funds and resources to United States Department of Agriculture/Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and other cooperating governmental entities necessary to develop effective procedures and products for use in brucellosis elimination from elk, bison, feral/wild swine populations and reindeer.

Adopted: 2000 | Amended: 2003 | Reaffirmed: 2009

Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) (now referred to as Swine Disease Analysis Program SDAP) for Pseudorabies Virus (PRV) and Swine Brucellosis (SB) Program Standards

BACKGROUND: The United States (U.S.) pork industry has worked cooperatively with the U.S. Department of Agriculture/Animal Plant Health Inspection Service/Veterinary Services (USDA/APHIS/VS) Swine Health Programs (SHP) to explore the use of HACCP principles as a methodology to develop and maintain flexible, simple and effective disease programs for the swine industry. The industry supports the utilization of HACCP principles to define SDAP standards for the control of PRV and SB in the commercial swine compartment.

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RESOLUTION: The National Institute for Animal Agriculture urges the USDA/APHIS/VS SHP to continue to work with industry to adapt and implement the HACCP principles to define SDAP standards for the PRV and SB Programs.

Adopted: 2008 | Amended: 2009