

ED Report

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Action Items from October 3 & 18, 2017, Board Meeting

- Proposed by-law amendments were drafted for the October 18th meeting, and a final draft prepared for the AGM package.
- 'List B' applications were submitted to VDD following stakeholder consultations.
- Comments on the traceability CBA assumptions were drafted and remitted in advance of the October deadline.
- Approved financial statements were finalized, signed and distributed with the AGM package.

CSIP / Traceability

- The Regulatory Implementation Committee met in October, continuing with its workplan. The meeting saw discussion about traceability communications strategies, a revised draft National Livestock Manifest and an implementation tracking tool.
- The IGAC Management Group met in October for an update from RIC, and some discussions on the Group's structure and next steps.

Scrapie Eradication Strategic Plan (Claire Knubley)

- Scrapie Canada Website
 - Each webpage of the French version of the website is being reviewed and examined in order to identify and revise any inconsistencies in translation.
 - All external website links are undergoing inspection to examine link viability (if current or not, bring up to date and revising as needed).
- Stakeholder Engagement

For Broad Distribution

- Multiple communication pieces are in development, primarily targeting producers with a focus on topics such as the Voluntary Scrapie Flock Certification Program, myths and misconceptions regarding scrapie, and practical measures to avoid contracting scrapie within their own flock or herd. Articles and features to be disseminated via print copy periodicals, as well as online publications.
- Advertising
 - Advertising space was purchased in three publications; two targeting veterinarians, one directed towards producers.
 - Three new advertisements have been commissioned; two highlighting the Voluntary Scrapie Flock Certification Program, and one highlighting the Scrapie Project itself.
- The CSF and CFIA received notification from the USDA that the scrapie “Rule” (the policy that would allow for the export of live animals for breeding purposes to the U.S.) is “steadily continuing the progression through the regulatory process. The USDA is initiating the process of evaluating export country Scrapie Flock Certification programs to potentially have these in place for imports to commence as soon as possible once the rule is finalized”. The CSF is working with the CFIA on the VSFCP evaluation which will assess the Program’s ability to meet the following sections of the draft new Rule:
 - § 93.404 (B) For sheep and goats from countries not free from classical scrapie, the importer must provide documentation that the animal has reached and maintained certified status in a Scrapie Flock Certification program that has been determined by the Administrator to provide equivalent risk reduction as the Export Category of the U.S. Scrapie Flock Certification Program. The documentation must specify the address, or other means of identification, of the premises and flock of birth, and any other flock(s) in which the animals have resided. And,
 - § 93.405 (b) Sheep and goats. (2) The certificate accompanying sheep or goats from any part of the world, except as provided in paragraph (b)(4) of this section for sheep or goats imported for immediate slaughter, and in paragraph (b)(5) of this section for sheep or goats for restricted feeding for slaughter, must also state: (i) That the sheep or goats originated from a country recognized as free of classical scrapie by APHIS; or that the animals have reached and maintained certified status in a scrapie flock certification program approved by APHIS; (c) Sheep and goats imported for restricted feeding for slaughter. (1) Sheep and goats for restricted feeding for slaughter purposes may only be imported into the United States from countries or regions that are have been determined to be free of classical scrapie by APHIS, or that have scrapie awareness, surveillance, and control programs that have been evaluated and determined by APHIS to be effective.
- The CSF was notified that as a result of further trace-outs from an ongoing scrapie disease investigation of a heavily infected goat herd, CFIA confirmed scrapie in two additional goat herds both on October 4. One herd is located in Manitoba and one is located in Alberta. Disease control procedures required for classical scrapie are being implemented by the CFIA on these farms.
- Eight (8) sheep flocks and/or goat herds have been confirmed to be infected with classical scrapie in Canada in 2017; 6 goat farms in Manitoba, 1 goat farm in Alberta and 1 sheep farm in Saskatchewan.

Canadian Verified Sheep Program (Kristy House)

- The main focus in October and November is the development of auditor training materials, and making the arrangements for the auditor training sessions that will be taking place in Newfoundland and Nova Scotia this coming November.
- The auditor training handbook is being revised to reflect the changes that have been made to food safety chapter, as well as adding the information needed to adequately audit the animal care and biosecurity chapters. Some changes have been made to the layout of the handbook, including adding comments sections to each area of the product on how to properly assess compliance, and when what would trigger a Corrective action in certain areas of production. The handbook will not also include an appendices section to better help auditors during an audit.
- The auditor training slide show is now in the proofreading and editing stages of development. The slide show highlights all the areas of production and what auditors should be looking for when assessing on farm. Resources within in the slide show include lameness videos, body condition scoring examples, as well as template biosecurity farm diagrams.
- A communication piece was developed to notify producers who are currently certified on the food safe farm practices program of the changes that have been made to the program. The communication piece outlines the process for implementation of the changes to the food safety chapter, as well as implementation options for the new animal care and biosecurity chapters. The piece was mailed to all certified producers mid-month.
- The summary and meeting minutes of the Canadian Quality Assurance Program Alliance (CQAPA) was circulated to the group, and the group members continue to put forward their comments on the proposed project work plan.
- Presentations about the CVSP as well as the CQAPA were developed in preparation for the Sheep Value Round table.

Sheep Value Chain Round Table

- The VCRT Steering Committee met in October to prepare a draft agenda for the upcoming in-person meeting planned for November 9th & 10th in Ottawa.

Sustainability Committee

Other Updates

- The CSF AGM is scheduled for Thursday November 9th, to take place at Arc the Hotel in Ottawa beginning at 6pm Eastern. The AGM is open to observers.

For Broad Distribution

- The CSF hosted an industry stakeholder meeting to consult on Health Canada's 'List B' consultation. The process would look for applications for vet drugs to List B, a list of products that Canadian producers would continue to be able to import for their own use following November 13th changes to *Own Use Import* regulations. The group identified a number of products for which applications should be filed. The CSF, in turn, submitted applications for identified products. Health Canada and the Veterinary Drug Directorate will notify stakeholders of the approved applications in early November.
- The Pest Management Regulatory Agency released a proposed re-evaluation decision on permethrin and its associated end-use products. Consultation on the proposed re-evaluation will continue until January 16, 2018. As a requirement for the continued registration of permethrin, new risk-reduction measures are proposed for certain commercial-class end-use products registered in Canada. Additionally, the following uses are proposed for cancellation due to lack of data to assess their risks to human health:
 - Use in mushroom houses
 - Application using foggers and hand-held mist sprayers/blowers
 - Application of domestic-class products using foggers, hand-held mist sprayers/blowers

There are currently over 400 registered permethrin-based products in Canada, used primarily for flea, tick and insect control. These changes would affect if and how sheep farms are permitted to use many common insecticides in barns and on livestock.

- The CSF worked with Health Canada and the Veterinary Drug Directorate to complete applications for 'List B'. Veterinary drugs making it onto 'List B' will remain available to sheep farmers and ranchers to import for use in their own operations. Changes to OUI (Own Use Import) regulations for veterinary drugs are scheduled to come into force November 13th, and are part of the sweeping changes being made at very federal government agencies to address efforts at mitigating and controlling antimicrobial resistance in animal and human health. For more information about these changes, visit the Government of Canada website: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/antibiotic-antimicrobial-resistance/animals.html>
- As a representative of the Food Sector Network, the CSF took part in the Multi-Sector Network meeting in Ottawa. Presenters included C5 (Canada, U.S. U.K, New Zealand and Australia), speaking about best practices in maintaining, protecting and managing critical infrastructure. The Canadian Food Sector Network draws on these practices as it discusses managing resiliency in Canadian agriculture and food production. Practically, the group works on strategies for protecting sectors in emergencies ranging from natural disasters and disease outbreaks, to managing the results of malicious actors.

This month's meetings

- Regulatory Implementation Committee
- Industry-Government Advisory Committee on Traceability (IGAC) Management Group
- CSF Board of Directors Conference Call

For Broad Distribution

- Veterinary Drug Directorate
- Value Chain Round Table Steering Committee
- National Plant and Animal Health Strategy Steering Committee
- Value Chain Round Table/MSA Conference call
- Manitoba Cervid Alliance presentation
- Pest Management Residue Agency
- CSF Board of Directors conference call
- Veterinary Drug Directorate
- Health Canada
- Multi-Sector Network
- IGAC Management Group