Animal Disease Traceability (ADT)

Regional Outreach Meetings
Breakout Groups - Discussion Topics

Group 1: Primary discussion area: Official identification – When is ID needed?

Discuss official identification of cattle and bison including, identification of issues that are working well in the current traceability framework and what areas need to be altered to improve its workability and/or improve traceability. Key points of interest include:

- What are the most significant challenges regarding official identification of cattle and bison in the current framework?
- When should official identification occur, or what events triggers the animals to be official identified (current framework covers animals that move interstate).
- To what location or premises should the official identification reflect?

Additional items to consider for discussion:

- How well are tagging sites working? Do they need to be maintained as an option in the future? If so, are there options to improve on tagging site practices, processes, etc.?
- Are there any ages, classes, etc. of cattle and bison or certain movements that should be exempt from the official ID requirement?
- What aspects of official identification cause enforcement challenges or conflicts?
- We have two primary animal number systems for cattle and bison (National Uniform Eartagging System (NUES) and Animal Identification Number (AIN)). Is this problematic or is it an asset to have both?

Second discussion area if time permits:
- ☐ Overall traceability goals and objectives?
- ☐ Other if preferred by group _____

Other discussion areas if time permits (select the topics of most interest):
- ☐ Movement documents
- ☐ Official Identification of beef feeder cattle
- ☐ Other _____

Group 2: Primary discussion area: Movement documents

Discuss movement documents including, Interstate Certificates of Inspection (ICVI), Owner Shipper Statements (OSS), Brand certificates, etc. and how to acquire good movement information while maintaining a practical and cost effective system.

- What information needs to be captured and maintained on cattle and bison movement documents?
- What types of movement documents effectively support disease traceability? What movement documents are most practical for the entire industry (cattle and bison producers/owners, buyers, markets, accredited veterinarians, truckers, State/Federal animal health official etc.)?
- When should cattle and bison move on an ICVI? What events/activities should trigger the ICVI requirement?
- When could cattle and bison move on a document other than an ICVI?
- How should we address the ship to destination when that is unknown when the ICVI is prepared?
- How can we increase the value of OSS relative to traceability?
- How can electronic ICVIs benefit the producers, Accredited Veterinarians, Animal Health Officials? What opportunities should be considered to advance their utilization?

Second discussion area:
- ☐ Official Identification of beef feeder cattle
- ☐ Other if preferred by group _____

Other discussion area if time permits (select the topics of most interest):
- ☐ Official Identification – when is ID needed?
- ☐ Overall traceability goals and objectives
- ☐ Other _____

Group 3: Primary discussion area: Overall traceability goals, objectives and obstacles

Discuss traceability goals and objectives for the future. The current ADT framework provides a "book-end" like system for all dairy and adult beef cattle. Should we maintain this basic type of system or are there other approaches that advance traceability that should be considered in the future? Also, identify the most significant obstacles that might limit our ability to reach those goals.

- What level of traceability should ADT achieve in the long-term for disease control and response?
- What level of traceability should be targeted in the next or short-term phase of ADT?
- What are the primary obstacles, including producer concerns, associated with traceability?
- What level of traceability is needed to support international trade opportunities?
- How can the United States meet future international traceability demands? What should the focus or objective of ADT be in regards to supporting international marketing opportunities?
- What methods of official identification are necessary to achieve short and long-term ADT objectives?
- How can RFID technology be utilized most effectively to advance traceability?
- What percent of the cattle and bison will need to be identified with RFID technology in order to obtain the potential efficiencies of the technology?
- If RFID is to be considered as a future solution, how could the United States cattle and bison industry move towards the objective of having a fully integrated system?

Second discussion area:
- ☐ Official Identification – when is ID needed
- ☐ Other if preferred by group _____

Other discussion area if time permits (select the topics of most interest):
- ☐ Official identification of beef feeder cattle
- ☐ Movement documents
- ☐ Other _____

Group 4: Primary discussion area: Official identification of beef feeder cattle

Discuss the official identification of beef feeder cattle and possible approaches and practices that need to be considered before this sector of the industry is included in the official ID requirement. How should we handle the official identification of this sector in the next phase of ADT?

- Should beef feeder cattle be officially identified in the future?
- Are there areas of ADT that are a higher priority to address before being concerned about the identification of beef feeders?
- Are there aspects of ADT that need to be addressed that will make the identification of beef feeder cattle more doable/practical?
- What are the most significant challenges of official ID requirements included beef feeder cattle?
- What issues of concern exist today by not including this sector of the industry in the official ID requirement? What are the potential issues in the future?
- If official identification of beef feeder cattle is incorporated in ADT, what is a realistic and practical target date for making this transition?

Second discussion area if time permits:
☐ Movement documents
☐ Other if preferred by group _____

Other discussion area if time permits (select the topics of most interest)
☐   Official Identification – when is ID needed
☐   Overall traceability goals and objectives – what level of traceability is appropriate?
☐   Other _____