ADVANCING ANIMAL DISEASE TRACEABILITY ROAD MAP FOR UTAH 2019

A Three-Year Plan

Submitted by:

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Animal Industry Division Animal Health Program in the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food has continued to advance a more modern animal disease traceability system with multiple components and approaches. Measurable progress has been achieved in federal premises numbers assigned for a large number of livestock and poultry premises throughout Utah. To this date that number has reached > 15,440 premises. A number of RFID 840 tags were issued to veterinarians and producers over the past few years and we continue to "seed" accredited veterinarians with OCV and official RFID ear tags for their practices and producers they serve. We have also distributed a number of UHF official individual animal identification tags. In several of these situations, we have mandated official individual identification in herds that have lost grazing leases in Utah and must commute their cattle to states that require brucellosis vaccination. For a variety of reasons, these animals were never calfhood vaccinated and we adult vaccinated them by having them prescribe to a mandatory program using UHF ear tags as official identification. We currently have many accredited veterinarians that routinely use official RFID ear tags in producer cattle.

In 2013 we put out a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a comprehensive software program that could accept electronic health certificates, electronic lab data, allow UDAF employees to issue electronic Brand Inspection certificates, work with our elk program, allow electronic import permits, track issued tags, and a variety of other functions. Computer Aid, Inc./USAHERDS won the bid and the system was installed and went live in November 2014. Since this implementation, we have continually upgraded this system's capabilities and are active members of the USAHERDS User Group that meets routinely to ensure the best possible use of this system.

We have, and will continue to, purchase RFID wands to provide for our market veterinarians, brand inspectors, and private veterinarians who are on the leading edge of using RFID tags. We successfully applied for grant money from our department of emergency management to purchase RFID tags to provide at no cost to the producers and/or veterinarians initially, and continue to "seed" veterinary practices around the State of Utah with RFID ear tags and instructions on their applications and use.

In February 2015 we hired a data entry specialist to begin entering data into the USAHERDS system including Brucellosis vaccinations and testing, TB testing, disease incident data, as well as individual animal IDs from CVIs. A considerable amount of data entry has been performed over the past few years, including keeping up with the current workload in most areas and eliminating the backlog of files waiting input. We now have, in addition to this Office Technician I, an Office Specialist II and a Business Analyst that manage the USAHERDS software. USAHERDS has become our "go to" software program for traceability and is an invaluable tool for our state animal traceability efforts.

We have installed a UHF RFID system at one of our larger livestock markets as well as a large private ranch in the spring of 2016 to evaluate the efficiency of this system. This will allow the market veterinarian to more easily and accurately list individual IDs on CVIs on animals leaving the market for other states.

II. CURRENT TRACEABILITY SITUATION

2.1   Who are we?
The Animal Industry Division (Division) Animal Health Program (Program) in the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (Department) has the responsibility to implement any animal disease traceability system for the State of Utah. The livestock producers and veterinary practitioners in the State of Utah are our primary constituents and our external constituents are the national livestock industry as well as USDA, APHIS, Veterinary Services and consumer groups.

Our jurisdiction includes the boundaries of the State of Utah excluding the tribal lands of the Ute, Navajo, Goshute, and Piute nations. With the exception of the Deep Creek Goshute and Navajo tribal lands, all tribal lands are within the borders of the state.

All traceability data is used internally by the Division to aid in disease investigations. Data is shared with USDA APHIS Veterinary Services as needed.

Insuring the privacy of data collected has to be the primary goal in the animal disease traceability system. The information collected should be accurate and free from duplication. It is essential that the system has the capability to be rapidly updated and that information extraction is user friendly.

Future needs revolve around the ability to transfer data in its various forms from software and paper sources seamlessly into USAHERDS in useable data sets. Also we have implemented a robust geographical information system to geocode, plot and develop interactive maps for our premises data. We now use these interactive maps to plot disease outbreaks such as West Nile Virus, trichomoniasis and virulent Newcastle's disease.

2.2   Where are we now?
Currently, the animal disease traceability system in Utah includes a significant increase in electronic Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (eCVI) that have been generated by Utah accredited veterinarians and by other states veterinarians importing into Utah. We have the capability to capture most electronically generated data into our USAHERDS system.

This can be done completely electronically when we receive eICVIs with data elements using XML format or other recognized schema; otherwise it needs to be transcribed into the system.

Electronic CVI's		
Vendor	Export eCVI's	eCVI Vets
AgView	742	133
GVL	3985	602
mCVI	1081	191
VetSentry	20	8
via USAHERDS Online Permits	667	48
		982

Total eCVI Vets

We have been sending copies of CVIs to other states electronically for some time. Other states have migrated to electronic CVI transfer into our State instead of paper copies. We have set up a special e-mail address to streamline and expedite that process on our end that is sent to other states that have adopted that method of transfer.

2.3   Strengths and Weaknesses

Strengths: We have a large number of premises IDs issued.

Cooperative Agreement 2018
UDAF Animal Health Statistics

Federal Premises	
Total	16344
With Federal ID's	11403

USAHERDS will allow us to continue to issue premises IDs and we will use the Data Management Center (DMC) to obtain premises IDs when USAHERDS cannot verify/validate addresses. Utah has ADT code and rules in place. Title 4 Chapter 31 Section 118 gives UDAF authority to make state rules to be compliant with federal ADT rules. It also gives UDAF authority to enforce ADT rules. R58-1-3 outlines the department ADT rules.

We successfully applied for and received a one-time grant ($10,000) from our division of emergency management to purchase electronic ID for distribution at no cost to veterinarians. Most of these tags have been distributed with the exception of some specialized UHF tags. We have also successfully applied for and received funding ($10,000) from the same division to fund exercises revolving around the identification and testing of wild and tribal horses being gathered from private and reservation lands. The initial grant allowed us to test over 700 horses with identification captured on equine infectious anemia test forms for these animals. This grant was extended the following year with additional funding ($11,000) to test 535 more horses in the southern portion of the State including tribal horses. These test results were sent to USDA APHIS VS equine epidemiology representatives.

We wrote adult brucellosis vaccination plans for three livestock owners to vaccinate and move their herds by commuter permit to Idaho who had lost their grazing leases in Utah. These herd owners, for various reasons, had not calfhood vaccinated their breeding animals. Two of the provisions in the plan require the owners to calfhood vaccinate and apply permanent

identification to all of their calves from this point onward as well as apply UHF permanent 840 tags to the adult vaccinates. These will serve as the models for future requests for adult herd vaccinations.

Weaknesses: Long term funding: Utah is relying nearly100% on federal funding to run our ADT program. We did receive three one-time grants from our emergency management division as mentioned above.

We are still receiving limited opposition from livestock owners and a few occasional points of contention from livestock market owners in regards to the ADT rules. We put together a working group in an attempt to get more industry cooperation.   While consensus was reached with the working group, as is sometimes the case, once the information reached a broader audience it received increased criticism.   USDA/APHIS/VS personnel are assisted division employees in getting livestock markets signed up to be tagging distribution sites. We currently have all 5 of our livestock markets signed up as tagging sites.

2.4   Inventory of existing infrastructure and suitability assessment

The Animal Industry Division has six components:
- Meat and Poultry Inspection Program
- Livestock Identification Bureau
- Animal Health Program
- Domesticated Elk Program
- Fish Health (Aquaculture) Program
- Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratories

III.   VISION AND MISSION CONTEXT FOR ADVANCING TRACEABILITY

3.1   Vision Statement
The Animal Health Program in the Animal Industry Division, Department of Agriculture and Food, is committed to reaching and exceeding federal animal disease traceability requirements.

3.2   Mission Statement
The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food's current mission statement is: Promote the healthy growth of Utah agriculture, conserve our natural resources and protect our food supply.

IV.   TRACEABILITY REQUIREMENTS

4.1   Overall Strategic Goal: Build on our State-wide infrastructure for advancing animal disease traceability compatible with State, Tribe, and Territory, and USDA standards.

4.2   Programmatic goals

a. Advance the electronic sharing of data among federal and state animal health officials, veterinarians and industry; including sharing basic ADT data with the federal animal health events repository (AHER).

b. Use electronic ID tags for animals requiring individual identification in order to make the transmission of data more efficient.

c. Enhance the ability to track animals from birth to slaughter through a system that allows tracking data points to be connected.

d. Elevate the discussion with States and industry to work toward a system where animal health certificates are electronically transmitted from private veterinarians to state animal health officials.

4.3   Animal disease traceability performance measures

a. Objective 1: Maintain current animal disease traceability infrastructure
The current animal disease traceability infrastructure will be maintained and built upon in successive years dependent on funding.

b. Objective 2: Establish objective assessment of animal disease traceability by providing baseline measures and projected advancements during the funding period by using the following four performance standard measures:
    i. Time to report to the State/Tribe of official tagging / identifying of an animal in question that has moved interstate,
    ii. Time for the State/Tribe of first officially tagging / identifying an animal in question that has moved interstate to provide a record of the official tag distribution,
    iii. Time to report to the State/Tribe from which an animal in question has moved interstate, and
    iv. Time for the State/Tribe from which an animal in question has moved interstate to provide the location and contact information from which the animal was moved interstate.

c. Objective 3: Optimize the acquisition and search ability of potential animal disease traceability data from interstate certificates of veterinary inspection, and, if applicable, data from bovine brucellosis vaccination, bovine brucellosis testing, and bovine tuberculosis tests. Increase our

ability to enter captive cervid elk farms and hunting preserves individual animal identification inventory data.

d. Objective 4 – Build a robust geospatial information system (GIS) within the Animal Health Program and other Programs within the Animal Industry Division to further our ability to geocode and map our premises for use with interactive mapping for disease traceability and response to possible outbreaks.

    i. Coordinate assets and capabilities with the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food's GIS Coordinator to provide geocoding and mapping to our ranch and farm premises in Utah.

    ii. Provide training to key personnel in the Animal Health Program and our other Programs to learn to build and manipulate interactive mapping for our elk, cattle, swine, sheep, goats and poultry populations within Utah.

    iii. Provide training to key personnel within the Animal Industry Division to build story maps and interactive maps for tracking and publishing disease event information and updates on our website.

e. Objective 5: Implement an outreach plan for accredited veterinarians and livestock markets describing the applicant's plan for advancing animal disease traceability, emphasizing interstate certificates of veterinary inspection record keeping and timely distribution requirements by accredited veterinarians.

This objective will be accomplished by requiring the timely submission of certificates of veterinary inspection by accredited veterinarians by:

    i. Writing letters to accredited veterinarians when the certificates of veterinary inspection are received later than 7 days from date of signature.

    ii. A letter will be sent to the accredited veterinarian by the individual reviewing the certificates of veterinary inspection when a certificate is received over two weeks past the date of signature.

    iii. Outreach seminars will be hosted by the division to train accredited veterinarians on accurate completion and timely submission of certificates of veterinary inspection and other forms. Training will also be provided to accredited veterinarians and producers on the requirements in the federal rule.

4.4   Data requirements

    a. Fully describe standards to be used for location identification, if used
        i. The standards used are those which were created by the USDA under the NAIS system and will not change in the near future.

    b. Fully describe standards to be used for official animal identification, including arrangements with other States, Tribes, Territories, as well as official identification methods/devices used within the cooperator's jurisdiction
        i. Utah has developed Memorandums of Understanding with 5 other states (Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, and Wyoming) to allow the importation of officially identified animals with a brand inspection as long as the animals are moving from the farm of origin and have only 1 brand.
        ii. Utah will allow the distribution of NUES tags direct to producers until discontinued who sign an agreement to keep records for 5 years. We are currently tracking RFID tags sent to accredited veterinarians and individual producers in USAHERDS.

    c. What tag distribution record keeping systems will be used?
        USAHERDS tracks tags that are distributed.

    d. What data requirements exist for commuter herd agreements?
        i. Brucellosis vaccination status of cattle in herd.
        ii. Negative trichomoniasis test results for all bulls.

    e. What forms are approved for interstate movement in addition to CVIs?
        i. NPIP 9-3 forms.
        ii. Owner / Shipper Statement to be used in appropriate situations.
        iii. Electronic interstate swine movement reports will be used to import swine from Idaho and Colorado through a coordinated swine production health plan.

    f. How and when will data be shared with other States, Tribes, Territories, and USDA?
        i. CVIs generated in Utah will be sent to destination states weekly.
        ii. USDA Animal Identification Coordinator has access to load federal test and vaccine data into our USAHERDS system.

4.5   Information technology plan
    a. UDAF is utilizing USAHERDS with servers hosted by Acclaim Systems. Veterinarians can obtain entry permits online or by calling our permit line (801-538-7164). Electronic CVIs can be imported into USAHERDS. Paper CVIs are currently being transcribed into USAHERDS. Brucellosis and TB reports (vacc/tests) are being entered into USAHERDS. Reportable testing data has started to be automatically downloaded into

USAHERDS from the Utah Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (UVDL), with some modifications with Vetstar, the current laboratory information management system.

4.6   Resource requirements
   a. A data entry person
   b. Hosting funds for USAHERDS

4.7   Organizational needs

   a. Executive support
      i. The current administration of the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food realize that an animal disease traceability system will benefit the livestock and poultry industries of Utah as long as it does not adversely affect the producers' ability to make a profit.

   b. Coordination and oversight procedures
      i. The Animal Industry Division in the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food will coordinate and oversee any animal disease traceability system in the State of Utah.

   c. Policy
      i. Rules are in place

   d. Staffing
      i. Staffing in the Division now has an Office Technician I, an Office Specialist II, and a Business Analyst for data entry that has been added dependent on maintaining the needed funding. The need for additional data entry personnel will continually be evaluated.

   e. Budget requirements
      i. The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food has successfully lobbied the legislature to provide funding for the installation of USAHERDS. The department will need funding through cooperative agreements for data entry personnel and maintenance agreements. The Department continues to seek options to obtain USALIMS that will fully integrate with USAHERDS.

   f. Outreach
      i. Continuing education will be provided to accredited veterinarians in the area of ADT, proper submission of CVIs, electronic health certificates and software, RFID official identification tagging, and equipment to record and submit data in electronic formats.
      ii. Outreach to livestock and market owners concerning ADT will continue at various producer meetings and private visits.

4.8   Monitoring and reporting interstate movement activity

a. All CVIs will be monitored as they are received by the Division for completeness and accuracy. The veterinarian and the State of origination will receive a letter listing those errors found.