

Traceability Regulation Working Group

- Performance Standards -



Safeguarding Animal Health

Input on Traceability Regulation

1. Traceability performance standards
2. Protocols for evaluating tracing capability
3. Compliance factors

1. Traceability Performance Standards

- Describe desired result or outcome—not the methods for achieving outcome
- Provide a process to evaluate outcomes or capabilities equally
- Focus on tracing animals—not disease specific
- Species specific standards
 - Today - discuss cattle, commercial swine, commercial poultry, sheep and goats
 - Acknowledge all species included

1. Traceability Performance Standards

(continued)

- Determine what is being measured
 - Typical activities during a disease traceback event
- Establish time values for achieving the activity
- Activity measured and time value provides a traceability performance standard
- Other values
 - Efficiency – work hours
 - Consistency – achieved performance measure 85% of the time

Cattle – Conceptual Examples

Activity Being Measured	Time
Trace reference animal to previous production unit of commingling	?
Trace reference animal to birth premises	?
Trace exposed animals (<i>1 step forward</i>)	?
Determine at-risk animals and locations (<i>from first index herd or location</i>)	?

Commercial Swine – Conceptual Examples

Activity Being Measured	Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Trace an animal of interest to the last premises of residence prior to slaughter	?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reporting by a swine production company or producer of all potentially affected herds, i.e., those with direct contact with the animal of interest	?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Identify herds at risk of exposure near the index herd where surveillance may be needed	?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Identify any animals that left a production system to enter marketing channels other than directly to slaughter during the timeframe appropriate for the type of disease and duration of infection in the herds involved	?

Commercial Poultry - Conceptual Examples

Activity Being Measured	Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Trace birds or truckload of interest to the last premises of residence prior to slaughter	?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reporting by a poultry production company or producer of all potentially affected flocks, i.e., those with direct contact with the animal or truckload of interest	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Identify flocks or houses at risk of exposure in the vicinity of the index flock where surveillance is needed	?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Identify any birds that left the system to enter marketing channels other than directly to slaughter during the timeframe appropriate for the nature of the disease	?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Determine the number of at risk houses occupied with birds at time trace is initiated	?

Sheep and Goats – Conceptual Examples

Activity Being Measured	Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Trace sheep and goats to the birth premises	?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Trace an animal of interest to the last premises of residence prior to harvest	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Report all potentially affected herds or flocks, i.e., those with direct contact with the animal of interest	?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Identify herds or flocks at risk of exposure in the vicinity of the index herd or flock where surveillance is needed	?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Identify any animals that departed the production system to enter marketing channels other than directly to slaughter (e.g., exhibition animals) during the timeframe appropriate for the nature of the disease	?

Group Discussions

- Would these performance measures help achieve animal traceability? (If not, how would they need to be changed? What might better capture our expectations?)
- What are other options for performance measures?
- What is workable and what challenges or obstacles do they present?
- How might States, Tribes, Industry, and USDA work together to resolve any challenges/obstacles?

2. Evaluating Capability

- Documents actual tracing capability in comparison to performance standards
 - Test exercise
 - Use actual data from cooperator's traceback investigations
 - Other descriptive requirements may be established (similar to scrapie program)

3. Compliance Factors

- Must be meaningful
- Traceability designation concepts:
 - Consistent status
 - Nonconsistent status
 - Additional requirements when not achieving consistent status
 - Publicly listed

Group Discussions

- How can we use this experience to determine our current level of traceability in States/Tribes/Territories?
- How might we assess incremental progress, over time, in improving traceability?
- Based on our current knowledge of where we stand today, what are your preliminary thoughts about the timeframes that should be included in the standards for your species?

Group Discussions (continued)

- What suggestions do you have for how USDA should handle compliance with performance standards? What is a realistic concept for designating compliance with standards?
- Should additional requirements be established for when compliance is not achieved? If so, what could they be?