

The Enhanced Classical Swine Surveillance Program December 1, 2006

The enhanced Classical Swine Fever (CSF) surveillance program outlined in this manual is the result of cooperative efforts by several Veterinary Services (VS) departments. As early as 2002, several parties under the guidance of VS were developing plans for the emerging National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) to provide the nation with increased diagnostic testing capacity for foreign animal disease agents of interest, including CSF. Meanwhile, research conducted at the Agricultural Research Service facilities at Plum Island, in cooperation with the Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory branch of the National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL), resulted in the development and validation of a real-time reverse transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (rRT-PCR) diagnostic test for CSF which was completed in 2005.

The National Surveillance Unit (NSU) was charged with developing a risk-based surveillance plan for CSF. The resulting plan is included in this manual to provide the rationale for the sampling protocols. Incorporation of the rRT-PCR test for rapid detection of viral DNA into the expanding NAHLN is a major component of the plan.

The VS Management Team identified funding for the NAHLN early in fiscal year (FY) 2005 and for implementation of the revised CSF surveillance plan mid-year. Swine Programs staff from the National Center for Animal Health Programs, in cooperation with NSU, NVSL, and Regional staff, began developing the agreements and budget information necessary to implement parts of the program in FY 2006.

Because of the many new procedures, relationships, and policies being initiated in this program, changes are being made in the protocols and procedures as we together build a cost-effective surveillance program.

Please keep us all informed as to what is working (and what is not) as we move forward in this cooperative effort. Pertinent contact information is listed at the end of each section of the manual for your reference.

**This Manual can be found on the internet at
<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/swine/csf/index.htm>**