



Since 1894

**KLA Animal Health & ID Committee Meeting**

10:00 – 11:30 a.m., Thursday, December 5

Cypress – 209AB

Century II Convention Center, Wichita, KS

Chairman: **Dean Fitzsimmons**, Cunningham

Vice Chairman: **Mary Ann Kniebel**, White City

**\* AGENDA \***

1. Introductions
2. Animal Health & ID Committee Historical Perspective – Clinton Stalker, 50-year KLA member and Past Chair of Animal Health Committee
3. Addition of agenda items from committee members
4. Kansas Division of Animal Health Report  
*Justin Smith, DVM – Animal Health Commissioner*
5. CattleTrace Animal Disease Traceability update  
*Cassie Kniebel, CattleTrace Program Manager, Beef Cattle Institute*
6. Review expiring policy resolutions.
  52. HUMANE CARE OF HORSES (2017) **EXPIRING**
  55. TRICHOMONIASIS (2017) **AMENDMENT**
  57. BOVINE VIRAL DIARRHEA (2017) **AMENDMENT**
  58. FERAL SWINE (2017) **EXPIRING**
7. Review existing policy resolutions.
  50. ANIMAL CARE (2018)
  51. HANDLING OF NON-AMBULATORY CATTLE (2019)
  54. ANIMAL HEALTH PRODUCTS (2018)
  56. BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS AND BRUCELLOSIS (2018)
  59. KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, DIVISION OF ANIMAL HEALTH (2018)
  61. ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION FOR DISEASE TRACEABILITY (2019)
8. Other policy resolutions
9. Adjournment

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## **50. ANIMAL CARE (2018)**

WHEREAS, livestock producers recognize that good animal health, care, production, and handling practices are a responsibility of producers to the animals and the consumer, and

WHEREAS, livestock producers long have been concerned with the welfare of livestock, recognizing that good animal health, care, production, and handling practices are essential to efficient and profitable production, and

WHEREAS, it is important for livestock producers to share with the public the many animal husbandry practices used every day in their operations.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association recommends producers implement the Cattle Industry's Guidelines for the Care and Handling of Cattle, Beef Quality Assurance guidelines, Dairy Quality Assurance guidelines, and/or the National Dairy FARM Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association encourages the further development and participation in voluntary certification programs that validate participating producers are using best management practices for disease control and animal care.

## **51. HANDLING OF NON-AMBULATORY CATTLE (2019)**

WHEREAS, the safety and well-being of cattle handlers is a priority, and

WHEREAS, humane handling of cattle always has been a priority for Kansas livestock producers.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, non-ambulatory cattle should be humanely euthanized as soon as possible.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association supports policy prohibiting the harvest of non-ambulatory cattle for human consumption.

## **52. HUMANE CARE OF HORSES (2017) EXPIRING**

WHEREAS, the lack of federal funding for government inspectors has created an effective ban on horses being humanely processed in the United States, and

WHEREAS, federal legislation has been proposed to prohibit the processing of horses in the United States and to prohibit the transportation of horses destined for processing in other countries, and

WHEREAS, there is a continued need for the humane harvest of unwanted horses as an alternative to the costs of continued care or euthanasia and disposal, and

WHEREAS, the elimination of the option of humane harvest of unwanted horses creates the potential for long-term neglect and abandonment.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association supports legislation or regulations that allow for the responsible forms of euthanasia of excess horses and burros, including harvesting and processing.

## **54. ANIMAL HEALTH PRODUCTS (2018)**

WHEREAS, the Kansas Livestock Association facilitates the Kansas Beef Quality Assurance educational program with Kansas State University and the Kansas Veterinary Medical Association, and

WHEREAS, the Kansas Livestock Association continues to encourage the livestock industry to follow the proper use of animal health products and feed additives.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association opposes laws and regulatory proposals which hinder the timely availability of animal health products, create costly or burdensome distribution and administration of products, and impose duplicative regulatory requirements by state and federal agencies.

#### **55. TRICHOMONIASIS (2017) AMENDMENT**

WHEREAS, trichomoniasis is a sexually transmitted disease in cattle that causes significant reductions in pregnancy rates within infected cowherds, and

WHEREAS, trichomoniasis is transmitted by bulls, is difficult to detect, and infected bulls are untreatable, and

WHEREAS, current regulations of the Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Health (KDA DAH) designates trichomoniasis as a reportable disease and requires bulls over 18 months of age entering the state to be tested by an approved test.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association supports harmonization of trichomoniasis regulations among states and urges state and federal animal health agencies to strive for the eradication of trichomoniasis.

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WHEREAS, current regulations of the Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Health (KDA DAH) designates trichomoniasis as a reportable disease and requires ~~bulls over 18 months of age entering the state to be tested by an approved test~~ testing of certain animals.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association supports practicable harmonization of trichomoniasis regulations among states and urges state and federal animal health agencies to strive for the eradication of trichomoniasis.

#### **56. BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS AND BRUCELLOSIS (2018)**

WHEREAS, Kansas is a Tuberculosis-free and Brucellosis-free state and the loss of that status would be an added burden and expense to the state's livestock industry.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association supports all possible steps by state and federal agencies to maintain free status.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association supports the Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Health in its efforts to protect the domestic livestock population of Kansas from these infectious and contagious diseases.

#### **57. BOVINE VIRAL DIARRHEA (2017) AMENDMENT**

WHEREAS, Bovine Viral Diarrhea (BVD) virus is likely the most costly viral disease of cattle in the United States, and

WHEREAS, cattle persistently infected (PI) with BVD prolifically shed the virus and are considered the major source of BVD, and

WHEREAS, the reproductive losses associated with lower pregnancy proportions, more abortions, and higher calf mortality greatly impact efficiency and profitability, and

WHEREAS, research indicates there is nearly a \$50 per head cost for every animal going into the feedyard because of PI exposure, and

WHEREAS, the Academy of Veterinary Consultants (AVC), American Association of Bovine Practitioners (AABP), and National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) have approved statements regarding disclosure and disposition of BVD PI animals for the purpose of reducing exposure and the transmission of BVD.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association encourages beef and dairy cow herd owners to consult with their veterinarian to consider a cost-effective vaccination prevention program and the merits of a BVD PI testing regime.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association encourages the development of a voluntary certification program that validates participating herd owners are using best management practices for disease control and animal care.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association adopts the following AVC, AABP, and NCBA "Statement on Disclosure of BVD PI Animals":

**Statement on Disclosure of BVD PI Animals**

The cattle industry has a moral, ethical, and potentially legal obligation not to sell known diseased or damaged animals to other parties without full disclosure. Responsible disposition of animals persistently infected (PI) with Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus (BVDV) is an important component of BVD control.

The dilemma of how to deal with known PI cattle becomes more critical as BVD testing becomes more widespread. Appropriate disposition of known PI cattle must take into account the adverse impact these cattle have on the health, welfare, and the economic return of other cattle and cattle operations they may expose to BVDV. It is widely recognized that a PI animal is defective and once confirmed, the PI status should be thereafter disclosed – as exposure to these cattle has health ramifications for all cattle, especially those intended for reproductive purposes. Movement of known BVD PI animals in the marketing channels in any manner that potentially exposes at-risk cattle is strongly opposed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association supports requiring cattle tested as positive for BVD PI to be permanently identified before a change of ownership occurs, unless the positive animals will be quarantined until shipment direct to harvest.

**57. BOVINE VIRAL DIARRHEA (2017)**

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WHEREAS, cattle persistently infected (PI) with BVD prolifically shed the virus and are considered the major source of BVD, and

WHEREAS, the reproductive losses associated with lower pregnancy proportions, more abortions, and higher calf mortality greatly impact efficiency and profitability, and

WHEREAS, research indicates there is nearly a \$50 per head cost for every animal going into the feedyard because of PI exposure, and

WHEREAS, the ~~Academy of Veterinary Consultants (AVC)~~, American Association of Bovine Practitioners (AABP), and ~~Academy of Veterinary Consultants (AVC) National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA)~~ have ~~approved statements~~ approved by the National

Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) regarding disclosure and disposition of BVD PI animals for the purpose of reducing exposure and the transmission of BVD.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association encourages beef and dairy cow herd owners to consult with their veterinarian to consider a cost-effective vaccination prevention program and the merits of a BVD PI testing regime.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association encourages the development of a voluntary certification program that validates participating herd owners are using best management practices for disease control and animal care.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association adopts the following AVCAABP and AVC, AABP, and NCBA position statements regarding responsible disclosure and disposition of BVD PI animals: "Statement on Disclosure of BVD PI Animals":

AABP Statement on Disclosure of BVD PI Animals

The cattle industry has a moral, ethical, and potentially legal obligation not to sell known diseased or damaged animals to other parties without full disclosure. Responsible disposition of animals persistently infected (~~PI~~) with ~~Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus (BVDV)~~ PIs is an important component of BVD control.

The dilemma of how to deal with known PI cattle becomes more critical as BVD testing becomes more widespread.

Appropriate disposition of known PI cattle must take into account the adverse impact these cattle have on the health, welfare, and the economic return of other cattle and cattle operations they may expose to BVDV. It is widely recognized that a PI animal is defective and once confirmed, the PI status should be thereafter disclosed – as exposure to these cattle has health ramifications for all cattle, especially those intended for reproductive purposes. The American Association of Bovine Practitioners strongly opposes marketing or movement of BVD PI animals in any manner that potentially exposes at-risk cattle. Movement of known BVD PI animals in the marketing channels in any manner that potentially exposes at-risk cattle is strongly opposed.

AVC BVD Position Statement

The dilemma of how to deal with known PI cattle becomes more critical as BVD testing becomes more widespread. Appropriate disposition of known PI cattle must take into account the adverse impact those cattle have on health, welfare and the economic return of the cattle or cattle operation they may expose to BVD.

It is widely recognized the PI animal is defective and once confirmed, their PI status should thereafter be disclosed as exposure to these cattle has health ramifications for all cattle, especially those intended for reproduction purposes. Therefore, marketing or movement of PIs in any matter that potentially exposes at risk cattle is strongly discouraged.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association supports requiring cattle tested as positive for BVD PI to be permanently identified before a change of ownership occurs, unless the positive animals will be quarantined until shipment direct to harvest.

**58. FERAL SWINE (2017) EXPIRING**

WHEREAS, feral swine may harbor diseases infectious to domestic livestock herds and often cause damage to dams, crop fields, and grazing lands, and

WHEREAS, USDA officials have confirmed feral swine inhabit at least 5 counties in Kansas.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association supports state and/or federal funding for feral swine control and eradication efforts in Kansas.

**59. KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, DIVISION OF ANIMAL HEALTH (2018)**

WHEREAS, animal agriculture is important to the Kansas economy, and

WHEREAS, maintaining a healthy animal population is important to all Kansans, and

WHEREAS, being prepared to manage any animal health situation that may arise is important to maintaining a strong economy.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association supports funding the Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Health through the state general fund or from a broad-based fee collection system funded proportionately from all species based on their demands on Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Health resources.

**61. ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION FOR DISEASE TRACEABILITY (2019)**

WHEREAS, USDA's animal identification disease traceability program is limited to sexually intact cattle, more than 18 months of age, that move in interstate commerce; dairy cattle, cattle used for rodeo and recreational events; and cattle moved to shows and exhibitions, and

WHEREAS, the 2016-2020 cattle industry Long Range Plan emphasizes the cattle industry should secure the broad adoption of individual animal identification disease traceability system(s) to equip the industry to effectively manage a disease outbreak while enhancing both domestic and global trust in U.S. beef.

WHEREAS, the state of Kansas, USDA and private sector have provided funds for a voluntary, pilot traceability program in Kansas, named CattleTrace, which started in the fall of 2018, and

WHEREAS, CattleTrace stakeholders include the Kansas Livestock Association, Kansas Department of Agriculture's Division of Animal Health, Kansas State University's Beef Cattle Institute and participating producers, marketers, feeders and processors.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association supports efforts by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association and USDA to develop a mandatory national, individual animal identification disease traceability system for all cattle.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association supports continued state and federal funding to complete the CattleTrace pilot project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association believes strongly that any animal identification or disease traceability program should be designed to (1) minimize costs to producers, (2) optimize the role of the private sector to administer the program, and (3) protect the confidentiality of individual animal owner records.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association believes the Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Health should be the state agency that represents the state in the public/private coordination of a traceability project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association supports state and federal legislation to limit animal owners' liability exposure that may arise under a private or public animal identification or disease traceability program.