KANSAS LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION

Since 1894

KLA Animal Health & ID Committee Meeting
Thursday, November 19
10:30 – 11:30 a.m. | Flint Hills Room
Manhattan Conference Center | Manhattan, KS

Chairman: **Guy Bracken**, Viola
Vice Chairman: **Brandon Depenbusch,** Cimarron

*** AGENDA ***

1. Introductions
2. Recognition of Sponsor – Chris Dietel, Huvepharma
3. Addition of agenda items from committee members
4. New World Screwworm and other animal health threats
   Dr. Justin Smith, Animal Health Commissioner – Division of Animal Health
5. Theileria and the bugs that carry it
   Dr. Cassandra Olds, Assistant Professor – K-State Department of Entomology
6. Review expiring policy resolutions.
   - 61. ANIMAL CARE (2024)
   - 65. ANIMAL HEALTH PRODUCTS (2024)
   - 67. BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS AND BRUCELLOSIS (2024)
   - 74. RURAL VETERINARIANS (2024)
   - 75. CERTIFIED ANIMAL HEALTH TECHNICIANS (2024)
7. Review continuing policy resolutions.
   - 62. HANDLING OF NON-AMBULATORY CATTLE (2025)
   - 63. HUMANE CARE OF HORSES (2026)
   - 66. TRICHOMONIASIS (2026)
   - 68. BOVINE VIRAL DIARRHEA (2026)
   - 69. FERAL SWINE (2026)
   - 70. KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, DIVISION OF ANIMAL HEALTH (2026)
   - 73. ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION FOR DISEASE TRACEABILITY (2026)
8. Other policy resolutions
9. Adjournment

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Resolutions for KLA Animal Health & ID Committee

Expiring

61. ANIMAL CARE (2024)

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.

65. ANIMAL HEALTH PRODUCTS (2024)

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 that 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.

67. BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS AND BRUCELLOSIS (2024)

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.

74. RURAL VETERINARIANS (2024)

WHEREAS, rural veterinarians are crucial to animal agriculture, and

WHEREAS, demand for veterinary services outpaces the capacity of rural veterinarians, and

WHEREAS, there is a need for more rural veterinarians and the services that they provide.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association supports continuation and increased funding for the Veterinary Training Program for Rural Kansas (VTPRK).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association supports creation of new or expansion of existing programs to incentivize students to attend Kansas State University College of

Veterinary Medicine or accredited colleges of veterinary medicine in other states, with an emphasis on large-animal veterinary medicine, and upon graduation, practice at a rural veterinary clinic in Kansas or in a clinic where a majority of the patients are large animals.

75. CERTIFIED ANIMAL HEALTH TECHNICIANS (2024)

WHEREAS, demand for veterinary services outpaces the capacity of rural veterinarians.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association works to establish a program to enable technicians to work with licensed veterinarians to perform certain procedures including, but not limited to, pregnancy palpation and ultrasound to help fill the void in services.

Continuing Resolutions

62. HANDLING OF NON-AMBULATORY CATTLE (2025)

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.

63. HUMANE CARE OF HORSES (2026)

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 responsible forms of euthanasia of excess horses and burros, including harvesting and processing.

66. TRICHOMONIASIS (2026)

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 designates trichomoniasis as a reportable disease and requires 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.

68. BOVINE VIRAL DIARRHEA (2026)

WHEREAS, bovine viral diarrhea (BVD) is one of the most costly viral diseases 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 a significant cost for every animal going into the feedyard because of PI exposure, and

WHEREAS, the American Association of Bovine Practitioners (AABP) and Academy of Veterinary Consultants (AVC) have 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 cowherd 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 AABP and AVC position statements regarding responsible disclosure and disposition of BVD PI animals:

AABP Statement on Disposition of BVD PI Animals

Responsible disposition of animals persistently infected with Bovine Viral Diarrhea virus is an important component of BVD control. Appropriate disposition of known PI cattle must take into account the adverse impact that these cattle have on the health and welfare of all exposed cattle, especially those intended for reproductive purposes, as well as on the economic return of exposed cattle operations. Once confirmed, the PI status of an animal should be thereafter disclosed. The AABP strongly opposes marketing and/or movement of known BVD PI animals in any manner that potentially exposes at-risk cattle.

AVC BVD-PI 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.

69. FERAL SWINE (2026)

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 multiple 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.

70. KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, DIVISION OF ANIMAL HEALTH (2026)

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, and

WHEREAS, having one person, the Animal Health Commissioner, charged with administering animal health programs ensures a coordinated and comprehensive response to animal disease emergencies.

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.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association supports the current structure of the Division of Animal Health where both pet animals and livestock are under the purview of the Animal Health Commissioner and opposes legislative or executive action to remove pet animals from the supervision of the Animal Health Commissioner.

73. ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION FOR DISEASE TRACEABILITY (2026)

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 2026-2030 beef industry Long Range Plan includes tactics that promote traceability, biosecurity, and science-based systems that protect animal health and welfare and reassure consumers that beef is safe.

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 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 supports expansion and further development of U.S. CattleTrace and its interface with existing private-sector, data management, identification and traceability companies as the nationally significant solution for animal disease traceability.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Kansas Livestock Association supports limitations on animal owners' liability exposure that may arise under a private or public animal identification or disease traceability program.