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Foot and Mouth Disease

By Jennifer Fleming, Executive Director

On February 20, 2001 the first case of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) since 1967 was detected in Britain, spreading like wildfire. By the end of the outbreak, there were 2030 cases with 6 million recorded animals culled (include 4.9 million sheep, 0.7 million cattle and 0.4 million pigs), with a cost to agriculture and the food chain of approximately \$6.6 billion (Canadian dollars).

In a 2002 report by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the likely source of infection for the pigs on the index farm was meat or meat products containing or contaminated with the FMD virus. However, the reported uniqueness of this epidemic in terms of its size and geographical extent was attributed largely to the airborne infection of sheep on a nearby premises to the index case.

The report seemed to target sheep and the sheep industry as key players in the 2001 spread of the disease citing; the absence of distinctive signs of FMD in sheep compared to other livestock, and that the disease outbreak occurred at a time of year when the climate favoured virus survival and when a large number of sheep were being marketed and moved around the country. These are facts that have not been lost on the Canadian agricultural industry; especially during discussions around animal traceability.

The recent outbreak, however, is somewhat more alarming as the source is now being widely attributed to the laboratory facilities. Officials at the laboratory facilities claim that there has been no breach in biosecurity. It is being suggested that the recent severe flooding may have played a role.

Agricultural organizations in Canada are now spending considerable time dedicating themselves to ensuring that the Canadian agricultural sector has the tools (e.g., traceability, zoning, emergency management) in place in order to deal with a foreign animal disease outbreak as quickly as possible and to minimize the negative impacts on the sector. While BSE and Avian Influenza are often cited as examples of where traceability works and have been used to identify ways in which programs can be improved; it is often the ability to handle a FMD outbreak that is the yardstick used to measure the effectiveness of a system.

It is the nature by which FMD is transmitted that makes it such a threat. While it is most easily transmitted animal to animal through direct contact, it can be transmitted by people and/or equipment that have had contact with the disease. It can also be spread by contaminated hay, water, and manure. Confining FMD to one geographical area is further complicated by the fact that the virus can travel in the air for up to 60 km across land and up to 300 km across water. The virus thrives in cool, moist conditions with low cloud cover.

Sheep can become infected by eating or inhaling the virus. As few as 20 virus particles are necessary to create a full blown case of FMD. The virus then multiplies in the pharynx and cycles through the bloodstream. The first symptoms of FMD will be fever and listlessness; the sheep may be off feed and may appear lame. They will then develop the characteristic blisters and drooling associated with FMD.

Continued on Page 2

Canada has been free of Foot and Mouth Disease since 1952.

WHAT PRECAUTIONS CAN FARMERS TAKE?

- Restrict animal movement as much as possible
- Quarantine new animals before introducing them into the flock
- Isolate sick animals
- Keep a visitor log (see From the Flock June 2007 Vol.4 Issue 6 for log form)
- Only introduce animals to your farm whose sanitary status is known
- Prevent visits by anyone who, in the last 14 days, has been in any country that had a recent outbreak of the disease
- If international visitors come to your farm take extra precautions – have them wash and disinfect all personal effects and objects. CFIA recommends Virkon. Make a 2% solution by mixing 20 grams of Virkon powder per litre of water. Contact time is 10 minutes. Vinegar is also an effective disinfectant, mixed 1:1. Other effective disinfectants are described on CFIA's website at <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/heasan/disemala/fmdfie/plan/plan-app-anne.shtml#2>
- Prevent vehicles that are not empty and clean from approaching livestock buildings
- Disinfect the material or equipment that may have been used on other livestock premises

IF YOU SUSPECT THE DISEASE...

- Call your veterinarian if an animal shows signs or symptoms that are similar to FMD. FMD is a reportable disease and, therefore, you must report any suspect cases to a federal veterinarian
- Isolate the sick animal and call CFIA 1-877-227-0677
- CFIA will request immediate cessation of animal and people movement off the farm until the case is investigated
- Avoid contact with other farmers. Ensure everyone on the farm who has had contact with the sick animal also avoids contact with other producers
- If the CFIA suspects FMD, your farm will be immediately quarantined

IF A FMD CASE IS CONFIRMED ON YOUR FARM ...

- All animals on the farm will be destroyed
- Immediate disposal of all animals and equipment that could harbour the virus
- Thorough cleaning and disinfecting of buildings, equipment and anything that could be contaminated
- Mobilization of CFIA Emergency Response Team
- All significant risk contacts and farms with susceptible animals within a up to a 5 km radius of your farm may also be quarantined pending the declaration of a Control Area by the Minister.
- Farm buildings will not be restocked with susceptible species until at least 21 days after the cleaning and disinfection has been approved by the CFIA be left vacant for at least a month to ensure the virus is gone

Outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease - Threatens to Bankrupt Sheep Producers

The ban on the export of lamb imposed as a result of the foot-and-mouth outbreak will lead to lower prices and threatens to bankrupt sheep farmers. "This is the straw that will break the camel's back", said NFU Scotland president Jim McLaren, referring to the fragile Scottish sheep industry.

The confirmed outbreak has resulted in an automatic ban of all red meat exports from Great Britain that will not be lifted until three months from the time of the last case to be notified. NFUS is stressing the need for moves to be made as soon as possible to examine options for Scotland lifting the ban on meat exports to Europe.

The ban will hit hill farmers particularly hard with the main autumn sales for lambs about to get underway. Twenty-seven per cent of Scottish lambs that are slaughtered are exported, and the weekly throughput of 62,000 is increasing as more lambs come onto the market in a seasonal glut. In the last outbreak of foot-and-mouth in 2001 lamb prices plummeted as supermarkets exploited the oversupplied market created by the export ban, and there are fears that will happen again.

According to McLaren, "This is the classic opportunity for retailers to put their money where their mouth is. We need continued support from Scottish and UK retailers". While the price of sheep looks set to collapse in the wake of the export ban, cattle and pig prices are unlikely to suffer as much because only 5% of Scottish beef is exported and there are virtually no exports of pork.

Supplies of British pork could run out towards the end of the week if special licensing arrangements are not introduced to permit the transport of animals for slaughter. Beef and lamb supplies are not so critical and there should be enough to last until normal slaughtering resumes.

"The industry is shut down at the moment and for every day it stays that way, the cost goes up by millions", said McLaren. "This is early days in a rapidly moving situation, but we need to see, as quickly as possible, animals going direct from farms into the food chain under licence. However, obviously this can only happen if the disease control experts are happy to let it. The last thing we want to see is our biggest customers getting imported supplies of food when we may only be facing a very short-term shutdown of abattoirs".

Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the Environment Richard Lochhead said: "All animal keepers in Scotland have been reminded of the importance of good bio- security. The vets in the Animal Health Agency are on full alert". Whilst Scottish farmers have been rigidly sticking to the rules the National Beef Association (NBA) reports that there have already been eight instances where stock have been moved illegally south of the border, and others are suspected.

NBA director, Kim Haywood, said: "FMD is spread by contact and if this new outbreak is to be contained, and then extinguished, all livestock farmers in Great Britain must contribute by holding stock where it stands until permission to move is given". The nationwide restriction on the movement of susceptible animals has prevented fallen stock collectors from accessing farms to uplift carcasses of dead animals. That situation could have led to significant biosecurity and public health concerns.

Reacting to those concerns, the Cabinet Secretary agreed on Sunday to permit the disposal of fallen stock by burial on site while the movement ban remains in place. On-farm burials must be carried out in strict compliance with Part 10 of the Prevention of Environmental Pollution from Agricultural Activity code.

Source: www.theherald.co.uk/business/farming/display.var.1599159.0.0.php

SCRAPIE CANADA UPDATE

Each year, Scrapie Canada reviews the Voluntary Scrapie Flock Certification Program's National Standards. These are the rules and regulations in which the program is directed and administered. This past June, the standards were reviewed once again in a process that includes representatives from industry, government and producers.

Changes are made to the standards based on a number of variables. Firstly, any thoughts, suggestions, or criticisms that have been offered to Scrapie Canada throughout the year (either from producers or industry) are brought to the table. If at all possible, the standards are modified to reflect these suggestions. Secondly, any political actions that have been made throughout the year, and have an impact on the program, are discussed. If necessary, the standards are amended.

A brainstorming session is also ongoing throughout the review. Discussion surrounds such topics as: how to encourage producer uptake; border access; and creating a program that is both sustainable and practical for all involved.

This year, the following changes were made to the program standards.

- Originally, for each year on the program, producers must submit one brain sample to be tested for scrapie. This can be an animal that died naturally (must be over one year of age), or if no animals died naturally, a cull must be submitted (must be over two years of age). Changes to the National Standards in June 2007 now allot producers two years before they have to submit a brain sample. If a producer does not have one dead within the first year of the program (Level E), they will be permitted to stay at Level E for a second year. Therefore, they will be at Level E for 24 months. After two years at Level E, producers will have to submit one brain sample/ year from that point forward. The age requirement of the animal remains the same (natural death = over one year old; cull = over two years old). Producers should also note that any animal over one year old that dies on the farm must be tested for scrapie.
- Any dead submitted for brain testing must be from the participant's flock, or must have been in the participant's flock for at least one year.
- If a participant quits the program within the first 12 months of their enrollment, the participant will not be permitted to join the program again for three years. If the producer feels they have extenuating circumstances, they are permitted to take their case to the appeal board.
- There are no regulations on the length of time a producer must be on the program before they import female sheep or goats from the USA.
- There are not any regulations on the length of time a producer must be on the program after they import female sheep or goats from the USA. However, if a producer quits the program, the imported animal(s) will be quarantined for the remainder of the five year period that they were to be on the program. A quarantined animal will not be permitted to move without a license. If a license is obtained and the animal is moved to a new farm, the owner of the new farm will have to complete the quarantine of the animal.
- Until the National mandatory identification program for goats is implemented neck chains and collars are acceptable as one form of identification in goats.

Upon completion, a copy of the 2007 National Standards will be made available on Scrapie Canada's website at www.scrapiecanada.ca. Scrapie Canada welcomes all suggestions, concerns and thoughts from Canadian sheep producers. Please send your comments to admin@scrapiecanada.ca or contact the office by calling 1-866-534-1302.

ON-FARM FOOD SAFETY CONFERENCE - THE ROAD AHEAD

By France Lanthier, CSF On-Farm Food Safety Coordinator

Note: Excerpts and full sections of this article were taken from the Canadian On-Farm Food Safety Working Group (COFFS WG) and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's (CFIA) conference summary report.

On June 26th 2007 the COFFS WG and the CFIA held a joint On-Farm Food Safety (OFFS) conference in Ottawa; titled *The Road Ahead*. The conference attracted approximately 140 participants from the on-farm and post-farm sectors, from government, as well as delegates from Australia, China, and the United States.

Carla Berry, Acting Director of the Consumer Protection Division at the CFIA opened the conference by discussing how both industry and government are increasingly challenged in the area of food safety by greater public demands, greater concerns surrounding contamination, and the risk of food-borne illness. Berry went on to comment on how both industry and government in Canada are rising to these challenges through innovation and the development and implementation of programs such as OFFS, various surveillance programs, and a comprehensive Food Recall and Emergency Response system.

The first panel of the day was titled: *Canadian Achievements: On-Farm and Post-Farm Programs*

Jocelyne Galloway, Program Manager for OFFS at the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, highlighted that through the industry-government partnership between commodity groups and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), to date 29 commodity-specific OFFS programs are currently in various phases of development or implementation, resulting in 99% of primary agriculture being covered by OFFS programs in Canada.

Steve Leech of Chicken Farmers of Canada (CFC) spoke of some of the challenges that producer organizations face with the development and implementation of OFFS programs, these included: "promoting the program, obtaining buy-in, adapting the generic program to individual farms, and overcoming the drain on staff and financial resources". However, with time, dedication, and of course money, OFFS implementation can be achieved. To date 80% of chicken farmers have been audited and CFC is confident that they will achieve the 100% mark by December 31st, 2007.

Larry Dworkin of the Packaging Association of Canada (PAC) then spoke of HACCP program development and implementation in the packing industry. This industry is rapidly implementing HACCP programs due to the demand of their customers. Dworkin noted that major companies such as Kraft, Nestle, Parmalat, and Natrel are now requiring that their suppliers be HACCP-compliant.

Germain Brazeau of CFIA then went on to discuss some of the events that led to the development of the On-Farm Food Safety Recognition Program. Brazeau said that the need for such a program arose from the 2,000,000 cases of food-borne illnesses in Canada which amounted to a cost of \$1 billion annually.

The recognition process requires that commodity groups undergo multi-party examination and assessment their systems, involving review teams that include federal, provincial, and territorial specialists from various fields. While this process seems onerous and is costly at times, it is important to note that for the on-farm sector, where our programs are "HACCP-based" only the commodity group, and not individual farmers undergo this process. In industries where HACCP is being implemented individual organizations must undergo extensive reviews and audits. While in no way was it implied that the onus of protecting the safety of the food supply was uniquely on the farmers, it was noted that food safety is a process that involves all the players from "gate to plate", thus including the farm.

THE ROAD AHEAD CONTINUED

The second panel of the day was titled: *The International Approach to Food Safety and Quality Programs*

Duncan Bruce-Smith of Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) started off the panel by noting that Australia had a long history in food safety and quality starting as early as the 1960s with their state-based Property Identification Code (PIC) database. Since 2000, Australia has seen many developments in the area of food safety and traceability; in 2003 the implementation of the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) began, in 2004 the Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) program was implemented, and in 2006 the Catlecare and Flockcare programs were incorporated into the LPA on-farm Quality Assurance Standard (LPA QA) [for more details about the LPA see *From the Flock* Oct 2006, Vol 3, Iss.10]. Mr. Bruce-Smith also noted that since 1997 the NLIS for cattle has used radio frequency whole-of-life tags to record all movements, from birth to abattoir, in a database. Under this mandatory system 35 million tags are currently in use, 166,000 properties are using approved NLIS devices, and 4000 transactions are entered into the database every day. Mr. Bruce-Smith also said that much like in Canada, the Australian agriculture and agri-food industry is dependent on market access, which as also resulted in an industry-government partnership in developing programs to maintain and increase market access.

Henry L. Giclas of the Western Growers Association (WGA), Paul Leblanc of the Canadian Horticultural Council (CHC), and Heather Holland of the Canadian Produce Marketing Association (CPMA) went on to discuss challenges and partnerships involving various players in the field of horticulture. Mr. Giclas stated that growers and shippers lost in excess of \$100 million as a result of the spinach outbreaks. More so however, the outbreak resulted in a “crisis of confidence” in leafy greens. Mr. Giclas commented that the industry has been rebuilding confidence in their industry though the implementation of the California Leafy Greens Marketing Agreement, which enforces mandatory food supply standards audited by government inspectors. Paul Leblanc and Heather Holland went on to discuss the Food Safety Comparison Project, whose goal is “to establish equivalencies between key [horticulture] food safety programs, so that buyers and importers can confidently purchase both domestic and imported fresh produce at all levels of the supply chain that have been produced through a program that promotes food safety” says Leblanc.

One of the more eye opening talks came from Dr. Wenran Jiang, acting Director of the China Institute at the University of Alberta, who spoke candidly of the effects of modernization on the Chinese population and economy. Dr. Jiang said that, while much of the attention directed at food safety issues has been in countries with advanced economies, food safety issues also exist in emerging countries. For example, a recent flood of reports indicate that some Chinese exports are unsafe, contaminated, and environmentally unfriendly, especially in the food and pharmaceuticals sectors.

Jiang said that China’s modernization process over the past 30 years has resulted in unprecedented economic growth, especially in exports. The growth of the Chinese economy is heavily dependent on foreign trade. The country’s modernization process has led to high mobility, with some 150 million people on the move from rural areas to urban ones in search of jobs and new economic opportunities. Reforms have weakened the ability of the central government to effectively control or monitor an explosive economy, which is now driven primarily by hundreds of thousands of private enterprises. Cutthroat capitalism and pure greed for profits, 19th-century style, are raging in the world’s fourth largest economy. Longer working hours, lower wages, higher education costs, a collapsing health care system, and the destruction of the environment represent “the dark side of modernization,” he said. Moreover, some enterprises have ignored the rules and have engaged in using fake substitutes and cheating “simply to make a buck.”

THE ROAD AHEAD CONTINUED

Despite recent international complaints about the safety of Chinese exports, the Chinese people themselves, not foreigners, are the principal victims of many of the tragic food and drug scandals. Fake food and drugs are often to be found in the marketplace and are even being sold to hospitals.

Jiang acknowledged that the externalization of China's product safety challenges affects not only China, but also Canada and the rest of the world, but said that there is no reason for Sino-phobia. Chinese officials used to treat international complaints about the safety of Chinese exports as isolated incidents or, in some instances, tried to avoid responsibility altogether. However, Chinese leaders now understand that the country stands to lose billions of dollars in trade if it does not take steps to restore worldwide consumer confidence.

He went on to say that there are indications that China is taking product safety issues, both domestic and international, very seriously. It has acknowledged some of the problems reported in the domestic and international media and has promised to investigate and resolve them.

As well, the Chinese leadership has launched a nationwide crackdown campaign. A Beijing court recently sentenced the former head of the nation's food and drug safety regulatory administration to death for accepting bribes to certify the manufacturers of fake drugs. Several investigations in response to reports of fake food and pharmaceutical products are also underway.

The Chinese government announced early in June 2007 a new set of regulations aimed at enhancing China's food and drug safety system. Based on measures first revealed in April 2007, the State Council—China's equivalent to Canada's federal cabinet—stressed that a new national monitoring system expected to be in place by 2010 will be able to trace products, deal with accidents, and handle food recalls.

Jiang concluded by saying that for Canada and other countries, these actions are encouraging steps. He cautioned, however, that no one should take the safety measures of other countries for granted. Canada should consider both adding further resources to and exercising greater care in its overall food and drug inspection capabilities. These initiatives should include not only more vigorous border checking and import control, but also sharing Canada's expertise in the food and drug safety field with China. This will allow China to embrace the rule of law and accelerate the process of establishing a robust monitoring system that will benefit both Chinese and people around the world.

The conference provided many perspectives on food safety from various stakeholders. With representatives from along the whole "gate to plate" continuum and with the input of international guests, it is quite clear that food safety affects and involves everyone involved in the production of food. While *The Road Ahead* does look a bit bumpy, it does seem like we are on the right path.

SHEEP AND BEEF PROFITS TUMBLE

Sheep and beef farmers face a 50% drop in farm profit this season if the kiwi currency continues its current strong form. The US5c drop in the currency over the past week offers little relief, according to Meat & Wool New Zealand (MWNZ).

It says with an exchange rate of US78c-80c this season, gross farm revenue will decrease 9% and farm profit before tax plunge 49% to \$23,400 for the average commercial sheep and beef farm. If the currency continues above US78c, it will be the lowest inflation adjusted sheep and beef farm profit in 50 years. However, if the exchange rate averages US70c for the 2007-08 season lamb price will increase from last year's low of \$53.00 to \$61.00 per head, an increase of 15%. Beef prices will lift 20% and sheep and beef farm profit for the "average" farm will lift 155% from \$23,400 to \$59,800.

MWNZ chairman Mike Petersen says the only difference in this scenario will be the lower New Zealand exchange rate. "The high exchange rate not only impacts on sheep and beef farms it impacts adversely on the whole export sector and the economy," he says.

Petersen expects the current exchange rate to wipe out any expected increases in offshore prices for wool, lamb and beef. In contrast, dairy international prices have more than doubled and these increases far exceed any exchange rate effect. The export sector is a major driver of the New Zealand economy and within this the meat, wool and dairy sectors export 85% of their production. Petersen says for this reason these sectors are very dependent on overseas markets and the prevailing exchange rate. He points out that even with the benefit of the high international prices, dairy will still only make up around 25% of New Zealand export receipts. "The remaining 75% of the export sector is under extreme pressure from the high exchange rate and is now receiving lower prices than last year in New Zealand dollar terms. "Continued, this will lead to retrenchment for 75% of the export sector and this will ripple through the whole economy."

For the meat and wool sector, farm operating expenditure is already cut back and will be reduced further leading to lower activity in the servicing sector. After essential on-farm expenditure is met, there is a rock bottom net farm profit (average \$23,400 per farm) that is spent on taxation, debt reduction if possible but more likely increased overdraft debt, and then on the farm family expenses. This all adds up to lower regional demand and activity.

Lamb prices at the farm gate for the farming year just finished averaged \$53.00 per head and were unacceptably low to farmers compared with previous years. A continuation of the early July 2007 exchange rates for the whole of the 2007 08 farming year would see lamb prices fall to \$50.00 per head (-6%), beef prices fall (-12.5%) and strong wool prices fall (-11%). These decreases would occur despite the outlook for offshore prices to increase due to tighter international supplies, particularly for lamb.

Source: www.ruralnews.co.nz

NEW ZEALAND SHEEP POPULATION FALLS AS DROUGHT FORCES SLAUGHTER

New Zealand's sheep population dropped 2.4 percent to a 10-year low as farmers culled flocks because of a drought on the North Island's east coast. The national flock in New Zealand, the world's biggest exporter of sheep meat, fell to 39.1 million, from 40.1 million last year and 46.1 million in 1997, Meat & Wool New Zealand's Economic Service said in a statement emailed to Bloomberg News.

Flocks in the North Island's east shrank 9 percent after what PGG Wrightson Ltd., New Zealand's biggest agricultural services company, in June said was probably the region's worst drought on record. Sheep and beef meat processed by companies such as Affco Holdings Ltd. and PPCS Ltd. accounted for 13 percent of the nation's NZ\$35 billion (\$27 billion) exports in the year to June 30.

"In the worst-affected areas of the east coast, stock numbers were reduced on some farms by up to 50 percent," said Rob Davison, the service's executive director.

Meat is New Zealand's second-largest commodity export after dairy products milk, butter and cheese. The overall lamb crop may decline by about 5 percent because fewer ewes mated, Meat & Wool said. After the east coast, the Southland area on the South Island recorded the second-largest decrease in ewe numbers because of the number of farms converted to dairy, the service said.

Record worldwide dairy prices prompted Auckland-based Fonterra Cooperative Group Ltd., the world's largest dairy exporter, raise its 2007 milk payment 2.5 percent on July 25, luring farmers to the dairy industry. Sheep outnumber people in New Zealand, with the rate now nine animals for every member of the 4.2 million-strong human population.

Source: www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=2061081&sid=ay107Qkd4A94&refer=australia

SHEEP GENETIC MAP NEARS COMPLETION

Within two years, sheep breeders will be sending off blood samples to test for key genetic markers contained within individual animals. The ability to cull at weaning, stud lambs which carry genes for poor worm resistance, staple strength, fertility or dark fibres will soon be a reality, according to Meat and Livestock sheep genomics director, Rob Forage.

This is all possible because the genetic makeup of the sheep is now largely known, although exact genetic codes or DNA markers that code for very particular traits are still being explored.

The sheep genome map is being put together with significant assistance from what is known of the human, cattle and dog genome or genetic map. So far, researchers have been able to piece the massive puzzle together to form the "virtual sheep genome" and while the search for markers continues, Dr Forage said significant benefits from current knowledge is about to flow.

"Over the next six to 12 months we will see big steps forward," he said. "We are currently part of an international effort to find about 50,000 DNA sheep markers that will lead to high performance sheep breeding in the not too distant future."

Knowing how these genes interact is another challenge which is currently taking place at the Faulkner Research Station near Deniliquin NSW. About 100 traits have been measured on over 5,000 animals. This information will be matched with the 50,000 sheep DNA markers in order to associate traits with markers. From this, the researchers will be developing a diagnostic tool for producers to use and this is where the blood test will come in.

"It will be a massive number crunching exercise to put this together but it will lead to significant genetic gain for the sheep industry. It is a very exciting time," Dr Forage added.

Source: Extract from national sheep and wool news in Rural Press weekly agricultural papers August 2, updated daily on *FarmOnline*.

Website: http://nqr.farmonline.com.au/news_daily.asp?ag_id=44203



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...a national coordinated approach, promoting responsible farm animal care.

National Farm Animal Care & Welfare Conference

September 20 & 21, 2007

Ottawa, Ontario

Farm animal care and welfare is of growing interest and concern. Many initiatives are underway to improve how farm animals are cared for and provide assurances. However, there are many challenges to be faced in achieving measurable improvements. Find out why, the work in progress and future challenges. **This conference is of relevance to:**

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| → Producers | → Policymakers |
| → Processors | → Interest groups |
| → Transporters | → Federal and provincial agriculture departments |
| → Retailers | → Animal welfare enforcement agencies |
| → Food service associations | |

The goals of this conference are to facilitate information sharing and understanding, offer participants a broad view of initiatives being undertaken both domestically and abroad, and provide insights on directions for the future.

Conference Agenda

Speakers from Europe, New Zealand, the United States and Canada will lend their expertise on:

- The European approach to farm animal care & welfare – including political, producer and research perspectives
- The OIE's Animal Welfare Working Group – current activities and future plans
- Farm animal care & welfare developments in the United States
- Food service initiatives in farm animal care & welfare
- Processor initiatives in farm animal care & welfare
- Canada's non-regulated approaches to farm animal care & welfare (panel discussion)
- Canada's regulated approaches to farm animal care and welfare (panel discussion)
- The challenges ahead – reconciling different views and future trends

Agenda and registration on NFACC's website: www.nfacc.ca

Conference Venue: Travelodge Hotel and Conference Centre, 1376 Carling Ave, Ottawa, Ontario. (613) 722-7600

NFACC appreciates the participation of its sponsors in this conference



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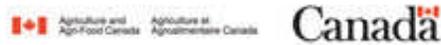
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Putting Farm Animal Welfare on the Agenda



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...une démarche nationale collaborative pour promouvoir des soins aux animaux d'élevage responsables.

Conférence nationale sur les soins et le bien-être des animaux d'élevage

20 et 21 septembre 2007
Ottawa, Ontario

Le bien-être et la protection des animaux d'élevage suscitent de plus en plus d'intérêt et sont au cœur de nombreuses préoccupations. Divers projets sont en cours, destinés à améliorer et à garantir de bons soins aux animaux d'élevage. Il reste cependant de nombreux défis à relever pour parvenir à des améliorations concrètes. En participant à cette conférence, vous comprendrez les raisons de ces défis, vous serez informé des travaux en cours et des difficultés qu'il reste à surmonter. **Cette conférence touche particulièrement :**

- Les producteurs
- Les entreprises de transformation
- Les transporteurs
- Les détaillants
- Les associations du secteur de la restauration
- Les responsables des orientations politiques
- Les groupes d'intérêt
- Les ministères fédéral et provinciaux de l'Agriculture
- Les organismes chargés de la protection des animaux

Cette conférence a pour but de faciliter les échanges d'informations, d'en comprendre la portée, d'offrir aux participants une large perspective des initiatives entreprises à l'échelle nationale et internationale et de fournir un aperçu des orientations futures.

Programme de la Conférence

Des conférenciers d'Europe, de Nouvelle-Zélande, des États-Unis et du Canada parleront de leur domaine de spécialité, notamment :

- La démarche européenne en matière de soins et de bien-être des animaux, y compris le point de vue politique, des producteurs et des chercheurs
- Le Groupe de travail de l'OIE sur la bienveillance animale – activités en cours et futurs projets
- Développements dans le domaine des soins et du bien-être des animaux d'élevage aux États-Unis
- Initiatives du secteur de la restauration en matière de soins et de bien-être des animaux d'élevage
- Initiatives des entreprises de transformation en matière de soins et de bien-être des animaux d'élevage
- Démarches non réglementées du Canada relativement aux soins et au bien-être des animaux (discussion en groupe)
- Démarches réglementées du Canada relativement aux soins et au bien-être des animaux (discussion en groupe)
- Les défis à venir – concilier les différents points de vue et les futures tendances

Programme de la Conférence et Inscription sur le site Web du CNSAE : www.nfacc.ca/Francais

Lieu de la conférence : Travelodge Hotel and Conference Centre, 1376 Carling Ave, Ottawa, Ontario (613) 722-7600

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Putting Farm Animal Welfare on the Agenda



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