



CONFIDENTIAL WITHIN CSF AND MEMBER ORGANIZATION'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ED Report

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Action Items from June 6, 2017, Board Meeting

- The Market Access Secretariat work plan prioritization was revised with the Board's recommendations and submitted to MAS. An in-person meeting is planned with the MAS team to discuss sheep industry priorities and NAFTA negotiations in greater detail.
- Letters of support for the University of Alberta's "Development of Chitosan Oligosaccharides as a Nutritional Bioactive Ingredient in Poultry Feeds" and "Encapsulation and Protection of Omega Oils in Extruded Feeds for Dairy Cows" projects were remitted to the University.
- Sponsorship for the National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council Forum 2017 was remitted to the Council.
- The ED has continued to follow up with AAFC regarding the national sheep industry meeting, however meeting date, time and location had not been finalized as of end of June.
- Work is underway to build the Maedi Visna Working Group membership and terms of reference.

CSIP / Traceability

- The Regulatory Implementation Committee (RIC) met in-person for 2 days in June as we made our way through the Committee's work plans. Key meeting points included:
 - Overview of CFIA's communication plans for the regulatory amendment in relation to publication of draft regulations in CGI (Winter 2017/18)
 - Communications strategy for premises identification uptake, including a PID communications blitz in July
 - Fall-back compliance support for those reporting w/o premises identification
 - Movement documents



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- Database readiness and RFID readers
- CFIA inspector training and compliance enforcement strategies for new regulations
- Goat identifiers being recommended for approval (3; ear tag, tail web tag and leg band)
- The RCMP requested support following up on sheep ID numbers in relation to an animal cruelty investigation in British Columbia.
- The ED met with AAFC and CFIA traceability groups for a second time to discuss the CSF traceability proposal. The CSF shared the OSMA/ALP response re endorsement with the group. Neither agency has received an expression of interest or proposal from any other group to administer traceability for the sheep sector outside of Quebec. Both agencies agreed that they do not want sheep traceability split between various administrators and barring a common solution for all jurisdictions outside of Quebec, would defer administration to CCIA. The CSF pointed out the concern it has with CCIA administering traceability for the sector both because of the proposed costs, and because of CCIA's history of de-prioritizing sheep industry concerns. The CSF stressed the importance of moving ahead with the sheep industry managing its own traceability program, the viability of the CSF proposal for managing the program and the challenges the traceability file will suffer if CFIA and AAFC remain indecisive about program administration.

Canadian Verified Sheep Program (Kristy House)

- Canadian Quality Assurance Program Alliance (CQAPA)
 - CQAPA met to finalize the re naming of the group. Name was chosen to better reflect the evolution of quality assurance programs within the different commodities
 - Group finalized the terms of reference
 - Elected Kristy House as Chair and Connie Kehler as Vice Chair
 - Develop a communication press release to notify industry and government of the renormalization of the COFFS Working Group
 - Press release received very well by industry and government
 - Group to discuss and finalize work plan and activities
- French translation of CVSP Producer Manual
 - Completed translation of Biosecurity Chapter
 - Began reformatting translations to Animal Care Chapter
- Review of Changes with CFIA
 - Received feedback from Food Safety Recognition Team
 - Requested that food safety chapter be completely reviewed to ensure it is aligned with the Generic HACCP Model Including;



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- All Must Dos contain a monitoring record
- The four levels of GPPs (CCP, Must Do, Highly Recommended and Suggested) are all identified within the manual with different font formats
- Review of Changes log has been revised to capture all of the changes that have been made to producer
- Producer manual to reformatted and combined for re-submission to the CFIA
- Attended NFACC Meeting
 - Attended NFACC meeting June 22nd and 23rd
 - Sheep Code of Practice up for review in 2018

Scrapie Eradication Strategic Plan (Claire Knubley)

- Scrapie Canada website
 - Architecture and wireframing development
 - Preliminary framework for wireframing and website architecture began
 - Based on data provided by previously implemented multiplatform analytics tools
 - Continuation of first phase of Scrapie Canada website redesign and development
 - Logo redesign
 - Aesthetic design elements
- Annual Update to VSFCP National Standards Completed
 - Scrapie Working Group's initial draft of the updated National Standards was reviewed and changes were finalized
- Met with the CFIA to develop priorities and strategy for enhancing national slaughter surveillance through increased sampling at provincially inspected facilities. Based on the 2012 prevalence studies, target jurisdictions for sampling were established. Work with provincial CVOs will continue through the summer to implement the provincial slaughter surveillance strategy.

Sheep Value Chain Round Table

- The ED no longer sits on VCRT Working Groups, as CSF representation on these groups has been taken on by CSF Directors. Directors are asked to provide the ED with WG updates for inclusion in monthly ED Reports.
- Profitability Working Group (June 2017): Discussions included:
 - Finding a strategy to address seasonality/supply and demand issues would be a massive project
 - Lack of producer extension/education still remains a big problem to expanding the industry
 - Industry would like to see government promote the sector via extension activities and financing
 - Processors can often take a loss in sheep and offset loss with other species such as beef.



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Sustainability Committee

- The CSF continues to coordinate with AAFC on national sheep industry meeting planning. List of interested attendees has been compiled and shared with AAFC.
- AAFC has confirmed that the national sheep industry meeting will take place in Toronto September 6th and 7th. AAFC will issue meeting invitations through July and August.

Other Updates

- The ED met with Isabelle Mackenzie (CVO, Quebec) to discuss the CSF's potential administration of Quebec's CWD VHCP. Like the Government of Saskatchewan, Quebec would like to transfer program administration to the CSF, however they would like to do so on an accelerated timeline. The CWD VHCP National Standards were revised in 2016-17 with the new standards coming into force in October, and the Government of Quebec would like to divest of the program before new program rules are implemented. The CSF and Quebec CVO are working through some provincially-specific details before moving ahead with drafting a contract for CSF Board review.
- The Treasury Board of Canada held a meeting in Ottawa in June to update industries on the Regulatory Cooperation Council work plans. Representatives from a wide array of industries participated (i.e. agriculture groups, automakers, petroleum and IT industries). The release of updated work plans has been delayed slightly as US counterparts work through their transition to a new administration, and as Canadians identify how the new Canada Free Trade Agreement will impact future RCC work. The Treasury Board explained their role in the RCC process which focuses on evaluations of Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) of all regulatory and policy amendments that come from RCC work on Canada/US alignment. It was interesting to note that the Treasury Board can influence the progress of regulatory amendments if the outcome of a CBA demonstrates financial hardship (or even fails to demonstrate net financial benefit) for regulated parties. This could be an important piece when traceability regulations and their CBA are published in GC I.
- The CSF Board of Directors has ratified a contract with the Government of Saskatchewan for the administration of the Chronic Wasting Disease Voluntary Herd Certification Program within the province of Saskatchewan. The contract lays out the transfer of administration responsibilities over the course of the next two years, including transitional funding to the CSF.
- The CSF and SSDB partnered in hosting a sheep tour for participants of the 2017 Agri Benchmark Beef and Sheep Conference held in Saskatoon in early June. The Sheep Conference took place over two days with the following agenda:
 - Session opening (Ernesto Reyes)
 - Global overview (Peter Weeks)
 - Latest developments in the countries (Isam et al.)



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- Country presentations: Canada (Corlena Patterson), UK (Giles Blatchford)
- How typical are our farms?
- Field trip: Arlette and Allen Seib (Watrous), Larson Farm (Southy), Lamb BBQ @ Larson Farm
- Country presentations: NZ (Tony Rhodes)
- International comparison (Ernesto Reyes)
- Production systems: annual schedules, feed management, treatments.

Agri benchmark is a global, non-profit network of agricultural economists, advisors, producers and specialists in key sectors of agricultural and horticultural value chains. They use internationally standardised methods to analyse farms, production systems and their profitability. Their farm-level knowledge is combined with an analysis of international commodity markets and value chains. In this way they are able to provide scientifically consistent and soundly based answers on strategic issues to decision-makers in policy, agriculture and agribusiness. The CSF was invited to join Agri Benchmark during the conference.

More information about Agri Benchmark can be found at <http://www.agribenchmark.org>.

- The CSF was invited by the Market Access Secretariat to appoint two representatives who would have access to the MAS sharepoint website. This site is an exchange point for current MAS information including updated priority work plans, relevant current issues and news, and updates on key priorities. The ED and Director Kate Basford (member of the VCRT Market Access Working Group) were granted access to the website on behalf of the CSF.
- The Ed attended *A Food Policy for Canada Summit* took place in Ottawa June 22nd and 23rd. *A Food Policy for Canada* will set a long-term vision for the health, environmental, social, and economic goals related to food, while identifying actions we can take in the short-term. A food policy is a way to address issues related to the production, processing, distribution, and consumption of food. The Summit and consultation is focused on:
 - Increasing access to affordable food;
 - Improving health and food safety;
 - Conserving our soil, water and air; and
 - Growing more high-quality food.

A Food Policy for Canada is being led by AAFC, with the Minister Lawrence MacAulay leading the Summit's Panel Discussion. A summit report and next step action items will be shared later this summer.

- The ED was invited to meet with Health Canada and Veterinary Drug Directorate to discuss current AMU/AMR initiatives and work on strategies for approval of sheep drugs in Canada. A briefing note was created for the VCRT Health Strategies Working Group



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to both share the meeting outcomes and involve the entire sector in work to increase awareness and increase approvals. From that note, the following are key points for industry consideration:

- **Communicating changes to Own Use Importation regulations (OUI):** HC and VDD have asked for help raising awareness among producers about the pending rule changes to OUI. Regulations restricting OUI will change effective November 13th, 2017. New regulations will prohibit importation of drugs not approved in Canada, with an exemption for specified drug products that represent an acceptable risk to food safety and public health.
- **Increasing uptake on Veterinary Health Products list:** New regulations will facilitate how veterinary health products are made available in Canada, and HC/VDD are looking for input from industry on how to populate the list (list C) of approved VHPs.
- **2-3 drug approval priorities:** HC/VDD are looking for the industry's top 2 or 3 wish list drugs to put through the PMC approval process beginning as soon as possible. Criteria would include products that are not Class I, II or III antimicrobials, that are on-label for use in sheep in the US (alternatively in Australia, New Zealand or the UK), and whose manufacturers are willing to pursue approval through the PMC process.
- **Support/Advocacy for PMC approval mechanism:** Adaptation of the Pest Management Centre's approval process to review veterinary drugs has proven very successful for getting approval of sheep drugs, as well as products for other minor use species. HC and the VDD would like to be able to use this pathway for approval of MUMS veterinary drugs, but the PMC will require sustainable funding to ensure it has the capacity to conduct the reviews. As industry, we need to be advocating for sustainable funding for the PMC.
- Global Affairs Canada announced consultations on the renegotiation of NAFTA, with initial consultation comments due by July 18th. The ED has separate meetings scheduled with the NAFTA negotiation team and MAS to discuss sheep industry priorities through these negotiations, as well as priorities on the MAS work plan.

This month's meetings

- TD Canada Trust – CSF Accounts
- Regulatory Implementation Committee (Ottawa)
- Quebec CVO- CWD VHCP Quebec
- AAFC and CFIA Traceability teams (Ottawa)
- Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP – CWD VHCP SK Contract
- Treasury Board of Canada (Ottawa) – Regulatory Cooperation Council Work Plans
- Heather Brown – Scrapie slaughter surveillance



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- AgriBenchmark Conference (Saskatoon)
- National Plant and Animal Health Strategy Steering Committee
- Market Access Secretariat webinar – sharepoint access
- AMU Minimum Dataset Working Group
- Canada's Food Summit (Ottawa)
- Food Sector Network
- Health Canada and Veterinary Drug Directorate (Ottawa)