

ED Report

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Action Items from June 18, 2018, Board Meeting

- Additional information regarding scrapie testing RPLN tissue in the Voluntary Scrapie Flock Certification Program was collected and circulated to the Board for their consideration.
- The CSF retained Bronze level sponsorship of the National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council Forum 2018.
- The CSF explored advertising opportunity for the BC Wool Classing Workshop.

Canadian Sheep Identification Program / Traceability

- The Southern Alberta Institute of Technology announced in June that that they have suspended operations as an ICARs Test Facility and will not renew its ISO certification at this time. “After about 10 months of operational review and business planning and following our discussions about the ICARs Lab Business Plan, we’ve exhausted the potential sources of administrative funding support, without success, and have therefore come to the conclusion that the ICARs lab cannot be run successfully at the current volume of tests we’ve been getting for the last 3 years (without that additional support)”, stated ARIS Director Rick Tofani.

Scrapie Eradication Strategic Plan

- The Scrapie Working Group and its member organizations continued deliberations on changes to the Voluntary Scrapie Flock Certification Program in response to equivalency issues pointed out by the USDA as they audited the program for import purposes. As shared in the May newsletter, the following are proposed program changes include:
 - Require the retropharyngeal lymph node (RPLN) to be tested along with the brain for all scrapie samples taken as part of the VSFCP. Practical consideration: Requires collecting and submitting two tissues per animal, and adds another test cost.

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- Remove pathways 2 and 3 from VSFCP. Rationale: No flocks or herds are currently on either of these pathways and only 2 in past years. Pathway 3 (genotyping) for sheep is not needed if, according to US draft import rule, permits can be issued for male animals of AA QR and AA RR and females of AA RR genotype without being enrolled on the VSFCP.
- A herd/flock may reach certified status after 5 years on the VSFCP. The OIE guidelines and the US program require 7 years to reach certified status. The US program has minimum sampling numbers that must be met in order to reach their 7-year certified status and the VSFCP does not. Proposed Action:
 - Add another level = Certified Plus. To attain Certified Plus status on the program a flock/herd must have been enrolled for a minimum of 7 years with a minimum of 30 animals scrapie tested or the equivalent as set out below:
 - A minimum sampling requirement for this level of 30 animals scrapie tested or all genetically susceptible animals in flock or herd whichever is less. Also all genetically susceptible females acquired in last two years.
 - samples obtained according to the sampling requirements as the herd/flock advanced through the levels of the program (e.g. all deads sampled, humanely euthanized animals etc.) .
 - samples obtained from genetically susceptible animals over 14 months by live-animal testing or post-mortem testing (culled, slaughtered animals) when needed to make up the balance of the minimum sampling requirement.
 - samples are not required from
 - genetically susceptible animals with valid live-animal test results in the previous 24 months
 - genetically susceptible animals that have been live-animal tested 4 times with at least one valid result.
 - genetically resistant animals as evidenced by documented approved genotype testing. These animals are sheep with documented proof of 136AA 171QR or 171RR genotype.
 - In addition, any genetically susceptible female animals not acquired from certified plus flocks in the preceding two years must be sampled by live-animal or post-mortem testing before advancement.
 - Herds/flocks can choose to stay at the VSFCP's 5-year certified level if don't want to meet the extra sampling requirements They can move to certified plus level once ready and have interest (i.e. want to export).
- In April, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) identified scrapie in a 171 RR sheep from a flock in North Carolina. There was insufficient positive tissue available to rule out non-classical scrapie. As a result, APHIS is conducting additional testing of the flock before determining whether to classify the case as classical scrapie. Testing related to this case continues.

Canadian Verified Sheep Program

- The CSF is working with the Government of British Columbia planning a series of Canadian Verified Sheep Program training sessions. These in-person training sessions will be open to all producers, free of charge, at 3 locations in BC. Stay tuned for dates, locations and registration information.
- Interested in organizing a Canadian Verified Sheep Program training session? The CVSP has trained trainers in most Canadian provinces, and partners with Provincial Delivery Agents to bring training to you. Contact the Canadian Sheep Federation for more information: inof@cansheep.ca.

Other Updates

- The Canadian Sheep Federation submitted comments on the notice of intent to impose countermeasures action against the United States, to the International Trade Policy Division of the Department of Finance, recommending the addition of sheep and lamb products to the list of countermeasure products.
- In June, the Department of Finance Canada announced Countermeasures in Response to Unjustified Tariffs on Canadian Steel and Aluminum Products. To learn more about the scope of these countermeasures, visit the Department's website at: <https://www.fin.gc.ca/access/tt-it/cacsap-cmpcaa-1-eng.asp>
- Again this year, the CSF is working with Canadian Food Inspection Agency researchers on their culicoides trapping project. This project traps culicoides in various regions across Canada, mapping the diversity of the species and plotting changes in populations. This allows us to understand the distribution of these species and the potential risk they pose in spreading animal diseases. CSF staff works with producers in the Ottawa region to distribute, set and collect traps.
- The Chronic Wasting Disease Voluntary Herd Certification Program (CWD VHCP) Working Group met in June to discuss WG membership, ratify the group's Terms of Reference, and start planning for the next CWD VHCP National Standards Review. The Canadian Sheep Federation now serves as Regional Administrator and Status Assessor for producers in the provinces of Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec.
- The CSF ED participated in a call with the BC Ministry of Agriculture, BC Sheep Federation and additional stakeholders for a discussion on managing the co-existence of farmed and wild sheep.
- The Food and Animal Organization of the United Nations released summary reports from the three FAO AMR technical meetings organized last year:
 - Antimicrobial Resistance and Foods of Plant Origin. Summary Report of an FAO Meeting of Experts - PDF URL: <http://www.fao.org/3/BU657en/bu657en.pdf>

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- Biocides and Antimicrobial Resistance. Summary Report of an FAO Meeting of Experts - PDF URL: <http://www.fao.org/3/BU655en/bu655en.pdf>
- Antimicrobial Resistance in the Environment. Summary Report of an FAO Meeting of Experts - PDF URL: <http://www.fao.org/3/BU656en/bu656en.pdf>
- The CSF ED is a member of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex) Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR) eWG on Proposed draft Guidelines on Integrated surveillance of antimicrobial resistance.
- Health Canada hosted a webinar to discuss the revised proposal for drugs and medical devices. This initiative looks to 'modernize' delivery costs for drug and medical device approvals, licensing, etc. If implemented, these changes increase costs related to approvals and sales of veterinary drugs. For the sheep industry, this could mean losing approved sheep drugs from the Canadian market and prevent new approvals. The CSF provided feedback to this latest proposal, and will continue to advocate for facilitated veterinary drug access for the sheep industry and other minor use minor species.
- In June, Merck Animal Health announced that Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has approved the use of Boss® Pour-On (Permethrin 5.0% w/w) in sheep.
- On June 13, 2018, Canada's Minister of Health and Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food announced the publication of the final Safe Food for Canadians Regulations (SFCR) in the Canada Gazette, Part II. As the new consolidated regulations come into force on January 15, 2019, businesses will have time to familiarize themselves with and prepare for the new requirements, including licensing, traceability and preventive controls. Some requirements will have to be met immediately upon coming into force, while others will be phased in over a period of 12-30 months based on food commodity, type of activity and business size. To learn more about the Safe Food for Canadians Regulations, visit the Government of Canada website: <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/safefood>
- Our monthly newsletter brings you information on a smattering of the noteworthy work we do. The CSF partners in quite a few groups and initiatives, providing sheep industry perspective on issues that affect many aspects of farming. Here's an example of what we're into:
 - IGAC
 - IGAC Management Group
 - IGAC Communications Working Group
 - National Identification Management Advisory Committee (NIDMAC)
 - Regulatory Implementation Committee (Traceability)
 - Canadian Cattle Identification Agency Board of Directors
 - Chronic Wasting Disease Voluntary Herd Certification Program Working Group

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- Canadian Global Food Animal Residue Avoidance Database (CgFARAD)
- CgFARAD Advisory Board
- National Farm Animal Care Council
- National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council
- Food Sector Network
- Canadian Livestock Market Information Advisory Committee
- National Plant and Animal Health Strategy (NPAHS) Coordination Through Partnership Working Group
- National Plant and Animal Health Strategy (NPAHS) Steering Committee
- Public Trust Steering Committee
- CAHSS Minimum AMU Surveillance Data Working Group
- CFIA Electronic Service Delivery Platform External Stakeholder Advisory Committee
- Agriculture Trade Negotiations Consultative Group
- AAFC Cost Recovery Working Group
- Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR) eWG on Proposed draft Guidelines on Integrated surveillance of antimicrobial resistance
- Environment and Climate Change Canada's Output-Based Standards Food Processing Sector Working Group
- Canadian Animal Health Products Regulatory Advisory Sub-Committee on Antimicrobial Resistance

This month's meetings

- Health Canada - Fee Proposal for Veterinary Drugs
- BC Ministry of Agriculture – Wild/domestic sheep strategy
- CSF Board of Directors
- National Farm Animal Care Council
- BC Ministry of Agriculture – Canadian Verified Sheep Program
- Food Sector Network
- NPAC – Business Risk Management (BRM) Programs Review
- Chronic Wasting Disease Voluntary Herd Certification Program Working Group
- Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System Antimicrobial Use (AMU) Working Group
- Agricultural Trade Negotiation Consultative Group (ATNCG) – FTA updates
- Canadian Cattle Identification Agency x 2

SHEEP SUPPLY CANADA

Year To Date for the Month Ending March 2018

Fed. & Prov. Slaughter (head)			
preliminary	2018	2017	% chg
B.C./Alta/Sask./Man.	29,705	30,371	-2.2
Ontario	61,903	54,074	14.5
Quebec - Atlantic*	34,235	29,772	15.0
Canada	125,843	114,217	10.2
Federal Slaughter			
West - Ontario	12,974	10,797	20.2
Quebec - Atlantic	9,051	6,815	32.8
West - Ontario YTD	25,615	24,937	2.7
Quebec - Atlantic YTD	20,269	17,018	19.1
Provincial Slaughter			
preliminary			
West - Ontario	28,402	21,404	32.7
Quebec - Atlantic*	6,824	4,999	32.5
West - Ontario YTD	65,993	59,508	10.9
Quebec - Atlantic YTD *	13,966	12,754	9.5

Source: CFIA, Provincial Governments
*Includes estimates for 2018

Imports			
(Number of head from U.S.)	Year to Date March		% chg
Pure-bred & Non Pure-bred	2018	2017	
East	8	18	-
West	0	0	-
Total	8	18	-

Source: Statistics Canada

Mutton & Lamb			
(Metric Tonnes)	Year to Date March		% chg
	2018	2017	
New Zealand	2,682	3,637	-26.3
Australia	2,254	2,016	11.8
Other	289	165	75.0
Total	5,225	5,818	-10.2

Source: Statistics Canada

UNITED STATES

Total Sheep and Lambs			
	Year to Date March		% chg
	2018	2017	
Slaughter ('000 head)	493	485	1.7
Avg Dressed Wt (lbs)	74	72	2.8
Avg Dressed Wt (Kg)	34	33	2.8
Lamb/Mutton (mil lbs)	36	35	2.9
Lamb/Mutton (tonnes)	16,193	15,740	2.9

U.S. Lamb & Mutton Exports (Metric Tonnes)			
	Year to Date March		% chg
	2018	2017	
Mexico	187	335	-44.2
Caribbean	175	171	2.3
Canada	42	16	-
Japan	40	0	-
European Union	37	18	-
ASEAN	18	2	-
Central & South America	17	24	-29.2
Other	10	20	-50.0
Total US Exports	526	586	-10.2

Source: USDA

Monthly Prices			
	2018	2017	% chg
Ontario Auctions			
Lambs	S/cwt, live weight, weighted average		
< 65 lbs, new crop	355.56	312.88	13.6
65-79 lbs	359.91	317.55	13.3
80-94 lbs	280.24	263.54	6.3
95-109 lbs	252.00	244.03	3.3
Sheep	136.95	142.59	-4.0
Quebec Auctions			
Lambs	S/cwt, live weight, weighted average		
< 65 lbs, new crop	378.81	339.47	11.6
65-79 lbs	314.36	282.59	11.2
Sheep - Ewes	121.43	119.98	1.2
Sheep - Ram	143.20	124.79	14.7
LEOQ			
	2018		
Quebec Heavy Lambs	S/kg carcass basis (Producer annual contract price)		
February 11, 2018 to March 24, 2018	10.20		
March 25, 2018 to May 5, 2018	10.25		
May 6 to May 26, 2018	10.80		

Source: Ontario Cattlemen's Association, Quebec Electronic Auctions and Les Éleveurs d'Ovins du Québec

Exports			
(Number of head)	Year to Date March		% chg
Total Live Sheep	2018	2017	
United States	2,709	2,760	-1.8
Other	0	0	-
Total	2,709	2,760	-1.8

Source: Statistics Canada

Mutton & Lamb			
(Metric Tonnes)	Year to Date March		% chg
	2018	2017	
United Arab Emirates	19.2	16.9	13.6
United States	16.7	35.0	-52.3
Saint Pierre and Miquelon	3.3	2.3	42.0
Other	0.1	2.7	-
Total	39.3	57.0	-31.1

Source: Statistics Canada

U.S. Price Summary			
	March		
	2018	2017	
San Angelo Auction			
	U.S. \$/cwt min/max		
Choice and Prime 1	40-70 lbs	208.79 - 226.64	216.50 - 244.19
	70-110 lbs	192.00 - 208.62	208.83 - 229.67
Good 1	40 - 110 lbs	157.37 - 176.53	165.00 - 193.00

Note: Monthly price averages are calculated off of daily/weekly price reporting

U.S. Lamb & Mutton Imports (Metric Tonnes)			
	Year to Date March		% chg
	2018	2017	
Australia	27,533	26,575	3.6
New Zealand	8,020	9,004	-10.9
Chile	52	49	5.9
Uruguay	35	0	-
Canada	16	35	-54.9
Other	0	9	-
Total US Imports	35,656	35,672	0.0