
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 17

Approved

SOURCE:

COMMITTEE ON SWINE

SUBJECT MATTER:

Policy Regarding Allowable African Swine Fever Sample Collectors

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

During an African swine fever (ASF) outbreak, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) authorization for indemnity to depopulate the first detected case within a state or territory will require confirmation by the USDA-APHIS-VS National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL). The USDA-APHIS-VS authorization for indemnity to depopulate any subsequent cases in a state or territory will not need to be confirmed by USDA-APHIS-VS-NVSL but will require:

- 1) ASF non-negative or presumptive positive result at an approved National Animal Health Laboratory Network laboratory, and
- 2) Determination of clinical signs compatible with ASF on the affected premises.

Detected cases include feral and domestic swine.

An ASF outbreak in the United States will require a tremendous number of resources including personnel to collect and submit samples for ASF testing for surveillance within control areas, permitted movements from control areas, disease testing to confirm additional cases, etc.

The swine industry developed a Certified Swine Sample Collector (CSSC) program to address expected personnel shortages that may be adopted by states prior to or during an ASF disease response. Participants in the CSSC program and other programs that are developed are critical resources to identify the spread of the disease and enable the swine industry to maintain continuity of business during an outbreak.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association requests that the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services confirm who is authorized to collect samples during an African swine fever outbreak to supplement state and federal response personnel and that qualifies facilities for indemnification of subsequent cases identified in a state.

INTERIM RESPONSE:

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) recognizes the concerns of the United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) and appreciates the opportunity to respond.

In addition to federal and state personnel, samples may be collected by either a licensed veterinarian, an accredited veterinarian, a Certified Swine Sample Collector approved by the state animal health official, or other persons deemed appropriate by the state animal health official. Foreign animal disease investigations must be conducted by a foreign animal disease diagnostician trained by USDA APHIS VS.