
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 4 APPROVED

SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON SWINE

SUBJECT MATTER: Policy Regarding Reshipments of Swine from Slaughter Facilities to Facilities Associated with Licensed Swine Dealers during a Foreign Animal Disease Outbreak

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Veterinary Services Guidance 7400.2 “Reshipment of Swine from Slaughter Facilities” allows the reshipment of swine that do not meet the specifications upon arrival at a harvest facility and move through slaughter channels to a harvest facility where it does meet the specifications.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) requests that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) adopt the following policy before a foreign animal disease (FAD) outbreak occurs: “In the event of a high consequence FAD outbreak, including but not limited to African swine fever, classical swine fever, or foot and mouth disease, all reshipment agreements in accordance with VS Guidance 7400.2 “Reshipment of Swine from Slaughter Facilities”, be immediately temporarily suspended and a plan proactively developed for releasing the suspension.” USAHA, USDA-APHIS, and state animal health officials should work together to understand how this policy will be executed at the federal level.

FINAL 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.

APHIS recognizes the reshipment of non-standard weight swine from slaughter to alternate facilities poses a high risk for disease spread due to the mixing of swine from multiple sources, the redirection of terminal movements back into market chains, and potentially prolonged periods

in shipping channels. During a high-consequence foreign animal disease outbreak, stopping these movements will be a critical mitigation to reduce disease spread.

APHIS will continue to work with the USAHA Swine Committee, state animal health officials, and other stakeholders to update and enhance policies and guidance regarding swine movement practices, including reshipment, in the event of a high-consequence FAD outbreak. APHIS invites industry and State partners to share proposed plans or ideas to mitigate the risks associated with reshipping swine to help facilitate this collaboration.