

**Animal Identification & Information Systems  
Council Report**

**2014 NIAA Annual Conference**

**Wednesday, April 2, 2014**



The Animal Identification & Information Systems Council met on Wednesday, April 2, 2014 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. during the 2014 NIAA Annual Conference in Omaha, Nebraska, with about 53 people present. Dr. Robert Fourdraine and Mr. Victor Velez served as Co-Chairs.

The council session focused on the implementation of the ADT rule. The following speakers presented relevant information pertaining to the status of implementation:

**Mr. Neil Hammerschmidt – USDA**, presented “USDA Update on Implementation of ADT”

- ADT is not a full traceability system, instead it was developed to be a bookend system for interstate system - CFR supports this concept
- The key elements of ADT are:
  - Tags distribution record keeping
  - ID collection at slaughter
  - Movement documentation such as ICVI or OSS
- Challenges that have been observed are related to the ADT rule providing states a lot of flexibility which some state took advantage from causing differences by states
- There is a lot of variation on state requirements therefore there has to be aid for producers to sort through this
- Manual or electronic recording of existing official ID is a requirement under ADT and no second identifier of the same type can be applied. If a second identifier of a different type is applied, both ID's need to be recorded.
- Administration of Owner Shipper Statements is still being worked on
- ADT priorities
  - Distribution to producers (37 states)
  - Agreements to set up tagging sites
- Currently there are 19 tag makers providing a variety of tags, most are electronic.
- Starting March 2015 the USA prefix tags and manufacturer's coded tags will be phased out as official ID.
- Training of Accredited vets module done though Iowa State will include ADT related information
- Traceability performance standards (4 activities) States to complete trace exercises as part of there the ADT reports
- A tag retirement trial is being conducted through the Ames facilities to get an understanding of the costs and logistics recording tag retirement records. - starts May 1, 2014
- Revising 9 CFR 71.20 Approved Livestock facilities will take place fall 2014 to meet ADT compliance
- Monitoring and Compliance will be administered by USDA in coordination with states wherever states can and wish to participate.
- The focus will be on the on the key functions such as application of official ID, ICVI and collection of ID, less emphasis on areas that have little benefit to traceability

- There will be upcoming training to Area Division Directors and inform them about compliance efforts. No new staff will be hired as part of ADT compliance.

**Charles Hatcher, DVM** moderated a Regional Panel Update –Northeast, North Central, South, and West – “ADT and efforts to build harmonization of rules/regulations in surrounding states and interstate movement” with panelists: **Manoel Tamassia, DVM – NJ; Mr. Ron Miller – PA; Linda Hickam, DVM – MO; Rod Hall, DVM – OK; and Annette Jones, DVM – CA**

The following 4 questions were provided to the State panel:

1. Have you made any progress in regional agreements? If so, what documentation, identification are being used different from those required by USDA? What type of communication have you done to industry about these?
2. What obstacles have you seen either from industry, veterinarians or state animal health officials?
3. Are you able to share information among the states in a timely and efficient manner?
4. Do you have any success stories you want to share?

The following replies were recorded:

#### Oklahoma

- WV, NC have other documentation they are considering for livestock movement recording as well as OK
- Obstacles: some southern states do not require brucellosis vaccination so there is no identification on cattle coming to market.
- They have been unable to verify documentation because they have no stations at the state border to check paperwork
- Generally it is easier to check the market records then looking up information on the ICVI
- As a result of ADT and information coming back from receiving states more quickly there has been more communications with veterinarians about completing ICVI's correctly. There also is a growing interest in using RFID's and eCVI's.
- Missouri
- There is no arrangements for cattle but they have some for movement of swine
- They are considering implementing an exception on official ID by using registration tattoos
- There have been communication with livestock markets and producer groups
- Challenges are related to concerns voiced about the next step which is beef cattle under 18 months
- There has been success using eCVIs by some producers

#### California

- There are more open lands and grazing out west creating more opportunities to make agreements for animals grazing with brands as the official with a CVI
- Originally western states wanted a general agreement, however this has not happened and now states are making individual agreements
- There is a challenge enforcing federal laws under existing state laws
- It takes time to write State ADT regulations that match up with federal ADT regulations

#### Pennsylvania

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- There are few livestock markets that are tagging cattle
- They have been able to trace tags with other states
- Five livestock dealers have requested tags to tag animals

#### New Jersey

- Have not setup any agreements because state law prevents them from doing so. Instead they will make exceptions via phone communications.
- The speed of traceability is compromised because they have to manually enter data
- They distribute tags to producers and livestock markets.

**Robert Fourdraine, PhD** moderated a Technology Solutions Panel where various vendors responded to questions

There were 5 companies represented and 2 do data collection and 3 allow for importation of data and 3 companies provide CVI's

The companies will supply the detailed answers to each of the following questions via paper.

- 1) Does your product have features to collect electronic (RFID) and non-electronic official and non-official identification (ID) at concentration points (i.e. livestock markets, tagging stations, etc) and at ranch-side for animals moving interstate? If so how?
- 2) Does your product have features to create official documents such as electronic Certificates of Veterinary Inspections (eCVI), Owner-Shipper Statements (OSS), etc. to accompany livestock shipments interstate? Can recording of animals to multiple documents be worked on simultaneously or does the product require the completion of single documents?
- 3) If yes to both questions, is your product able to share the information including the individual ID with those parties that need to receive the information such as:
  - a. States of origin and destinations electronic animal health systems. Please explain how?
    - i. State developed system
    - ii. USDA provided SCS
    - iii. USA Herds
    - iv. CoreOne
  - b. State of origin and destination's animal health offices without an electronic animal health system.
  - c. Concentration point sites.
  - d. Owner of livestock.
- 4) What product(s) (eCVI, etc.) is/are approved to be used in all states? If not, which states have approval?
- 5) How does your product handle electronic signatures?
- 6) In what platforms does your product run (Windows, Macintosh, browser-based), and which mobile devices (IOS, Android, Windows Mobile)? Is an internet connection required at all times to operate your product or can it be run off line generating documents and uploaded at a later date to a central database?

**Mr. John Picanso – USDA**, presented "Update on Electronic CVI Data Standards "

- Standards for sharing information are very important both nationally and internationally

- It takes time to agree to standards however technology moves faster than the establishment of standards.
- Standards need to be developed for:
  - eCVI,
  - technical communications protocols,
  - information sharing principles and guidelines

**Chelsea Good, JD – Livestock Marketing Association, VP of Government & Industry Affairs**, presented “Update on Livestock Markets and Animal Identification”

- 70 % markets of markets belong to LMA, LMA has 7 regional market representatives
- Several of the challenges identified in 2013, such as education, producer access to tags, transportation, database use, dairy steers have been addressed and much has been accomplished, however there is room to grow
- We need producer education, however cannot rely on the markets as the sole source
- There needs to be education on ADT to regulatory staff
- Differences between states because of flexibility causes confusion
- States that have promulgated ADT rules at the same time as USDA released the ADT rule have created greater complexity explaining what producers and markets need to do.
- 37 states allow for tagging sites out of 41 that responded to the survey have said yes. Preference would be to have a single-issue agreement vs individual agreements
- Some existing documents that livestock markets already have include the same information reported on Owner Shipper Statements, therefore the market forms could be considered for use.
- Other states are working on movement documents that are not OSS or CVI's but could be uses
- Concerns about enforcement
  - \$ 1,000 to \$ 1,000,000 or criminal penalties
  - Who is the responsible party? Receiving or shipper.
  - Need consistency in the enforcement so it is not just markets and includes other entities.

USDA information technology advisory board

- Chelsea provided an overview of the work done on developing a portal to allow easy access to state movement requirements.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

There were no updates to existing resolutions and no new resolutions were submitted.

Instead of adding a new resolution the council gave strong support to the USAHA resolution in regards to developing a portal where individuals can access a system that provides information about state livestock movement requirements.

Suggestion is to develop a USAHA, NIAA and National Assembly committee to further develop a proposal and share this proposal at the USAHA meeting for approval.

**General Discussion:** See above

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Council Session adjourned at 11:45AM.