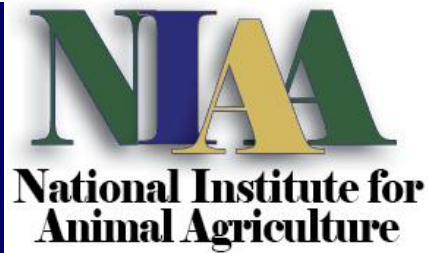


**Global Animal Health, Food Security & Trade
Council Report**

2016 NIAA Annual Conference

Tuesday, April 5, 2016



The Global Animal Health, Food Security & Trade Council met on Tuesday, April 5, 2016 from 2:00 to 5:30 p.m. during the 2016 NIAA Annual Conference in Kansas City, Missouri, with approximately 40 people present. Drs. Len Bull and Linda Hickam served as Co-Chairs.

The Global Animal Health, Food Security & Trade Council session focused on the impact of consumer trends, animal disease incidents and state policies on the quality and security of our food supply. The following speakers presented relevant information pertaining to the secure food supply and impact of international and state policy and perception during the recent HPAI incident:

Dr. Francisco Diez-Gonzalez – Head and Professor, Department of Food Science and Nutrition, University of Minnesota, presented “The Potential Impact of Consumer Trends on Quality and Safety of our Food Supply”. Dr. Diez-Gonzalez discussed the impact of global trends on food production demands with an increasing population and changing consumption trends. Dr. Diez-Gonzalez presented research regarding the food safety and the risks in the current food supply and the various components of the basis of consumer perception of risk and trust of the food supply.

The balance between risk and opportunity was discussed. The demand for less processed food by consumers will need to be balanced by the increased risk of food borne diseases, i.e. salmonella, and more food waste. Dr. Diez-Gonzalez provide the example of raw milk to illustrate the increased risk of food borne diseases without the benefit of pasteurization and the change in state regulations which allow for the sale of raw milk due to consumer demand.

Summary:

- Future food security will be depending on our ability to solve multiple challenges
- It is uncertain whether current consumer trends would have a major impact on food security
- Consumer preferences for less preserved foods may lead to foodborne risks and increased food waste
- Current trends poses opportunities for creativity and business

David Schmitt, DVM – State Veterinarian, Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship, presented “HPAI Industry Perspective and Update”. Dr. Schmitt discussed the 2015 HPAI incident in Iowa and the impact on the state and producers. He provided information about the migratory patterns of waterfowl and the state/federal emergency response. Major challenges to the emergency response were the resources required to provide required surveillance and the issues associated with disposal of large layer operations.

The financial impact of the incident on the state from the response and loss of international trade was presented. Iowa is number one in layer operations and depopulated approximately 40% of the layers during the HPAI incident. The impact to the state and industry will be felt for a significant period of time as the operations are not back to 100% almost a year after the initial case. The importance of biosecurity was emphasized to prevent future disease incidents.

Dr. Travis Schaal – Internal Technical Services Manager, Hy-Line International, presented “Food Security Implications with an Animal Disease Incident”. Dr. Schaal provided information about the development and concentration of the current genetics in the layer industry. The intense vertical integration of the layer operation provides unique challenges to the poultry industry during a disease incident due to the trade and movement restrictions of countries. Approximately 60% of the poultry products and the entire genetic pipeline originate from the United States. The impact of the movement restrictions has significant financial impacts due to the international demands of the poultry genetics.

Dr. Schall presented on the impact of the HPAI incident from an industry point of view, concentrating on the global nature of the industry and international financial impact. He emphasized the importance for trade negotiations and discussions in the event of a disease incident to occur prior to instead of during the disease incident. The China and Thailand market is still closed and has significant financial impact to US producers. The impact is not only from the loss of sales but also the increase cost of disposing of by-products that do not have a US market, i.e. duck feet. He stated industry was making progress implementing regionalization and compartmentalization through NPIP, thus enabling premises/regions to be designated as “free” during a disease incident. The future of the industry may involve relocating production units outside of the United States to ensure availability of genetics during a disease incident.

He also briefly discussed the genetic modification in the poultry industry to produce birds with increased disease resistance and production performance. The acceptance of these modifications by consumers is unknown but will probably not be in the near future. Food safety and the importance of communicating with consumers about proper handling and cooking to mitigate the risk of zoonotic diseases was presented.

Barbara Glenn, PhD, CEO – National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, presented “Farm to Table: State Challenges for Advocating, Regulating Agriculture”. Dr. Glenn provided information about the membership of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) and its mission. She presented on the development of policies procedures and actions taken on adopted policies on a national level. The NASDA supports a federal oversight of GMO regulations to prevent the patchwork regulations that would result if state oversight were allowed. Dr. Glenn emphasized the need for NASDA to be engaged with NIAA to address agriculture concerns and issues.

Old Business: There was no old business discussed.

New Business:

- The committee moved and seconded the motion to amend the following resolutions: GAHFST 1 and GAHFST 7.
- The committee commented on GAHFST5 use of the term “animal welfare” in lieu of the current utilization of the phrase “animal well being” or “animal care”. It was decided to not amend the resolution, but felt any changes should be left to the discretion of the Board of Directors and Resolution Committee to ensure continuity throughout the resolutions.
- There were not any new resolutions presented to the committee.

General Discussion: The committee members discussed the future direction of the Global Animal Health, Food Security and Trade Council. The involvement of the packing industry in future discussions is crucial to address food security and international trade. Topics such as changes in international trade and consumer desires/choices were discussed, in addition to a format of shorter presentations to allow for more presentations of relevant topics. The committee would like to include speakers to discuss the opportunities to open new global markets in countries, such as Cuba.

Global Animal Health, Food Security & Trade Council Session adjourned at 5:30 p.m.