The Animal Health and Emergency Management Council met on Tuesday, April 4, 2017 from 2:00 to 5:30 p.m. during the 2017 NIAA Annual Conference in Columbus, Ohio, with approximately 40 people present. Drs. Lucas Pantaleon and James Averill served as Co-Chairs.

The Animal Health and Emergency Management Council session focused on the importance of a One Health approach to dealing with disease outbreaks and economic impact. Information was shared started at an international level and worked down to national, state, and producer perspective. The following speakers presented relevant information pertaining to this year’s agenda:


- Theme of presentation focused on the opportunity to utilize a “One Health” concept to address animal health/human health/planet health. For these there are three opportunities:
  - Protein will be the number one food segment by 2050
  - The global connectivity around food and health is going to continue to grow
  - Animal welfare and sustainability
- One health is a broad term and needs to go beyond disease. Some key metrics:
  - 1 in 3 people lack proper nutrition;
  - 60% increase in demand of planets resources;
  - 20% of animals die annually due to disease; and
  - 1.6 planet resources utilized in a year
- Summary:
  - Need to elevate dialogue: Need to focus on the positives of agriculture. Collaboration between industry, academia, government, consumer and veterinarians is needed to meet this.
  - Innovation: solutions are needed to produce the growing demand of protein in a more efficient and sustainable way. That is, without increasing the number of animals needed to meet demand.
  - Food chain influence: science needs to stay ahead of policy and too many times it is the opposite, we need to understand changes before they happen.

Rosemary Sifford, DVM – Executive Director National Import Export Services, USDA-APHIS-VS, presented on “Animal Disease and Global Trade”

- Animal disease outbreaks inherently have direct or indirect impact on trade
- High consequence diseases (FMD, HPAI) have obvious trade implications
  - HPAI had an overall economic impact of $3.3 Billion during the 2015 outbreak.
- Low consequence diseases (LPAI, Bluetongue) can have trade implications and many times do
- Emerging diseases (PEDv, H1N1 swine flu) can have impact and hard to argue no restrictions when lack of science
  - PEDv had a significant impact at the producer level with minimal trade impact.
• Ways to mitigate trade impact:
  o Control and eradicate the disease
  o Create Zoning/Regionalization
  o Implement trade agreements
  o Take appropriate import actions
  o Rapid reporting to OIE and collaboration between partners is very important

Stephanie A. Shwiff, PhD – USDA presented on “The Economic Impact on a Foreign Animal Disease or Disease Outbreak”
  • Used previous research and feral pig to develop economic impact for a Foot and Mouth Disease Outbreak using very sophisticated computer modeling.
  • The livestock industry in the U.S. is a very important economic pillar with $107 Billion in cash receipts during 2014. Hence a foreign animal disease (FAD) would have a tremendous impact.
  • Key take away:
    o Develop further understanding of a FMD outbreak
    o Develop further understanding of industries linked to livestock and impact to them in FMD outbreak
    o The economic impact should be understood not just at the level of animals lost, but also with regards to the impact a FAD would have on the value chain
    o Management strategies for FMD should consider the macroeconomic effects of an outbreak
    o Management strategies should be considered to preserve Farm-Fork supply chain, if done there will be a better economy and faster recovery
  • The economic information obtained from the computer modeling can be used to demonstrate the impact of a FAD outbreak in the U.S. agriculture industry. The most impact is by showing legislators the impact on jobs and the local economy.

Stacey Schwabenlander, DVM – Senior Veterinarian, Minnesota Board of Animal Health, presented on “Permitted movement, lessons learned and changed made dealing with highly pathogenic avian influenza”
  • Presented an overview of what Minnesota learned from 2015 HPAI outbreak
  • Key take away:
    o Work early and often with industry
    o Standardize processes
    o Use technology to streamline processes when feasible
    o Take a risk based approach to permitted movement
    o Ask for help the moment you start to wonder if it is needed...do not wait

Alberto Torres Rodriguez, DVM, PhD – Export Manager, Cobb-Vantress, presented on “Compartmentalization and its Impact on trade”
  • Shared impact to broiler breeder industry during the 2015 HPAI outbreak
  • Discussed approach and benefit Cobb-Vantress is taking to implement compartmentalization
  • Compartmentalization is a management concept. Regionalization is a geographical concept.
  • Keys to compartmentalization are: Management, Biosecurity, and Traceability
  • To make compartmentalization work there needs to be a level of trust amongst trade partners
    o There is early success with this amongst other countries around the world
Old Business:
• Shared with membership Dr. Shere’s response to the letter sent last year regarding FMD policy and workgroup development.

New Business:
• Membership at the Animal Health Emergency Management Council meeting voted unanimously to reaffirm the following resolutions:
  o AHEM 2: Communication Plan for Foreign Animal Diseases
  o AHEM 4: Maintain IT Funding and Infrastructure

Animal Health and Emergency Management Council Session adjourned at 5:30 PM.