

2009 Cross Border Livestock Health Conference Action Item Status Report

Action Item 2:

Investigate and report progress on harmonization of livestock trucker training programs in Canada and the US. Investigate proposed and instituted changes to livestock transportation in Canada and the US and obtain the OIE report/direction regarding livestock transportation in Canada and the US.

Prepared By:

Project Team	Project Role
Reynold Bergen, Alberta Beef Producers	Initial Project Lead
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Action Item Status:

Time Period	UPDATE
July 2009 – Oct 2009	<p>Livestock Trucker Training Programs:</p> <p>The Certified Livestock Transporter (CLT) program is a comprehensive training course and support service for livestock truckers, shippers and receivers in Canada. The program was developed by Alberta Farm Animal Care (AFAC) in conjunction with industry stakeholder groups and was launched in early 2007. The development of the CLT program as a multi-species program (cattle, hogs, horses, sheep and poultry) reflects the fact that Canadian trucking companies, drivers or equipment often deal with more than one species of livestock.</p> <p>Due to interest in other provinces, the CLT program is being delivered outside of Alberta. Consequently, AFAC and the livestock industry are developing a project plan to expand the Alberta-based CLT program for nation-wide delivery. The National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC) has been suggested as an appropriate home for the CLT program as it becomes national in scope.</p> <p>In the US, the National Pork Board (NPB) and National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) have developed the Transport Quality Assurance (TQA) and the Transport Beef Quality Assurance (TBQA) programs. It has been estimated that up to 70% of the course content will be similar between the TQA and TBQA programs. Consequently, it is expected that there are synergies to be gained from merging or streamlining the two programs.</p> <p>Similarly, the development of different programs in the US and Canada have led to a situation where some drivers who are CLT trained to deliver to Canadian plants may need to gain additional TQA or TBQA certification in order to deliver livestock to US facilities. As a result, a driver who hauls swine and beef cattle in the US and Canada may require up to three separate certifications.</p> <p>Development of the business plan for a national CLT program has considered amalgamation with the TQA program. CLT advisory group stakeholders agree that merging with the CLT is advisable. Options under consideration range from adding a "Canadian regulation" component</p>

	<p>to the existing US program(s) to recognition of equivalency between the US and Canadian programs.</p> <p>Transport Regulations</p> <p>The Canadian Food Inspection Agency has been updating Part XII “Transportation of Livestock” of the Health of Animals Regulations for several years. The CFIA and the Department of Justice (Canada) are reportedly nearing completion on a new draft regulation. This is not yet publically available.</p> <p>In the U.S., regulatory issues potentially impacting the production and transportation of livestock are the subject of ongoing discussions and developments at both state and federal levels.</p> <p>OIE Reports / Directions</p> <p>Animal transportation and animal welfare are becoming increasingly important issues worldwide. Animal welfare is being recognized as an intrinsic aspect of animal health. The membership of the World Animal Health Organization (OIE) has requested that the OIE develop and publish animal welfare standards related to humane transportation, slaughter, and killing for disease control purposes. Science-based OIE standards are developed and established through consultation with the 174 members of the OIE, and are adopted annually by the members at the General Session each May. The World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement) formally recognises the responsibility of the OIE to specify standards and recommendations as the international references for animal health and zoonotic diseases.</p> <p>OIE standards for the transport of livestock by land are available in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code at: http://www.oie.int/eng/normes/mcode/en_chapitre_1.7.3.htm#article_1.7.3.12.</p> <p>A presentation from the OIE’s 2nd Global Conference on Animal Welfare (2008, Cairo) pertaining to implementation of the OIE’s outcome-based Standards on Animal Transportation can be found at: http://www.oie.int/eng/a_aw2008/PDF/Session%20II/10_OIE_AWCairo_P%20Thornber_EN.pdf</p>
<p>Nov 2009 – Jan 2010</p>	<p>Dr. Reynold Bergen is unable to continue in the role as initial lead for this action item. A replacement lead for this action item will be pursued.</p>