Veterinary Services: Roles and Responsibilities in germplasm export

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Safeguarding Animal Health
APHIS’ Organization

- **APHIS Administrator**
  - Animal Care
  - International Services
    - Plant Protection and Quarantine
  - Veterinary Services
    - Wildlife Services
  - Biotechnology Regulatory Services

Safeguarding Animal Health
Veterinary Services’ Mission Statement

• Protects and improves the health, quality, and marketability of our nation's animals, animal products and veterinary biologics.

• Prevents, controls, and eliminates animal diseases

• Monitors and promotes animal health and productivity.

Safeguarding Animal Health
Veterinary Services’ Activities

- Disease Surveillance
  - Domestic control and eradication programs
  - Foreign Animal Diseases
- Import-Export
  - Live animals
  - Animal products

Safeguarding Animal Health
Functions of VS Headquarters

- Located in Washington, DC and Riverdale, Maryland
- Establishes program direction, policy, and regulatory development
- Serves as liaison with
  - Federal agencies
  - Members of the Executive branch
  - Congressional offices
  - Industry
- Makes policy decisions
- Provides scientific basis for regulations

Safeguarding Animal Health
Functions of Region and Field

- Western and Eastern Regional headquarters located in Colorado and North Carolina oversee activities in the 50 States and major ports.
- Area Veterinarians In Charge (AVICs), represent VS in the State and act as liaisons between Federal and State governments.
- Area Offices and State veterinarians in each of the 50 States oversee day-to-day activities and programs.
Accredited veterinarians

• Are the backbone of USDA disease eradication and surveillance programs for livestock and poultry.
  ➢ Inspecting
  ➢ Testing
  ➢ Certifying for domestic and international movement

Safeguarding Animal Health
National Center for Animal Health
Policy and Programs

- National Center for Import and Export
- National Center for Animal Health Programs
- Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health
  - Center for Emerging Issues

Safeguarding Animal Health
National Center for Import and Export

• Animals
  - Import and import permits
  - Export

• Animal Products
  - Import and import permits
  - Export Animal Products

• Select Agents Team
  - Select Agents
  - Organisms and Vectors

Safeguarding Animal Health
Deputy Director for Science & Technology
NCIE Team Lead
Lisa Ferguson

Sanitary Trade Issues Team
Director
Gary Colgrove

International Animal Health Standards Team
Director
Michael David

Technical Trade Services Animal Products Team
Director
Karen James-Preston

Technical Trade Services Animal Team
Director
Joyce Bowling-Heyward

Technical Trade Services Organisms, Vectors & Select Agents Team
Director
Freeda Isaac

Regionalization Evaluation Services
Raleigh, NC
Asst Director Dana Broussard

Regionalization Evaluation Services
Riverdale, MD
Asst Director Hatim Gubara

Import By-Products
Asst Director Tracye Butler Hernandez

Import Meat, Eggs, Dairy and Pet Food
Asst Director Chris Robinson

Export Products
Asst Director Eric Coleman

Import Animals
Asst Director Peter Merrill

Export Animals
Asst Director Jack Taniewski

Select Agents/Organisms & Vectors
Asst Director Vacant

Safeguarding Animal Health
Import/Export Animals

- **Import**
  - Ruminants
  - Equine
  - Porcine
  - Avian
  - Zoo Animals

- **Export**
  - Americas
  - Asia
  - EU, Australia/New Zealand,
  - Russia, FSU countries
  - Africa, Middle East

Safeguarding Animal Health
Ruminant (Bovine) Embryo Imports

- Presently being imported from:
  - Australia
  - Canada
  - New Zealand
  - FMD free EU Member States

Safeguarding Animal Health
Ruminant & Swine semen imports are covered under Regulations in 9 CFR:
- Parts 98.11 – §98.21

Ruminant & Swine embryo imports are covered under Regulations in 9 CFR:
- Parts § 98.30 – §98.38
General Overview of Import Permit Application Process

- Complete the application VS Form 17-129
- Complete the supplemental application for cell cultures (16-7)
  - Forms and instructions are available online at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/permits/
  - You can also call 301-734-8364 or in the near future 301-851-3300
- Submit completed application and fee
- Permit issued within 1-5 weeks
- Permit duration is 14 days for animals/germplasm and 30 days for birds
  - Specific port of entry
  - Specific date for entry
  - One permit – one shipment

Safeguarding Animal Health
Importing Equine Semen and Embryos

- Import permit
- Health certificate
- CEM vs. non-CEM country
- Dourine testing (ex: AU, NZ, Iceland)
- Under seal
- APHIS inspection on arrival in the US
- Limited ports of entry
- 9 CFR 98
Shipments Not Meeting US Import Requirements

- Will be refused entry and sent back to the country of origin
- Will be refused entry and sent to a third country willing to accept the shipment
- Will be refused entry and destroyed if neither of the above has been accomplished within 30 days of arrival to a US port

Safeguarding Animal Health
Export embryo protocols

- PURPOSE OF PROTOCOLS
  - Fulfill foreign country import health requirements.
  - Provide guidance for the industry and field.
  - Provide the importing country with required certifications
    - Disease
    - Supervision
    - Qualifications

Safeguarding Animal Health
Export Requirements

• Standards set by the importing country
• Negotiated by APHIS
• Consulted with the industry
• Scientifically sound
• Reasonable

Safeguarding Animal Health
Export Requirements

• Diseases of concern may vary by country and commodity
  ➢ FMD
  ➢ BSE
  ➢ Bluetongue
  ➢ Vesicular stomatitis
  ➢ EBL
  ➢ IBR
  ➢ Scrapie
  ➢ Trichomoniasis and campylobacteriosis
  ➢ CSF
  ➢ ASF
  ➢ Contagious Equine Metritis

Safeguarding Animal Health
The Protocol Negotiation Team

- The technical negotiation team is usually composed from:
  - APHIS’ Technical Trade Services Team Member/NCIE subject matter expert on export issues
  - Representatives from APHIS’ International Services Staff
  - And, on occasion, representatives from USDA’s Foreign Agricultural Service

Safeguarding Animal Health
The Protocol Negotiation Process

Initiation

• Countries provide US with protocol they want to implement
  ➢ Or request is received from the exporter
• New OIE guidelines/New research available
• New industry standards are available

Safeguarding Animal Health
The Protocol Negotiation Process

- NCIE team reviews the documents and/or proposes a new protocol
- Industry is consulted
- NCIE implements science and industry comments into a “workable protocol”

Safeguarding Animal Health
The Protocol Negotiation Process

- Counter proposal is created and presented
- Negotiation letters are written
- If required, negotiations face to face are conducted
- If protocol is not accepted, discussions will continue.
- Accepted protocol is posted on NCIE web site @

Safeguarding Animal Health
Examples of Export Requirements

Embryos

- Compliance with IETS and/or OIE requirements
- Facility by facility inspections by the importing country
- Facility inspections and US veterinary system audits
- Semen must comply with country’s import health standards.
- Blood group of both the donor bull and cow are included.

Safeguarding Animal Health
HOW TO REACH US

On the web
Live Animal Imports
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/animals/live_animals.shtml
Live Animal Exports
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/animals/
Via email
VS.Live.Animal.Import.Export@aphis.usda.gov
Call us
301-734-8364
In Spring 2012 phone number will change to:
301-851-3300

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