Ontario Livestock & Poultry Council

Newsletter

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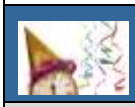

Issue 38 December 2016

OLPC 2017 Membership Meetings

All meeting dates are Fridays and take place at Ontario Pork.

- February 17, 2017
- April 21, 2017
- June 16, 2017
- August 11, 2017
- October 13, 2017
- December 15, 2017

Newly Released Documents

The presentations from the National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council's Forum have been uploaded to the Council website: http://www.ahwcouncil.ca/forum/2016

The 2016 compendium of research under the Emergency Management Theme is posted under "News" on the OLPC website http://www.ontlpc.ca/news.php

Senior Government Appointments

Paul Glover has been named the new CFIA President. He was previously an ADM in Health Canada. The New Deputy Minister, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, replacing Deb Stark, is Greg Meredith who was previously with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

On-going Disease Cases

- **Seneca valley virus** – In September, six loads of sows were rejected by the USDA as Seneca valley virus looks similar to Foot and Mouth Disease. Ontario tracing has found cases at assembly yards but nothing on the originating farms. They are looking to shorten the time of holding at the assembly yards to two days.
- **TB in Alberta and Saskatchewan** – In late September, the USDA notified the CFIA that a case of bovine TB had been detected in a cow from Alberta when it was slaughtered in the United States. There was one farm where six positive animals were identified. The issue was that those animals were on a common grazing property with18 other herds. That led to a large trace out exercise. Approximately 50 premises are currently under quarantine and movement controls. Seven locations have been released from quarantine. The total number of animals quarantined is approximately 26,000, including the infected herd.
- **Scrapie** – A case of scrapie was detected in Quebec on November 14th as part of the surveillance program. The subject sheep are on multiple premises; two flocks have been quarantined.
- **Bovine anaplasmosis** - In November, anaplasmosis was confirmed in a Holstein cow in Wellington County. The cow was anemic, and had signs of weakness, anorexia, constipation and mild colic. OMAFRA will work with the affected producer and herd veterinarian to provide assistance in managing the disease on the farm. Anaplasmosis is both a federally and provincially immediately notifiable disease. Since 2014, CFIA no longer conducts a field response to identified cases. Bovine anaplasmosis was last diagnosed in Ontario in 2013 in a dairy herd in Eastern Ontario. Anaplasmosis is endemic in the U.S.
- **Rabies** – Positive rabies cases in Ontario have declined with the cold weather. During the first week of December, there were no new cases in the Hamilton area. There has been one case of a rabid llama with the raccoon variant. The other animals on that property have been quarantined. In November, there was a dairy cow that tested positive for the Artic fox variant; within 30 kms of the case from last November. There was also a skunk in Huron with the fox variant; this was the first case in Huron in eight years. A group of beef cattle have been quarantined for 60 days as a result. Baiting activities are complete for this year. The Huron area will be baited in the spring but the other areas will only be baited in the fall to vaccinate the 2017 juveniles. Total number of raccoons and skunks found with rabies in 2016 to the end of November was 243.
- **Infectious Bronchitis in Poultry** – While not a reportable disease, it was noted during the December OLPC meeting that 20+ cases of infectious bronchitis have been diagnosed in Ontario poultry flocks. It is a unique strain not seen in Canada before however it is similar enough to our vaccine strains that the industry can try to improve protection in Ontario flocks.

Wildlife Surveillance of Echinococcus Multilocularis

Echinococcus multilocularis is a tapeworm that can cause serious liver damage in certain mammals including, foxes, coyotes, domestic dogs and humans. Ontario wildlife surveillance of coyotes and foxes found that 50% are testing positive. There appears to be a hot spot around the Hamilton area which is also were the European strain was identified in dog and lemur cases. Ontario government agencies are working on public health messaging to vets and physicians and considering making cases in humans reportable.

Zika Virus

One type of mosquito that could transmit Zika virus was found in the Windsor/Sarnia area during the second half of 2016. It is believed to be a transient population which likely came via fruit shipments. This particular mosquito is not the primary vector but is able to transmit it although the

FBCC Agri-Risk Project
The Feather Board Command Centre received federal funding for an AgriRisk project. The project will seek to expedite approval of CFIA movement permits during reportable disease outbreaks through alignment of industry biosecurity standards. Other project activities will assess Avian influenza outbreak vulnerabilities through modelling to assist with the development of insurance based compensation tools to mitigate farm losses.

Ontario Pork On-Farm Emergency Preparedness Project
Ontario Pork is in the process of writing an on-farm emergency preparedness guide. Emergencies covered in the manual include:

- Deadstock
- Disease
- Fires
- Grain Entrapment
- Silo and Manure Gas, and Gas Leaks
- Hazardous Materials
- Live Transport
- Manure Spills
- Personal Injury
- Power Outages
- Severe Storms
- Structure Collapse
- After the Emergency

Ontario Pork will share with other interested commodities when complete in 2017.

ones in Windsor were negative for Zika. The population was expected to die with frost. The Ministry of Health and Long-term Care is updating their surveillance with different traps which are more appealing to the mosquito strain of interest. Any cases of Zika in Ontario have been travel related.

Wild/Feral Swine in Ontario

The University of Saskatchewan is doing research on wild swine as there is a large population in that province. Alberta, British Columbia, and Manitoba also have established populations. There have been several confirmed sightings in Ontario in three pockets so we do have them here as well. The key message is that they are extremely difficult to eradicate once established. The population grows quickly and can do tremendous damage to crops and property as well as pose a risk to domestic swine health. The University of Saskatchewan group hosts a Facebook with updates on their work and wild swine in general: Wild Hog Watch (Feral Wild Boars) www.facebook.com/WildHogWatch/?fref=st.

AMR Patterns in Salmonella and E. coli in Ontario Livestock Farms

Stefanie Kadykalo, a post-graduate student at the University of Guelph, gave a presentation to OLPC members in December on her project looking at whether utilizing pre-existing data sets from Animal Health Laboratory submissions may provide cost-effective information on emerging resistance patterns.

Antimicrobial test results from the AHL were analysed for Salmonella and E. coli isolates from chickens, swine and cattle between 2007 and 2015. Salmonella resistance to ampicillin and ceftiofur in chickens dropped by almost 20% between 2013 and 2015. However, resistance in Salmonella to sulphonamides, spectinomycin and tetracycline showed a slight increase (10% to 15%). For E. coli in chickens, there was high resistance to ampicillin and tetracycline and increasing resistance to sulfisoxazole and gentamicin. In swine, there was high resistance to ampicillin, tetracycline, and sulfisoxazole. And, in cattle, there was high resistance to sulfisoxazole and increasing resistance to cephalothin and ampicillin.

The conclusion was that analysis of clinical isolates may provide an effective surveillance tool for updating veterinarians on emerging patterns of antimicrobial resistance in food animals. However, there are limitations of such a dataset for predicting overall trends and guiding treatment decisions.

Cluster Analysis of Campylobacter on Southern Ontario Farms

A second presentation at the December meeting was by Mythri Viswanathan regarding her study to identify the potential sharing of Campylobacter subtypes between livestock and wildlife. On 25 subject farms, 33 livestock and 26 wildlife C. jejuni isolates were subtyped. Only one subtype was seen in both wildlife and livestock isolates. The majority of wildlife was susceptible to all antimicrobials. Tetracycline resistance was the only resistance seen in wildlife species sampled. Macrolide resistance in swine did not seem to extend to wildlife found on swine farms.