

## **OLPC 2018 Membership Meetings**

All meeting dates are Fridays and take place at Ontario Pork except in December which will be at Beef Farmers of Ontario.

- April 13, 2018
- June 15, 2018
- August 10, 2018
- October 12, 2018
- December 14, 2018

## **Changes to Premises Identification Database**

The premises identification database has been transitioned from AGSI to Agricorp. Notices were sent out to all registrants in the database regarding this change in August 2017. By having Agricorp look after the database, it provides one access point for producers who are already contacting Agricorp regarding insurance. Registering for a PID is voluntary but it is a requirement when applying for certain grant funding.

## **Bovine Tuberculosis in Western Canada**

The CFIA investigation is nearing completion. There have been no additional cases of bovine TB beyond the six animals from the one infected herd. No source of infection has been identified.

All premises with cattle have been tested and released from quarantine. This includes:

- 79 trace-out herds (herds that received animals from the infected herd) with approximately 15,000

## **Change to Rabies Immunization Requirements**

As of July 1, 2018, dogs, cats and all livestock intended to come into contact with the general public must be vaccinated for rabies. This only applies to livestock for which there is a rabies vaccine available (cattle, sheep and horses). This would also apply to animals coming into Ontario from other provinces.

Animals participating in 4-H events, including clubs, clinics and shows would not be subject to the requirement for rabies vaccinations unless these animals are intended to come into direct contact (e.g. petting, feeding) with the general public. When animals are kept or held in areas which may be accessible to the general public, reasonable measures (e.g. signage, physical barriers, etc.) should be used to prevent persons not authorized to handle or interact with animals at fairs, clinics and shows from accessing animals in holding or stabling areas.

Horses, cattle and sheep in settings where the general public is encouraged and/or expected to have direct contact with these animals must be vaccinated against rabies. Examples of settings that fit into this category include petting zoos; corporate birthday party, and other "animal experience" events; and interactive animal exhibits where members of the public are intended to handle or pet the animals. Therapy animals, service animals and riding school horses would also fall under the scope of the immunization requirements.

## **Municipal Planning for Large Scale Deadstock Disposal**

In 2012, OLPC developed a guide to assist municipalities incorporate emergency deadstock disposal provisions into their existing municipal emergency response plans. An electronic version is available at <http://www.ontlpc.ca/downloads.php>.

The main objective of the planning guide is to provide municipalities with a systematic approach to:

- identify the available disposal options;
- profile the municipality to determine the extent of any potential disposal problem(s);
- select an appropriate disposal method(s); and,
- implement a process to develop and maintain a mass carcass disposal plan.

Ontario Pork and OLPC are partnering to offer workshops with municipalities to walk them through the process of completing a mass carcass disposal plan for their municipality utilizing the Mass Carcass Disposal Guide for Municipalities. While pork is being used as the example, the planning template applies to all livestock and poultry species.

## **Canadian Animal Health Coalition Emergency Preparedness Project**

The goal of the project was to produce disease preparedness guidelines for farmers and plans for the associations. The three Ontario commodities that worked with CAHC on the project were beef, goat and sheep. These commodities will have finalized documents by the end of March.

The final workshop for the Ontario participants was held on February 23, 2018. OLPC was represented by Chair, Gord Coukell. There was interest by participants in having some type of overall emergency management coordination for the ruminant groups similar to the Feather Board Command Centre for poultry. CAHC plans to apply for CAP funding to be able to develop more plans and will also include financial assistance for establishing coordination.

## **Ontario Pork Industry Council On-farm Antimicrobial Use Survey**

At the February OLPC meeting, an overview of OPIC's AMU project was presented. The objective was to quantify the amount and class of antimicrobials used to raise pigs from breeding to slaughter on a subset of Ontario farms. They also looked at the key drivers

animals

- 71 trace-in herds (herds that sent animals to the infected herd) with approximately 15,000 animals

Approximately 11,500 animals were destroyed with compensation of \$39 million paid to producers. This includes animals that were ordered destroyed from the infected herd and co-mingled herds and animals that required post-mortem testing.

The producers whose herds were depopulated, and have completed the cleaning and disinfection of their premises, have restocked their herds.

impacting choice and usage of on-farm antimicrobials.

The study was conducted in 2014 and 2016. In 2014, 36 farms participated and 33 of those were involved again in 2016. While the number of farms was reduced in 2016, the number of pigs increased because one larger farm included all sites in 2016. The farms involved represented 10% of the Ontario sow herd. Antimicrobial use was based on sales from veterinarians and the emphasis was on weight, not doses, and summarized by route of administration (the vast majority in swine is via feed, then water and then individual injection).

The top two reasons for using antimicrobials were: treatment (over 90%) and preventative (roughly 82%). A distant third was promoting growth (less than 50%). Between 2014 and 2016, there was an overall reduction in antimicrobial use of 18%; 70% of participating farms successfully reduced antibiotic use from 2014 to 2016. Eight of 10 farms with same or higher antimicrobial use reported a change in health status (e.g. PRRS virus infection) during 2016. OPIC would like to run the survey again in 2018.

#### **Canadian Agricultural Partnership Program**

There are three application streams under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) Program – one for farmers, one for food and beverage processors, and one for associations and collaborations. For associations and collaborations, there are three initial deadlines to submit applications to the Agricultural Adaptation Council: April 5, May 10, and July 19. All projects must be completed by December 2, 2019. AAC's website is <http://adaptcouncil.org/how-to-apply>

Project priorities under emergency management, animal health and animal welfare are identified within the funding guidelines. Some examples are:

- adoption of the Incident Command System;
- AMU education and awareness;
- surveillance projects;
- training program for feed mills to understand electronic prescriptions and proper handling of medicated feeds in accordance with new regulations;
- mobile chamber for mass euthanasia to enhance emergency preparedness and response; and
- assessment of biosecurity risks and development of plans to mitigate those risks.

#### **Our Mission**

*Provide a forum to facilitate the development and coordination of an Ontario strategy to deal with foreign animal disease and other transmissible livestock and poultry diseases.*