

ED Report

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Action Items from the March 2020 Board meeting

- Co-ordinated the launch of the CAHSS Small Ruminant Network with CAHSS staff.
- Submitted comments to the Canada-Ukraine Free Trade Agreement (CUFTA) negotiation team.
- Initiated the Global Sheep Conference 2020 Organizing Committee.

Canadian Sheep Identification Program / Traceability

- The Regulatory Implementation Committee met for two days in Ottawa in March to continue work on traceability preparedness planning. Highlight of the meeting was the *Livestock Traceability proposed Regulations side-by-side* document shared by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), fashioned from proposed regulations expected to be published in Canada Gazette I sometime this year (keeping in mind of course, that regulatory amendments were proposed in 2013 and expected to come into force in 2016). The Committee spent the majority of the meeting reviewing the document in detail, as it provides considerable insight into future regulations. The CFIA requested the document only be shared with members Boards of Directors, and the CSF shared the document with the Board for discussion. One key area of discussion was around proposed maintenance of the exemption from tagging for imported animals going direct to slaughter. Currently, animals imported for immediate slaughter do not have to be identified, and future regulations are expected to maintain this exemption. There was concern around potential biosecurity and health risk that unidentified animals could pose to Canada's animal health ecosystem and noted additional reporting burden and reporting costs associated with imported animals under the future traceability regime. The CSF is preparing comments regarding this issue and others identified in the document.
- IGAC (the Industry-Government Advisory Committee on traceability) met in early March. Once an active advisory group working through traceability-related issues, IGAC has languished in recent years becoming a forum for updates. Among the discussion points during the IGAC meeting was some thought around the future of IGAC which still remains a bit unclear. Interesting to note from the presentations is that under

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the Canadian Agricultural Partnership's AgriAssurance Program, the dairy, pork and beef cattle sectors have each received between \$4million and \$6million in traceability-related funding.

- Both CFIA and AAFC have shared their optimism for seeing proposed traceability regulations published in Canada Gazette I by June 2020.

Scrapie Flock Certification Program

- The Canadian Food Inspection Agency completed an audit of the Scrapie Flock Certification Program (SFCP) in March. The SFCP is audited annually and was last audited in the fall of 2019. However, the CFIA requested a three-year audit of 100% of enrolled producers, thoroughly reviewing each file. The audit took 3 days to complete, and as with every audit culminated in the issuance of a Corrective Action Request (CAR). Corrective Action Responses are required in two parts, in April and May.

COVID-19 Industry-Government Working Group

- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada launched the COVID-19 Industry-Government Working Group in March, which includes representation from the Canadian Sheep Federation. The Working Group is scheduled to meet three times a week, M/W/F until further notice. This Working Group is intended to serve as the key AAFC resource for COVID-19 related issues, where industry and government can share issues and work on solutions. The Working Group has a dedicated single-window email submission system whereby COVID-19 related issues can be submitted for triaging.
- In the March 20th meeting, the CSF raised the issue of interprovincial trade of provincially inspected meat products, inquiring if preparations were underway to implement a strategy that would allow interprovincial movement of provincially inspected meat should plant closures result in meat shortages at the retail level. AAFC indicated that work is underway to establish a protocol that would address the issue should it arise.
- Through March, the CSF worked on the following COVID-19 related issues with AAFC/CFIA:
 - Inter-provincial trade of provincially inspected meat, in case processing is compromised because of COVID-19.
 - CFIA staffing shortages and the impact on services, especially with respect to national disease compartment programs and disease surveillance activities.
 - Canada's Advance Payment Program, and potential stay of default for the sheep sector.
 - Ensuring agriculture and support services are deemed essential services as provincial governments shut down activities, with an urgent focus on distribution of CSIP tags, and additional concern with veterinary services. AAFC, CFIA, CCIA, CCWG and CSF prepared an emergency backup plan for CSIP tag distribution.
 - Producer funding programs.

Industry Updates

- The CSF-CFIA Humane Transport Working Group met in March to continue working through implementation of the recently revised Humane Transport Regulations (Part XII of the Health of Animals Regulations Transport of Animals). The WG has focused on reviewing and revising a draft guidance document that accompanies the regulation. A list of issue for which the guidance is not clear is being created for the group to address individually. To date, these items include biosecurity in transit and unloading facilities, defining isolation requirements, transportation of pregnant ewes and lambing in transit.
- The CSF is working with the Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System (CAHSS) to launch a small ruminant surveillance network. The following proposal was created to help drive the Small Ruminant Network's formation:
 - The Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System (CAHSS) advises on national animal health surveillance priorities and disease patterns. CAHSS is focused on the generation, exchange and application of data-driven information in order to track animal health, and rapidly detect and respond to changing patterns of disease. CAHSS is exploring ways to advance animal health surveillance in Canada through a four-year project funded by the AgriAssurance Program under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership.
 - At this time, there are eleven CAHSS networks organized around farmed animal species (equine, beef, dairy, swine, poultry, aquatic, wildlife), geographic regions (Atlantic region), or health topics (CEZD, AMR/AMU, vector-borne diseases). Each network has a page on the CAHSS website, a stakeholder map, and hosts regular meetings, usually via conference call, to discuss disease and surveillance activities and needs.
 - At this time, there is an opportunity to develop a CAHSS small ruminant network. There are at least two immediate priorities that this new network might engage with. First, it would be useful to create a stakeholder map similar to those created for other networks (see www.cahss.ca). Second, based on discussions so far, a health topic of interest to small ruminant producers is Cache Valley Virus. This mosquito-borne virus infects livestock in late summer, and leads to poor fertility, abortion and malformations in lambs in the following lambing season. Through CAHSS, we think there might be an opportunity to bring together information about abortion cases, mosquito populations, and climate in local areas across Canada in order to provide producers with focused risk-management advice. A logical next step to moving the network forward would be to identify key stakeholders across Canada and arrange an exploratory meeting to discuss these topics.
- The Animal Health Canada Governance Committee continues to work on draft governance models for industry and government's consideration. Three different options are proposed, ranging in level of ambition and probable success to deliver on key areas as identified by the AHC Working Group and Champions Committee. Animal Health Canada is examining the Canadian animal health system as well as international governance models to develop a collaborative new animal health strategy that focuses on effective animal disease prevention, preparedness, response and recovery programming. The strategy will be informed and shaped with the input and shared values of the livestock production value chain and federal, provincial, and territorial partners. Here are some of AHC's key messages:

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- Animal Health Canada is an innovative initiative engaging livestock and poultry associations and processors, federal and provincial governments, and other stakeholders in animal health in establishing a results-driven governance model for animal health issues management; including prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.
- Animal Health Canada will provide leadership in building a collaborative, multi-partner industry government model that clarifies the respective roles, responsibilities and accountabilities of each partner implementing an animal health strategy for Canada beginning with emergency management.
- A gap analysis of Canada's current system was conducted and has identified two key areas for further work.
 - Organizational and Structural gaps were identified as having a lack of a cohesive national approach and identified as the largest overall gap
 - Technical gaps were also identified noting work is needed on depopulation strategies and capacity, voluntary cease movement protocols, biosecurity implementation, compensation for affected parties, veterinary capacity, zoning recognition and compartmentalization, and animal identification and traceability
- An evaluation of the current gaps and successes in Canada's current animal health system is being applied to the development of a new model for animal health governance in Canada along with information and lessons learned from other existing national and international public-private partnership models.
- The new governance model needs to streamline and consolidate existing organizations, mandates and programs to make the best use of available resources
- A new governance model will need to have access to the necessary resources, authority and accountability to achieve the goals and meet the needs of its members
- The new governance model will be grounded in trust with a mutual respect among partners working together to achieve a common vision for animal health in Canada
- It will be important to ensure investment in prevention and preparedness while at the same time maintaining focus on effective animal disease response and recovery.
- Target completion of a proposed model is July 2020.
- The Canadian Livestock Market Information Advisory Committee (CLMIAC) hosted its annual stakeholder meeting in March. This group brings together federal agencies that manage market information (AAFC, CFIA, Statistics Canada, CSBA) and livestock industry to discuss market information management strategies.
- The CSF was invited to meet with the Consulate-General of Japan at the end of March, to discuss Canada's lamb industry and potential trade opportunities.

This month's meetings

- Canadian Food Inspection Agency – Scrapie Flock Certification Program audit (x3)
- Shearwell

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- Regulatory Implementation Committee, Ottawa
- IGAC (Industry Government Advisory Committee on traceability), Ottawa
- Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System (CAHSS) – Small Ruminant Surveillance Network
- John Barlow – Conservative Ag Critic, Vice-Chair Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food, Ottawa
- CSF-CFIA Humane Transport Working Group
- Animal Health Canada Governance Committee
- Agricultural Trade Negotiation Consultation Group
- Canadian Livestock Market Information Advisory Committee
- Canadian Sheep Federation Board of Directors
- Animal Health Canada Working Group
- Animal Health Canada Governance Committee
- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada COVID-19 Industry-Government Working Group (x7)
- Animal Health Canada Governance Committee
- Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System (CAHSS) – Vector-Borne Disease Surveillance Network
- Consulate-General of Japan

Sheep Supply



SHEEP SUPPLY CANADA

December 2019

Fed. & Prov. Slaughter (head)			
preliminary	2019	2018	% chg
YTD			
B.C./Alta/Sask./Man.	135,563	128,654	5.4
Ontario	279,735	264,799	5.6
Quebec - Atlantic	n/a	140,979	-
Canada	n/a	534,432	-
Federal Slaughter			
Monthly			
West - Ontario	10,858	13,924	-22.0
Quebec - Atlantic	6,187	7,871	-21.4
West - Ontario YTD	100,045	92,027	8.7
Quebec - Atlantic YTD	67,414	81,422	-17.2
Provincial Slaughter preliminary			
Monthly			
West - Ontario	33,000	31,384	5.1
Quebec - Atlantic	n/a	4,943	-
West - Ontario YTD	315,253	301,426	4.6
Quebec - Atlantic YTD	n/a	59,557	-

Source: CFIA, Provincial Governments

Monthly Prices			
Ontario Auctions	2019	2018	% chg
Lambs	Slow, live weight, weighted average		
< 65 lbs, new crop	268.81	273.21	-1.7
65-79 lbs	270.86	266.12	1.8
80-94 lbs	213.37	199.84	6.8
95-109 lbs	203.71	191.25	6.5
Sheep	144.38	157.98	-8.6
Quebec Auctions			
2019	2018		
Lambs	Slow, live weight, weighted average		
< 65 lbs, new crop	331.29	314.65	5.3
65-79 lbs	283.78	289.89	-2.0
Sheep - Ewes	119.15	143.49	-17.0
Sheep - Ram	152.65	176.25	-13.4
LEOQ 2019			
Quebec Heavy Lambs	\$/kg carcass basis (Producer annual contract price)		
October 20 to November 16, 2019		9.50	
November 17 to November 30, 2019		9.00	
December 1st to December 28, 2019		9.00	

Source: Ontario Cattlemen's Association, Quebec Electronic Auctions and Les Éleveurs d'Ovins du Québec

Imports			
(Number of head from U.S.)	Year to Date December		
Pure-bred & Non Pure-bred	2019	2018	% chg
East	36	72	-50.0
West	90	93	-3.2
Total	126	165	-23.6

Source: Statistics Canada

Exports			
(Number of head)	Year to Date December		
Total Live Sheep	2019	2018	% chg
United States	11,862	5,745	-
Other	0	1	-
Total	11,862	5,746	-

Source: Statistics Canada

Mutton & Lamb			
(Metric Tonnes)	Year to Date December		
	2019	2018	% chg
New Zealand	9,870	9,862	0.1
Australia	9,557	8,930	7.0
Other	2,280	1,346	67.9
Total	21,687	20,138	7.7

Source: Statistics Canada

Mutton & Lamb			
(Metric Tonnes)	Year to Date December		
	2019	2018	% chg
United Arab Emirates	60.4	47.1	28.3
United States	44.5	62.2	-28.5
Saint Pierre and Miquelon	5.1	13.6	-62.3
Other	3.0	4.3	-29.4
Total	113.0	127.1	-11.1

Source: Statistics Canada

UNITED STATES

Total Sheep and Lambs			
	Year to Date December		
	2019	2018	% chg
Slaughter ('000 head)	2,009	1,991	0.9
Avg Dressed Wt (lbs)	64	68	-5.8
Avg Dressed Wt (Kg)	29	31	-5.8
Lamb/Mutton (mill lbs)	132	139	-5.5
Lamb/Mutton (tonnes)	59,784	63,231	-5.5

U.S. Price Summary			
San Angelo Auction	December		
	2019	2018	
	U.S. \$/cwt		
	average	min/max	
Choice and Prime 1-2			
	-69 lbs	243.88	241.50 - 265.25
	70-79 lbs	222.77	218.00 - 241.00
	80-89 lbs	205.91	186.00 - 208.00
	90+ lbs	182.82	154.00 - 179.00

Includes woolled and hair breeds

Note: Monthly price averages are calculated off of daily/weekly price reporting

U.S. Lamb & Mutton Exports (Metric Tonnes)			
	Year to Date December		
	2019	2018	% chg
Mexico	765	688	11.5
Caribbean	731	815	-10.3
Central & South America	215	97	-
Middle East	201	366	-45.1
European Union	156	91	71.4
Canada	101	131	-22.9
ASEAN	40	56	-28.6
Other	75	144	-47.9
Total US Exports	2,284	2,386	-4.3

Source: United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

U.S. Lamb & Mutton Imports (Metric Tonnes)			
	Year to Date December		
	2019	2018	% chg
Australia	96,476	94,757	1.8
New Zealand	26,235	27,770	-5.5
Chile	516	539	-4.2
Uruguay	192	242	-20.7
Mexico	103	34	-
Other	46	327	-86.1
Total US Imports	123,568	123,668	-0.1

Source: USDA