WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH (OIE)
BSE STATUS RECOGNITION

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GAPFA Congress,
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Objectives

➢ Background
  • OIE Context
  • International Standards
  • BSE in Canada

➢ Terrestrial Animal Health Code Chapter on BSE
  • BSE Risk Status Recognition

➢ Recommendations from the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (SCAD)

➢ Next Steps
• Canada officially became a Member of the OIE in 1952

• The OIE World Assembly is comprised of 181 Member Countries:
  • each represented by a national delegate
  • in Canada, the OIE Delegate is nominated by the Minister of Agriculture

• The CFIA is the lead organization which acts as the veterinary competent authority for Canada

• Dr. Jaspinder Komal is the Acting OIE Delegate for Canada, and is also the Acting Chief Veterinary Officer
OIE International Standards

- The OIE is the WTO reference organisation for standards relating to animal health and welfare.

- The OIE publishes 2 animal health codes (Terrestrial and Aquatic) and 2 manuals (Terrestrial and Aquatic) as the principle reference for WTO members.

- The process for changes to the OIE codes is scientific, democratic and transparent.

- A General Session for all OIE Delegates is held once a year, to discuss various issues, including adoption of new or amended codes.
PROCESS FOR ADOPTION AND AMENDMENT OF OIE STANDARDS
OIE International Standards

• Veterinary Authorities of importing and exporting countries use OIE standards to prevent the transfer of pathogenic agents via international trade in animals and animal products, while avoiding unjustified sanitary barriers to trade.
BSE History

• mid-1980s: BSE was first seen in the UK

• 1990: BSE made a reportable disease in Canada

• 1993: BSE found in a beef cow imported from Britain into Canada in 1987

• 2003: Canada's first case of BSE in a domestic animal

• 2015: Canada’s most recent case of BSE in a domestic animal

• To date: there have been a total of 19 cases of BSE in Canada.
BSE History: The *Terrestrial Code*

- Transmitted to animals via prion contamination in feed (ie: Meat and Bone Meal/MBM)
- Transmitted to humans via consumption of bovine tissues contaminated with prion; linked to variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (vCJD)
- Member Countries requested that OIE develop international standards to facilitate safe trade of bovine animals and their products
- A chapter dedicated to BSE was first adopted and inserted in the *Code* in 1992, now Chapter 11.4
OIE Country BSE Risk Status

- The cattle population from a country, zone or compartment can be classified into BSE-risk categories:
  - negligible
  - controlled
  - undetermined*

* The cattle population of a country, zone or compartment poses an undetermined BSE risk if *it cannot be demonstrated that it meets the requirements of another category.*
Canada’s BSE Risk Status

- Since 2007, Canada has been recognized by the OIE as being a **controlled BSE risk** country, and has demonstrated that it has:
  
  - Effective **import controls**
  - An **effective feed ban** and **SRM controls** for food and feed
  - An ongoing **education and awareness** program
  - **Laboratory system competency**
  - An appropriate level of **surveillance monitoring**

- In accordance with OIE requirements, the detection of BSE cases will have no impact on Canada's current BSE risk status, provided that the above criteria are met and that live cattle selected for export are identified by a permanent identification system.
Canada’s Enhanced Feed Ban
Criteria for OIE controlled and negligible risk and Canada’s current situation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criterion</th>
<th>Controlled Risk</th>
<th>Negligible Risk</th>
<th>Canada</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Risk assessment</td>
<td>√</td>
<td>√</td>
<td>√</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Indigenous cases</td>
<td>Cases born within the last 11 years</td>
<td>All born &gt; 11 years ago</td>
<td>1 case born in 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Ruminant to ruminant feed ban</td>
<td>√</td>
<td>≥ 8 years</td>
<td>since 1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Full list of SRM</td>
<td>√</td>
<td></td>
<td>since 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• High temperature/pressure rendering</td>
<td>√</td>
<td></td>
<td>not done</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Test feed for ruminant MBM</td>
<td>√</td>
<td></td>
<td>not done</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Surveillance</td>
<td>Type A</td>
<td>Type B</td>
<td>Type A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Ongoing awareness program</td>
<td>√</td>
<td>≥ 7 years</td>
<td>since 1992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Compulsory notification of clinical suspects</td>
<td>√</td>
<td>≥ 7 years</td>
<td>since 1990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Testing brain samples in a lab</td>
<td>√</td>
<td>≥ 7 years</td>
<td>since 1992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. All BSE cases destroyed</td>
<td>√</td>
<td>√</td>
<td>√</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. All feed/birth cohorts permanently identified, movements controlled, destroyed at slaughter or at death</td>
<td>√</td>
<td>√</td>
<td>√</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OIE Official recognition of BSE Risk Status

- The OIE has developed transparent, science-based and impartial official recognition procedures for BSE risk status of Member Countries

- Countries wishing to be recognized by the OIE as being of negligible or controlled risk status must complete a Questionnaire, for review by an expert committee

- Each year, Canada applies for annual reconfirmation of their status by providing data on disease surveillance, import of MBM and greaves, as well as feed program audit findings.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Negligible</th>
<th>Classic BSE (#)</th>
<th>Controlled</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No BSE cases</td>
<td>Atypical BSE only (#)</td>
<td>No BSE cases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina Brazil (2)</td>
<td>Austria (8)</td>
<td>Nicaragua Canada (19)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia Sweden (1)</td>
<td>Belgium (133)</td>
<td>Taipei China France (877)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria United States (3)</td>
<td>Denmark (15)</td>
<td>Greece (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>Finland (1)</td>
<td>Ireland (1,655)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China (PRC)</td>
<td>Israel (1)</td>
<td>UK (184,624)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>Italy (142)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>Japan (36)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>Luxembourg (3)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>Netherlands (85)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>Portugal (1,082)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>Slovakia (25)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>Slovenia (8)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>Liechtenstein (2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malta</td>
<td>Poland (74)</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>Spain (785)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>Switzerland (467)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Panama</td>
<td>Germany (387)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paraguay</td>
<td>Czech Republic (30)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
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<td>Romania</td>
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<td>Singapore</td>
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<td>Uruguay</td>
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<td>Costa Rica</td>
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<td>Cyprus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
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<td>Mexico</td>
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**BSE-risk status (2017)**
Prevention and Protection: Going Forward

- It is necessary to maintain the OIE Standards on BSE to protect public health and to ensure safe international trade.

- To support Canada’s application for “negligible risk”, the current BSE programming will need to be maintained.

- Once Canada reaches BSE negligible risk status (earliest possible date is 2020), BSE programming will need to continue.
The OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (SCAD) report of February 2017 included a paper (Annex 18) regarding potential future changes to the official recognition of BSE risk status and BSE standards in the Code.

- Presented at Annual General Session in May, 2017
- Two broad recommendations were presented in this paper
The BSE Chapter of the *Terrestrial Code* on BSE should be revised in depth, with a focus on:

- the relevance of maintaining categorization of country’s status for trade purposes
- appropriate requirements for Member Countries’ categorization (if retained)
- trade requirements and
- surveillance system specifications
SCAD: Second Recommendation

- OIE delegates should discuss the best approach for discontinuation of official BSE risk-status recognition by the OIE

- Should the OIE delegates recommend that the OIE discontinue official recognition, BSE-risk categorization would be based on self-declaration by individual countries.

- BSE would remain an OIE listed disease and the corresponding chapter in the *Code* would continue to be regularly updated, as appropriate.
Canada’s Position

• Canada requested that the Commission prioritise the work on the revision of the OIE Standards on BSE and then to engage Member Countries in discussing the need for maintenance of official recognition of BSE risk status.

• Canada has offered its expertise to support the OIE in the revision of the BSE Terrestrial Code chapter.
Next Steps

• The work has not yet started in response to the SCAD recommendations.

• The Scientific Commission will form an ad-hoc Working Group of independent experts chosen and appointed by the OIE.

• Any revisions to the BSE Chapter will go through the normal OIE process for amendments.
Pet Food Export

• In the case of a change from BSE risk status categorization by the OIE, to independent BSE risk status self-declaration by third countries, consideration may be given to:

  • Potential inconsistency of the SRM definitions across countries

  • Independent BSE self-evaluation by importing countries may create an unpredictable outcome for Canadian bovine material

  • Potential need to renegotiate export certificates
Pet Food Import

• As an OIE Member country, Canada aligns its import policies and requirements with international standards set by the OIE.

• In the case of a change from BSE risk status categorization by the OIE, to independent BSE risk status self-declaration by third countries:

  • scientific risk evaluation would be required before implementing new import requirements for pet food containing bovine materials

  • Potential need for regulatory amendments and import policy changes
Conclusions

Impacts on trade are difficult to assess, as outcomes are unknown at this time, however:

- Canada has a well-developed relationship with the OIE.
- Canada works with like-minded countries to influence the work of the OIE.
- Canada will be an active participant in the process for amendments to the BSE chapter of the *Terrestrial Code*.
- Canada’s focal points will continue to engage stakeholders in order to provide input into comments for any proposed amendments.
Questions?