

## *Restriction of Trade Due to Disease Outbreaks*

Sara Kaman, DVM  
National Center for Import and Export  
USDA, APHIS, Veterinary Services

## **In an ideal world....**

- WTO Sanitary and Phytosanitary Agreement
  - 146 member countries
- Establishes rules for protection of animal/plant health while facilitating trade

## **SPS Basic Rules:**

- Members have the right to apply necessary measures.
- Only applied to extent necessary and based on science.
- Must be based on assessment of risk.
- Must be the least restrictive on trade.
- Must recognize equivalent measures.

## **It's not an ideal world...**

- Difference in interpretation of science or OIE Animal Health Code.
- Linkage to broader trade issues.
- Use of SPS measures to disguise a restriction on international trade.

## APHIS-VS Role in Trade

- Develop import policy/regulations to protect health of US livestock/poultry



## APHIS-VS Role in Trade

- Facilitate exports to open/maintain market access



## Recent Export Challenges

- LPAI in Northeastern U.S.
- END in Western U.S.
- BSE in WA State
- HPAI in TX



## Low Pathogenic AI

- Ongoing "outbreaks" in U.S.
- LPAI endemic throughout the world
- LPAI is not an OIE notifiable disease
- In U.S., H7N2 LPAI strain associated with live bird markets in the Northeast

## LPAI: Virginia/WV 2002

- 4.7 million birds depopulated
- Cost to eradicate: \$50 million
  - Lost exports to Japan alone: \$130 million

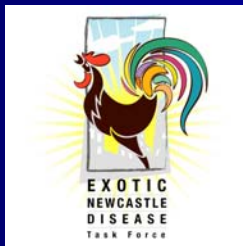


## Overall Effects



- Sets precedent for future trade restrictions due to LPAI.
- U.S. submission to SPS Committee
  - Differences in application of OIE standards for AI
  - Actions more trade restrictive than necessary
- OIE-mediated consultation with Japan

## Exotic Newcastle Disease



## END Overview

- October 2002 – September 2003
- Affected California, Arizona, Nevada, Texas, and New Mexico
- Numerous trade bans (includes states with only 1 case)
- 3.9 million birds destroyed
- \$100 million eradication costs

## Past END Experience

- 1971 – 1973 outbreak in commercial poultry in CA
- 11.9 million birds destroyed
- \$56 million Federal dollars to eradicate
- 3,177 task force personnel
- 3 years to eradicate

## History of Trade Restrictions Resulting from END

- October 1: END infection confirmed in **CA**
- October 1: EU imposes US restrictions
- November 29: China begins CA restrictions
- January 1: Canada begins CA restrictions
- January 10: Russia begins CA restrictions
- January 16: END confirmed in **AZ**



## More END Trade Restrictions

- January 17: Mexico begins restrictions
- February 4: END confirmed in **NV**
- February 14: Japan's AI restrictions end, END restrictions begin
- April 9: END confirmed in **TX**
- By April 14: EU, Mexico & Canada restrict poultry exports from TX

## Even More Trade Restrictions

- Trade restrictions often continue after eradication



## Regionalization reduces losses

- Down to State or county level



## APHIS Task Force

- Federal Employees: 5,352
- State/Local Employees: 2,338
- Most returned for multiple rotations with some returning as many as 12 times.



## BSE in Washington State

- December 23, 2003: Secretary announces “presumptive positive”
- Epidemiological investigation
- Affected animal imported from Canada



## Trade Bans Due to BSE

- Current bans imposed by 58 countries
- Includes live animals, animal products



## Actions to Open Export Markets

- High-level negotiations
- Letter to foreign CVO's
- Enhanced BSE surveillance plan
- FSIS/FDA actions



## Other Actions



- Recent OIE-mediated discussions between U.S. and the European Union
  - Goal: To reach common position to steer needed changes to the OIE chapter on BSE

## HPAI in Texas



- Feb '04: Routine surveillance detects H5 AI virus in Gonzales County, TX
- Virus meets OIE standards for HPAI, but clinical signs mild
- Task force deployed
- Trade bans begin

## HPAI Efforts/Outcomes

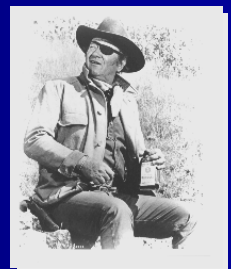
- Extensive surveillance, testing conducted
- Virus isolated at index site and 2 LBM's
- Not in commercial poultry
- U.S. declares HPAI freedom on April 1, 2004 – OIE notification

## Regionalization for HPAI

- Some countries regionalize down to the State of TX (EU, Chile, Estonia, Hungary)
- Japan, Korea, Mexico continue to ban entire U.S.

## Joint Efforts

- Multi-agency cooperation
- Task force efforts
- Trade negotiations
- TRUE GRIT!



Don't Ever Give Up!!!

