

Equine ID Subcommittee Report

April 6, 2005

Number of Attendees: 47

Presentations*

Welcome / Intro / Committee Background
J Amelita Facchiano (Chair) & Billy Smith (Co-Chair)

NAIS Equine Species Working Group Committee Report
Amy Mann

AVID (not present – missed flights)
John Wade, DVM

Electronic ID, Inc
Niels Fogt, Digital Angel

The Crystal Import Corporation
Monica Emmenegger, Director

DNA: Whatman, Inc.
Daniel Klis, Animal ID Specialist

Florida Equine Passport Program
Gregory S Christy, DVM

Colorado Equine ID program
Carl C Heckendorf, DVM

Open Panel of presenters for Q/A
Participation by all presenters

* All presentations are submitted via CD.

Questions from the floor to the open panel of presenters:

What is the cost and read range of the Crystal Tag product?
Cost depends on product type and volume. See presentation materials.

Why 134 vs. 125?

In the initial stages of product intro into the US, 125 was pioneered and certain markets were started. This has undergone an evolution to the more universally accepted 134.

What is the official ISO animal ID standard?

It is only 11784/85 and no other.

Will CO smart cards co-ordinate w/US & Canada?

It is anticipated but not yet determined,

Is the smart card another money maker for vets?

No

What will producers pay for the CO cards?

Possibly between \$5 and \$30 – to be determined.

Have the CO vets bought into this concept?

35 town-hall meetings have been held and vets have been in attendance. Plans will include presentations to the VMA as well.

RFID – how will we ensure that multiple chips in horses are not confusing the scans?

If one reader does not read then try another or establish support of ISO.

Who is responsible for implanting horses?

The needs to be determined thru the ESWG and establish standards.

Comment of support from MS state vet:

We elected to follow LA in that vets would do the procedure.

Why does FL have 2 different cards in their equine program?

One is for EIA and the other for extended 6 month travel.

3rd party info collection and the FOIA issue – has CO undergone a legal review?

Yes

Statements of support from Heckendorf:

We are getting tied up in confidentiality and other privacy issues when we need to move forward and learn from our mistakes.

Let it be stated for the record that CO will only use ISO complaint to NAIS 134 RFID.

Who's going to do the implanting?

If producers do so they then they will also need to take the responsibility (especially if an abscess occurs). This is

why the practitioner doing implanting provide credibility where movement is concerned.

What method of ID is the EU using for horses?

ISO 11784/85

Statement from the floor:

The US horse industry needs to support ISO.

How are microchips distributed in the EU?

In the Netherlands and other countries, sales are direct to the horse owners thru breed registries.

What about defective tags in horses?

If there is confusion or inability to read, it may be broken so you would implant another.

What if the smart card is lost?

It can be replaced for a fee.

What about backyard owners?

They will be required to comply with CO rules if they travel beyond stated areas.

In the EU, what is the type or size chip used?

12mm

DNA – how do we know the hair is from the tight horse?

That's what the industry has been doing as it is non invasive. As presented, other samples may be more effective and easily obtained.

What is the cost of DNA?

Genotyping runs between \$50 and \$75. One of the FTA cards in bulk; about \$1.25.

It seems like DNA and the smart card are a great combination for the industry to consider – why not?

Its not real time.

How long does it take it get DNA info?

Between 24 – 48 hours.

Comments from the floor:

In last years CO fire situation, horses skater and owners want them back. It seems we need something more readily readable.

In MS, huge numbers of owner were against animal ID until you spend some one-on-one time with them and then they understand.

It's a tough decision but we need to make a stand and move forward.

RFID myth – its not GIS compatible.

Slaughter issue and use of scanners –

Not routinely done but may be upon request from investigators or brand inspectors. The industry should not sell RFID based on the misconception that scanning is routinely done.

WI Prem ID – why regulate when they don't move?

This has more to do with a state specific regulation.

Ranch horse and movement issue:

The ESWG is working on this topic and has thus far outlined reference points for what horses will be required to be ID'ed; those that will need a health certificate or EIA or those at greater disease risk.

Business Meeting

The business session discussion was around topics where the industry needs to focus direction which includes:

Standards

What type methods of ID we recommend

Movement

Application – how will the recommended method(s) of ID be applied by veterinarians, producers, owners and/or others in the industry?

As a first step, the subcommittee submits the following recommendation for consideration:

Background

The equine industry has historically used varied methods of identification for a variety of reasons; while adequate for their purposes, not all current identification methods provide a unique method of permanent

identification of the horse. By establishing a uniformly accepted method of identification, like RFID technology, these conditions are met:

- Internationally compatible
- Permits a 15-digit identification number
- Allows for compatibility with current equine registration conventions.

Resolution

The National Institute for Animal Agriculture Equine Identification Subcommittee has determined that the use of ISO/ANSI compatible RFID chips (11784/85, 134 kHz) should be the required form of equine identification to comply with the United States National Animal Identification System (NAIS) for the purpose of disease trace back. This resolution should be forwarded to the NAIS Equine Species Working Group through the American Horse Council with a request for response within six months of the adoption of this resolution. Additionally, this resolution should be forwarded to the NAIS subcommittee.

The committee appreciates all the presenters for their contributions and extends special thanks to the Horse magazine for sending a staff writer to cover the equine issues during the conference

Respectfully Submitted by:
J Amelita Facchiano, Chair
Billy Smith, Co-Chair