

Sheep and Goat Health Committee Report

2008 NIAA Annual Meeting

Tuesday, April 1, 2008



The Sheep and Goat Health Committee met on Tuesday, April 1, 2008 from 1:30 pm to 5:00 pm EST, during the NIAA 2008 Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana with 30 people present. Dr. Lyndon Irwin served as the Chair and Dr. Cleon Kimberling served as the Vice Chair in absentia. Dr. Cindy Wolf assisted Dr. Irwin in Dr. Kimberling's absence.

The committee session focused on current issues facing the industries. The following speakers presented relevant information pertaining to animal welfare, Scrapie, and animal identification:

Dr. Stan Curtis, University of Illinois, presented "Sheep and Goat Welfare Issues: Being Proactive."

Dr. Katherine O'Rourke, USDA/APHIS/ADRU, presented "Non-Classical Scrapie."

Dr. Alecia Larew Naugle, USDA/APHIS/VS National Center for Animal Health Programs, presented "Scrapie Eradication Progress and Surveillance in Sheep and Goats."

Dr. Cindy Wolf, University of Minnesota, presented "Sheep Identification Device Efficacy Studies."

Marvin Shurley, American Meat Goat Association, presented "Goat Identification Device Efficacy Studies."

Old Business:

- In 2007, it was reported that an AASRP-sponsored Goat Quality Assurance program was going to be developed. This committee encourages its development which AASRP has not yet undertaken.

New Business:

- Action Items based on the following Information, Education and Solutions.
 - Information example: Sheep and Goat Health wants to send a letter to USDA, APHIS expressing appreciation for funding of the Scrapie Educational efforts.
 - Education example: Committee members and staff have completed a powerpoint that details the identification requirements for goats of the National Scrapie Eradication Program (NSEP) and a second edition of the pocket sized NSEP records book.
 - Solutions example: Sheep and Goat Health committee sends letter to APHIS administrator encouraging increased funding for National Scrapie Eradication Program efforts as additional funds are needed to effectively eliminate scrapie from the US sheep and goat populations.
- Number of new resolutions accepted (0)
- Number of existing resolutions amended or revised (2)
- Number that were removed (0)

General discussion:

- There was discussion of a new chair and vice chair.

Committee Session adjourned at 5:00 p.m.