

MINUTES

LIVESTOCK & POULTRY FARM BILL WORKING GROUP

KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

December 6, 2016

The Kentucky Farm Bureau Livestock and Poultry Farm Bill Working Group met by conference call at 10:05 a.m. EST on Tuesday, December 6, 2016.

Working Group members present were: Jamie Guffey, Kentucky Poultry Federation, Chair; Dr. Kenny Burdine, University of Kentucky CAFE; Joe Clabes, Kentucky Equine Education Program; Bonnie Jolly, Kentucky Pork Producers Association; David Lemaster, Kentucky Cattlemen's Association; Dr. Dennis Liptrap, Kentucky Pork Producers Association; David Maples, Kentucky Cattlemen's Association; and Keith Rogers, Kentucky Department of Agriculture (for Dr. Robert Stout). Also present was Nicki Whitaker, Kentucky Cattlemen's Association. This meeting was staffed by Fran McCall and Ed McQueen, Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation.

This meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m., EST by Chairman Jamie Guffey. Introductions were made. Ms. McCall provided an overview of this working group's charge developed at the November 1st KFB Farm Bill Working Group meeting.

The areas that committee members focused on included:

1) Livestock Indemnification Program (LIP) for losses associated with disease. This is especially important in the case of mandatory depopulation of the livestock or poultry. Indemnification should also be made to the contract growers (swine and poultry) who experience significant income loss during the depopulation period. In the case of avian influenza, poultry houses are empty six months.

2) Foreign animal disease threat, such as Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD). It was suggested that the U.S. is not prepared. More disease research, a vaccine bank, and possible offshore vaccine manufacturing were recommended.

3) Agricultural Research through land grant universities should receive adequate funding to support livestock and poultry production.

4) The Livestock Risk Protection Program and the Livestock Gross Margin Program were discussed briefly. Dr. Burdine reported these producer programs are not used widely and could benefit from added incentives and producer education.

5) The Livestock Forage Disaster Program was discussed briefly. Dr. Burdine told the committee about the USDA-RMA's Rainfall Index Pasture, Rangeland, Forage (RI-PRF) Program. This insurance product has been available in Kentucky for two years. He believes it can be beneficial to producers. Indemnity

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payments are based on NOAA CPC precipitation data in fixed grids compared to the long-term index of precipitation.

6) The importance of trade was discussed, including how disease outbreaks could harm exports. Trade aspects of the Farm Bill are the focus of a separate working group.

The committee's next meeting is tentatively planned for late February or early March at the KFB State Office in Louisville. Ms. McCall will provide possible dates to the committee, collect the members' preferences, and work with Chairman Guffey to set the date. The agenda may include a couple speakers, including Dr. Burdine speaking on the Livestock Risk Protection (LRP) program.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the conference call was ended.

**Recorded by: Ed McQueen
Kentucky Farm Bureau**