

# Animal Health Emergency Management Projects

**PRODUCER HANDBOOK**

the Alberta Dairy Disease-Related Sector-Wide Emergencies

**Preparing the Ontario Sheep Sector for Disease-Related Sector-Wide Emergencies**

**ONTARIO SHEEP PLAN**

Growing Forward 2  
A federal-provincial territorial initiative

Canada

OntarioSheep  
PROCESSED

Growing Forward 2  
A federal-provincial territorial initiative

Canada

**Emergency Phases**

A disease-related sector-wide emergency will generally unfold through the following six key phases - some of which will occur in parallel. Depending on the disease and practical incident, some phases may occur quickly and go unnotified, while others may unfold over a period of time due to the logistical challenge of containing a disease or difficulty managing an outbreak.

**Alert** Following an Unusual Animal Health event, industry may be asked to remain vigilant and to take precautions to minimize further spread of disease risk.

**Suspicion** A formal Notice of Suspicion may be issued by the CISA or the provincial government (PAG) and industry may be asked to submit to Veterinary Movement Controls.

**Confirmation** A formal Notice of Confirmation from the Chief Veterinary Officer (Canada), Chief Provincial Veterinarian, or other federal/provincial authority will verify presence of a disease-related disease. Mandatory containment strategies may begin.

**Response** Industry professionals, government, and producers may all have a role to play in various key response components: Industry Containment, Investigation/Testing, Isolation, Quarantine/Restrictions, Vaccination/Control Measures, Containing/Restrictions, and Lifting of Restrictions.

**Recovery** With the emergency situation now resolved, producers and industry may focus on decelerating the clearance of disease and regaining market access.

**Prevention** Industry is encouraged to continue animal disease risk reduction efforts and continue to take steps to contain risk.

**Preparing the Alberta Beef Sector for Disease-Related Sector-Wide Emergencies**

**Disease-Related Sector-Wide Emergencies**

Service animal disease outbreaks are recognized as the industry's greatest vulnerability because they have the potential to:

- NEGATIVELY** affect consumer preferences and industry practices
- WEAKEN** our beef and livestock sector as a whole
- RESTRICT** Canada's trade relationships and export capacity

The disease landscapes is ever-changing. Do it known or evolving diseases, producers must stay informed and aware of the signs and symptoms of serious animal diseases.

**PRODUCER SUMMARY**

ADP has developed a comprehensive Producer Handbook to help focus on the ground-level, prepare and respond to various animal disease events.

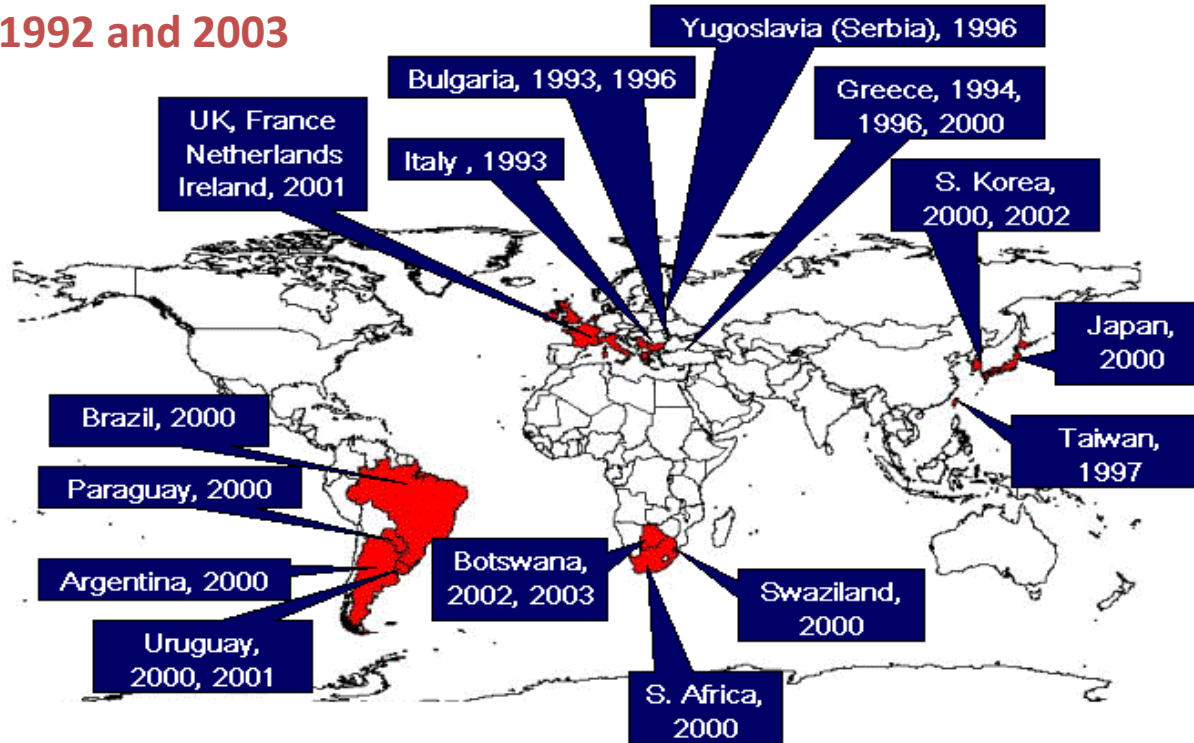
Alberta Beef Producers  
Growing Forward 2  
Canada  
Alberta Beef Producers

DRAFT

Evolve | Springfield | Encephalopathy | Rinderpest | Brucellosis

# THE RISK: Outbreaks DO happen... FMD IN Non-Endemic Areas

## Incursions between 1992 and 2003



## Outbreaks in officially free countries/zones 2004-2017

Country	Year
Argentina	2006
Botswana	multiple
Brazil	2005/6
Bulgaria	2011
Colombia	2017
Japan	2010
Korea	multiple
Namibia	multiple
Paraguay	2012
Russia	2016/17
Sth Africa	2011
UK	2007



**Costs of control including slaughter and trade losses can be very large**

# Risks for Entry to Canada

**Animal products:** especially illegal movements



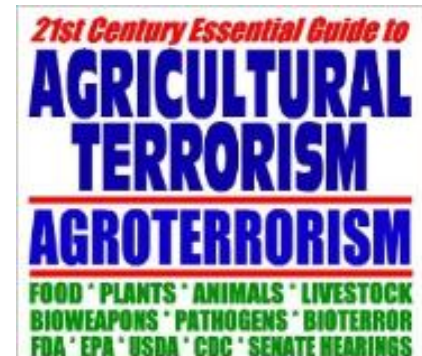
**People:** farm workers, tourists, migrants, military



**Wild animals:** wild pigs and deer



**Bioterrorism:**



**Probability = risk x frequency**



# Animal Health Emergency Management Project

- Administered by Canadian Animal Health Coalition
  - Transitioning this year to National Farmed Animal Health & Welfare Council
- Funded by AAFC, AgriAssurance Program
- Technical Support by CFIA



# Animal Health Emergency Management I

June 2016 - March 2018

## Purpose

- **Better equip Canada's livestock industry for disease-related sector-wide emergencies**

## Objective

- **Introduce a consistent set of tools and standardized process for use within Canada's livestock industry**

## Funding

- **Growing Forward 2**
- **\$853k**

## Better equip Canada's livestock industry for disease-related sector-wide emergencies

1. Benchmarking Survey
  - 26% of associations have a plan?
2. Association PLANS & producer HANDBOOKS (15 partners)
3. Animal Health Emergency Management Councils workshops
4. Additional activities
  - Closing Survey on Satisfaction and Future Direction
  - CVO and Industry Leadership Discussions
  - Lessons Learned Report – PED in Manitoba
  - Profile of Existing Animal Health EM 'Secretariats'
  - Awareness: Brochure summarizing producer-level HANDBOOK

# AHEM I

# METHOD

Iterative.... learning our own lessons of experience

4 cohorts, 15 provincial partners = 13 sets of documents



Beef (5)

Dairy (4)

Pork (3)

Sheep (2)

Goat (1)

# AHEM-II

Animal Health Emergency Management Project

**APR 2019 – MAR 2023**

## Purpose

- **Build Awareness, Capability & Confidence?**

## Funding

- **Canadian Agricultural Partnership**
- **AgriAssurance Program**
- **\$2,600,000**



# AHEM-II

Animal Health Emergency Management Project

## ACTIVITIES

### 1. PROTOCOLS

- Develop 3-5 protocols that address critical gaps in industry policy
- Test protocols in a national exercises to ensure broad and multi-commodity application
  - November 2020, Canada's first industry coordinated, national, multi-commodity table-top simulation
- Examples
  - Voluntary Cease Movement
  - Animals in Transit
  - Mass Ordered Vaccination
  - Ordered Depopulation

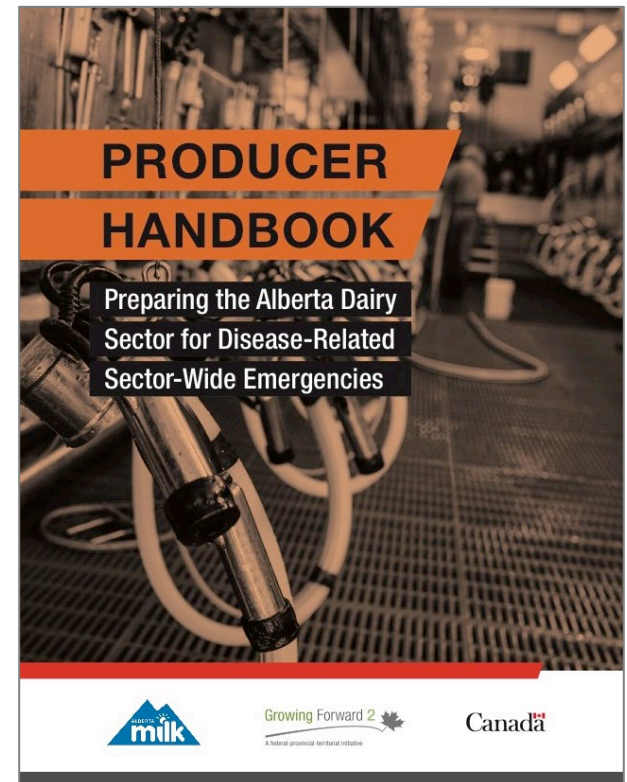
# AHEM-II

Animal Health Emergency Management Project

## ACTIVITIES

### 2. RESOURCES

- Develop roles and responsibilities for animal health emergencies in PLANS for national and provincial association staff and HANDBOOKs for producers
- Partners
  - Another 12-15 provincial and
  - 3-5 national commodity groups



# AHEM-II

Animal Health Emergency Management Project

# ACTIVITIES

## 3. AWARENESS TOOLS

- Tools for provincial commodity groups to create awareness and understanding of the available resources, e.g.
  - brochures,
  - website and
  - training
- Workshops introducing
  - AHEM PLANs and HANDBOOKs and
  - ICS Training

### Emergency Phases

A disease-related outbreak emergency will generally occur through the following six key phases - some of which are more frequent than others. Depending on the disease and particular incident, some phases may occur quickly and go unnoted, while others may extend over a long time to heightened risk of contracting a disease of already emerging or endemic.

## Preparing the Alberta Beef Sector for Disease-Related Sector-Wide Emergencies

**PRODUCER SUMMARY**

DRAFT

Alberta Beef Producers: (403) 275-6400, www.albertabeefproducers.org

Canadian Animal Health Centre: (416) 907-0200, www.canadiananimalhealthcentre.org

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### UNDERSTAND

A serious animal disease outbreak will put our industry's livelihood at risk. As a producer, you know your operation inside-out. When an animal is unwell, there will be signs and it is your responsibility to act on these cues.

**Share Concerns:** Producers have a duty of care as well as a legal requirement to report all suspected cases of certain diseases. Notifying the appropriate authorities as early as possible not only helps reduce animal and human health impacts, it is integral to protecting our industry.

**Work Together:** If a serious animal disease is suspected, an Emergency Operations Centre may be established by first response organizations. Producer organizations will be a part of broader emergency management discussions and should be the first point of contact for updates and information.

**Product Options:** **Bioreactor Products** can help safeguard your operation and the industry at large. Producers committed to good animal husbandry, hygiene practices, vehicle management and staff training in personnel.

Once a disease is confirmed, **Control Zones** may also be established to keep uninfected areas free from disease. These movement restrictions are essential to managing risk, maintaining trade relationships and ensuring continued industry viability.

### PREPARE

By being proactive, your operation will be in a better position to respond and convey key details to emergency personnel in an emergency situation unfolds.

**Know Your Objectives:** During an emergency, government priorities will be human health safety and public infrastructure. Producers will need to focus on maintaining the role to provide timely, relevant and transparent the health and safety of animals.

**Have a Clearly Defined Plan:** A diagram setting out the unique features of the property and location of key areas will help first responders be more efficient and effective.

**Document Your Work Cycle:** Disease made activities, the flow of people and the frequency of deliveries and shipments are important considerations during an emergency.

**Assign Key Decision Makers:** Primary and Secondary Contacts should be authorized and able to make quick decisions on behalf of the operation.

**Keep Up-to-Date Inventory and Contact Lists:** First responders and other emergency management staff benefit from knowing how many livestock are onsite as well as what equipment, pens, reserves, and professional services are available.

### RESPOND

**Whether directly affected or not, operators may have distinct roles and responsibilities during a serious animal disease emergency.**

**Containment:** Be carefully assessing movement of animals, personnel, products and equipment in and around the potentially affected area, complying with mandatory movement controls, holding animals larger of engineering, high-fenced biosecurity pens, there are ways to protect your farm and the industry at large.

**Investigation and Tracing:** Part of containing a disease is determining how it was introduced and how to track spread. Traceability systems bring together animal, premises identification (PI) and movement data. Producers can contribute to the speed and precision of a response by keeping up-to-date records, registering their premises and exploring traceability options.

**Vaccination:** Mass vaccination may be ordered during a serious animal disease event. This measure can help establish a buffer zone around an infected flock, prevent disease at risk and safeguard the industry. The CPA or provincial government will provide producers with a detailed protocol to follow. Compliance is a legislated requirement under the Health of Animals Act (Canada or provincial legislation).

**Depopulation and Disposal:** Regulatory authorities may order mass depopulation and disposal of carcasses in response to a major outbreak. This is an emotionally and financially challenging activity but necessary to stop disease spread and to protect the industry. Compliance with such orders is also a legal requirement.

**Financial Considerations:** While depopulation orders are never welcome, producers may be compensated for some of these losses. There may also be support available through other sources such as insurance and government aid.

**Compensation:** is paid in accordance with the Health of Animals Act or provincial legislation. This amount includes the market value of animals ordered depopulated less any salvage value, disposal costs, and other things that require destruction such as feed and animal products.

**Fair and accurate valuation:** of the animals is a necessary step in determining compensation. A process agreed to by your industry leaders will be overseen by CPA. Accurate and up-to-date animal records will help producers to document the process and substantiate the value of their animals.

**Recovery:** CPA, the federal government and industry leaders will be working diligently to gain broad recognition of Canada's disease-free status by our trading partners around the world and to re-establish market share. This can be a lengthy process that may take months and even years.

# AHEM-II

Animal Health Emergency Management Project

## ACTIVITIES

### 4. PRACTITIONER TRAINING

- Self-paced, foreign animal disease recognition and response training course for private veterinarians
  - May 2020, 150 participants
  - May 2021, 150 participants
- Collaboration with
  - CFIA and
  - European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease
- Continuing Education recognition
  - CVMA and provincial members
  - AAUSB RACE recognition



# AHEM-II

Animal Health Emergency Management Project

## OUTCOMES



Awareness

Capability

Resilience

Sustainability

Market Confidence

*'By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail'*  
– Benjamin Franklin

# THANK YOU

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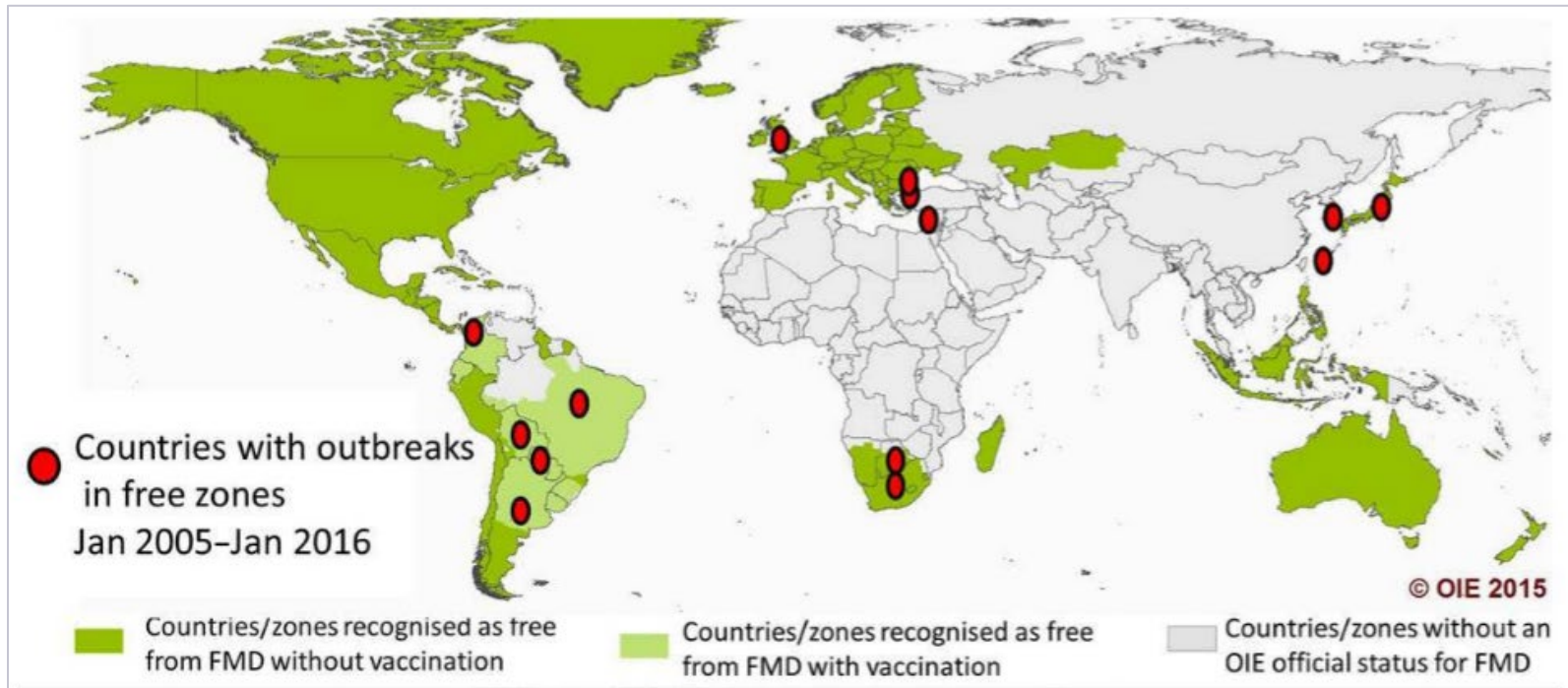
Comments? Questions?

[animalhealth.ca](http://animalhealth.ca)



# THE RISK

Outbreaks DO happen... look at FMD today



From Knight-Jones et al 2016

# AHEM-II

Animal Health Emergency Management Project

**OUR ASK**

*‘Help us, Help you... Help us, Help you.’*

(Jerry Maguire, 1996)