



## Two ASF Townhalls hosted by CPC

The Canadian Pork Council has hosted two townhalls on African swine fever on September 29<sup>th</sup> and October 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you missed the live sessions, recordings are available on the CPC website

<https://www.cpc-ccp.com/asf-townhall-day-1>

There are also lots of ASF resources for producers on their website at

<https://www.cpc-ccp.com/african-swine-fever>

## USDA ASF Action Week Webinars

The USDA APHIS hosted an ASF action week in September. They offered 90-minute webinars each afternoon. If you are interested in watching the recorded versions, the website is [here](#).

## CFIA's Veterinary Health Products Pilot Project

In January 2021, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and Health Canada announced they were collaborating on a pilot project to allow livestock feeds to include veterinary health products, such as organic acids and essential oils.

The pilot project was completed in August with the publication of a compendium of veterinary health products, veterinary biologics, or other regulated products that may be effective when administered to livestock via their feeds. This compendium will be incorporated by reference into the Feeds Regulations. To view the compendium, click [here](#)

## Swine Depopulation Methods Reference Document

As part of planning to prepare for a potential ASF outbreak in Canada, several federal, provincial, territorial and industry partners joined to create the ASF Destruction and Disposal Working

## CASV-ACVP AGM - October 29, 2021

The CASV-ACVP AGM is being held on-line on **Friday, October 29, 2021** from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern time. The detailed agenda and written reports will be mailed to all CASV-ACVP members and posted on the CASV-ACVP website [www.casv-acvp.com](http://www.casv-acvp.com) under communications.



The AGM is also when the incoming Board of Directors for 2021-2022 is elected. We currently have 10 directors but can have up to 15 according to our by-laws. So, we have lots of room for members who may be interested in becoming a director. Terms are typically for three years. You may nominate someone you feel would be a good director or volunteer yourself. Send nominations to [susan.tfio@bell.net](mailto:susan.tfio@bell.net). Nominations may also be made during the AGM.

## Access to Veterinary Pharmaceuticals

As noted in the June newsletter, CASV-ACVP has been having discussions with national livestock and veterinarian associations regarding growing concerns related to access to veterinary medical products. These concerns include an insufficient number of labelled products for some species groups and the disappearance of various products from the Canadian marketplace. We feel there may be regulatory barriers that are impacting the continued availability of products that are already approved in Canada for use in large animals and also impacting submission of requests for approval of products that are new to Canada.

A joint letter was sent to Health Canada and Agriculture and Agri-food Canada asking them to convene a roundtable of Canadian national species-specific veterinary associations, Canadian livestock producer, and Canadian veterinary drug manufacturers. Marilena Bassi, Director General, Veterinary Drugs Directorate responded to the letter and agreed to organize a roundtable. The intent is to have this group fully explore the impact of regulatory requirements and propose solutions to the unintended consequences which may restrict access to important veterinary products.

## Feed Regulatory Modernization

Proposed changes to the Feeds Regulations were pre-published in the Canada Gazette I for a public consultation from June 12 to October 15, 2021. CFIA is seeking feedback on the proposed changes which are to take effect January 1, 2023. Of note to the swine sector are proposed changes to use of zinc oxide:

- Previous limit was 500 ppm but CFIA allowed higher limits with a custom formula. Very common to have a custom formula with ~3000 ppm in first starter after weaning and ~2000 ppm in the second starter. Grow-finisher feeds are commonly around 150 ppm.
- The new, proposed limit is 300 ppm for all diets. Not allowed to add higher levels with custom formula.

The regulatory change specific to zinc oxide is exempted until January 1, 2026.

ZnO is very effective at reducing clinical post-weaning diarrhea, so reducing the level to 300 ppm will require alternative solutions which may include

Group. The working group, amongst other objectives, committed to review all existing depopulation methods based on available science and technical expertise from members to produce a Canadian depopulation reference.

The creation of a depopulation methods reference document pursues two main objectives: (1) providing veterinarians, producers and/or regulatory organizations with the most tools possible to efficiently depopulate once the need has been identified and (2) providing clear guidelines regarding the acceptability and feasibility based on animal welfare, safety concerns and other considerations.

Once the final version is available, CASV-ACVP members will be notified and provided with a link.

### Canadian Swine Training Development Project

As mentioned in the June newsletter, the Canadian Pork Council has been leading a project to develop educational resources for the pork sector. Since the last newsletter, they have completed a few more projects, including:

- A series of 11 training videos on euthanasia, which are available through the provincial pork organizations.
- The French version of the Canadian Small-Scale Pig Farming Manual and Top 10 Guide, available, along with the English one, on the CASV-ACVP website: <https://www.casv-acvp.com/small-scale-pig-farming.html>

They are currently working:

- A series of 12 training videos on barn operational tasks, which will be available in spring 2022.
- A series of 10 training videos on group sow housing, which will be available in summer 2022.
- Some training videos on biosecurity during an FAD response, which will be available in 2022.

antimicrobials. The CASV-ACVP Board will be submitting comments through the public consultation process advocating to maintain the ability to use higher levels of zinc oxide in starter rations, e.g., two weeks post weaning.

### Extra-label Drug Use – Why You Should Utilize CgFARAD™

In Canada, veterinarians are legally permitted to prescribe drugs in an extra label manner (i.e. for disease indications, or doses or duration of treatments that are different than the approved drug labelling). But, using a drug in an extra label manner also means that the label withdrawal time for meat, milk or eggs, no longer applies. It is the responsibility of the veterinarian to provide new withdrawal guidelines. Veterinarians may contact the CgFARAD™, through a web-based system, to request advice on withdrawals that will ensure that violative residues are not detected in food animal products.

Legitimate extra label drug use in Canada is to be on a case-by-case basis. That is why CgFARAD™ requires the identification of drugs used in a specific animal or herd/flock for a specific disease situation. A separate request needs to be entered for each animal or group of animals

receiving the extra label treatment(s). For example, an antimicrobial and a coccidiostat may be incorporated in to one batch of feed for a poultry flock, so both drugs would be included in one request. But if in a dairy herd, one cow is going to receive an antimicrobial and another cow is going to receive an anti-inflammatory drug, then two separate requests need to be submitted.

The CgFARAD™ service does not provide blanket withdrawal recommendations for routine extra label drug use. The disease state of the animal(s) will impact the withdrawal recommendation provided, and the advice is specific to that situation on the day it is given. Use of recommendations for future similar or different cases is a veterinarian's prerogative, but the practice is highly discouraged as the disease states may be different and CgFARAD™ is always acquiring new information that may change the recommendations. This policy is shared by the U.S. FARAD as well.

Submitting requests for withdrawal recommendations also provides the CgFARAD™ pharmacologists with information regarding ELDU use by pharmaceutical product and by disease for each commodity group. This is valuable information as it illustrates the health challenges with which veterinarians are dealing and highlights where there may be limited registered label options. This knowledge helps to identify where drug residue research and depletion studies are needed. For example, the evaluation of depletion of meloxicam, ketoprofen, and flunixin meglumine compounded with iron dextran administered to piglets was a project undertaken by researchers at the University of Guelph.

The primary reason for ELDU in swine continues to be antimicrobial treatments for infectious diseases, especially respiratory and gastrointestinal infections. There are also frequent requests for advice on drugs used for anesthesia and pain control. Swine veterinarians have few on-label treatment options in this area.

\*\*\*

*Susan Fitzgerald on behalf of CASV-ACVP Board of Directors.*

**Submitting requests for withdrawal recommendations when using veterinary products extra labels helps maintain the integrity of our food supply and also assists in identifying gaps in product availability or research.**