

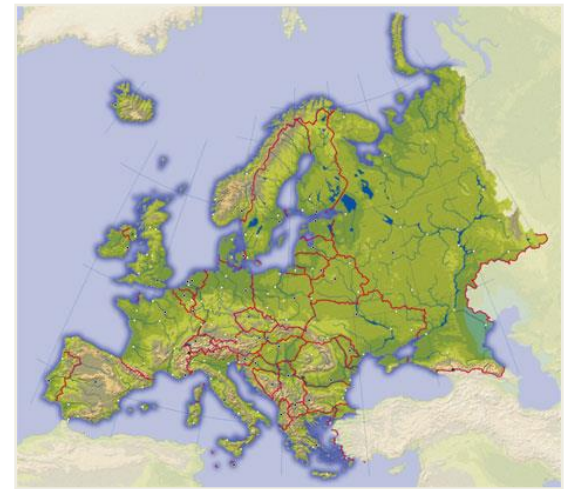
Regionalization Evaluation Services

*Recognizing the Animal Health Status
of Foreign Regions*

Joyce Bowling-Heyward, DVM, MS
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Veterinary Services



Regionalization



- Define a subpopulation by means of geographical, political, or surveyed boundaries
 - A national entity (country)
 - Part of a national entity (e.g. state, zone, county, municipality)
 - Parts of several contiguous national entities
 - A group of contiguous national entities

Guidelines and Regulations

- World Trade Organization/SPS Agreement
 - Recognize regions with low pest/disease prevalence for purposes of trade
 - Article 5- Assessment of Risk and Determination of the Appropriate Level of Sanitary or Phytosanitary Protection
 - Article 6- Adaptation of Regional Conditions, Including Pest- or Disease-Free Areas and Areas of Low Pest or Disease Prevalence
- World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)
 - Standard-setting body for international trade in animals and animal products
 - Sets standards for performing risk assessments
- United States Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)
 - Title 9, Animals and Animal Products
 - Part 92, Importation of Animals and Animal Products: Procedures for Requesting Recognition of Regions

US Recognitions of Foreign Regions

APHIS has recognized a number of foreign regions. This is beneficial to those regions as they are allowed to trade with the US. Some examples include:

- Regions of Brazil, Argentina, and Namibia that are free of FMD without vaccination
- Regions of the European Union that are free of ASF
- Regions of the EU that are free of HPAI
- Regions of Mexico that are considered low risk for bovine TB, or free of Newcastle disease
- Regions of Canada that remained free of HPAI during their previous HPAI outbreak.

Information Collection (8 Factors)

9 CFR 92.2



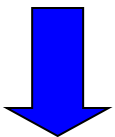
- Scope of the Evaluation Requested
- Veterinary Control and Oversight of the Region
- Disease History and Vaccination Practices
- Livestock Demographics and Traceability
- Epidemiologic Separation from Potential Sources of Infection
- Surveillance for the Agent or Disease
- Diagnostic Laboratory Capabilities
- Emergency Preparedness and Response

How we evaluate the animal health status of a foreign region

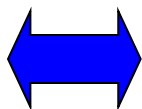


- Receive a formal request from a country
 - Review initial information that accompanies the request
 - Identify information gaps; request further information if needed.
- Write a risk analysis
 - If the risk analysis indicates an acceptable level of risk, then coordinate publication in official journal for comment and final determination.

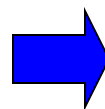
Receive request
from foreign region



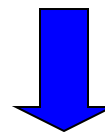
Collect
information,
verify and clarify



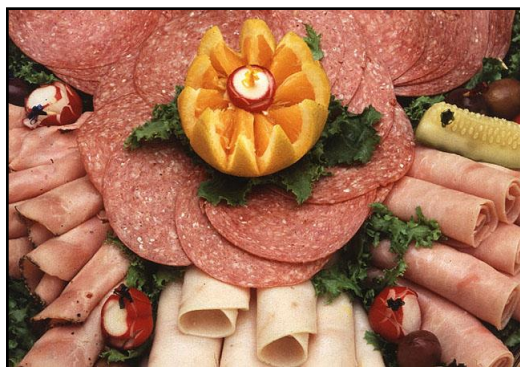
Risk
analysis



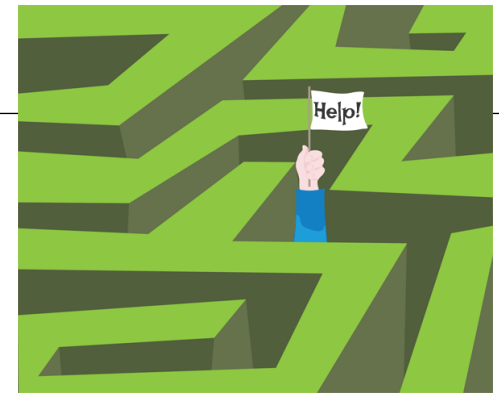
Recommend
action



Transparency
and final
determination



Roadblocks



- Region may change their request in the middle of the process
- Region may experience disease outbreak in the middle of the process
- Region may not have all the requested information available or may not pass evaluation
- APHIS may recommend program improvements that take time to implement

Risk Analysis

- Guidelines developed by the OIE
- Four parts:
 - Entry assessment: biological pathway (how disease is transmitted) and likelihood of an import activity introducing pathogenic agents
 - Exposure assessment: biological pathway for and likelihood of exposure of animals in the importing country
 - Consequence assessment: consequence of exposure
 - Direct, indirect, economic, environmental
 - Risk estimation: integrates entry, exposure, and consequence assessment; determines overall risk associated with the hazard(s)



Transparency

- The risk analysis and supporting documentation are made available to the public when a Notice is published in the Federal Register (official journal).
- Formal recognition is accomplished via a regulatory change.

Export

- APHIS will request other countries to recognize the disease status of regions of the United States
- We send pertinent information explaining the basis for the request
- We respond to the competent authority request for any additional information.

US Experience with Regionalization

- US experience with regionalization has related to periodic outbreaks of HPAI
- We have a number of poultry producing areas distributed around the United States
- Due to the size of the US, could have thousands of miles between one area and another.
- Recognition of US regions during outbreaks has allowed us to continue to trade from unaffected areas and has had a significant financial benefit to our industry.

Contact Information

Joyce Bowling-Heyward, DVM, MS

National Director, Regionalization Evaluation Services

National Import Export Services

Veterinary Services

Phone: 301-851-3350

Fax: 301-734-6402

Email: Joyce.W.Bowling-Heyward@aphis.usda.gov

https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/export/international-standard-setting-activities-oie/ct_reg_request





United States Department of Agriculture

Questions?

