

Ontario Livestock and Poultry Council

**Preparing for Emergency Response
Involving the
Livestock and Poultry Sector
October 18, 2010**

Background

- OLPC formed in January 2005
- 30 members and five ex-officio members
- Membership includes all major livestock and poultry groups, agri-business, veterinary associations, the University of Guelph, OMAFRA, CFIA, and OSPCA – ***this makes it an extremely valuable group!***

Mandate

- To provide a forum to facilitate biosecurity and emergency management preparedness relating to foreign animal disease and other transmissible livestock and poultry diseases.



Economic Impact

- The agri-food industry contributes more than **\$33 billion** to the Ontario economy and employs about **700,000 people**.
- During an outbreak, many aspects of the economy may be affected including: agricultural services such as feed suppliers and food processors as well as non-agricultural sectors such as tourism.



Potential Hazards to Consider

- Traffic accidents, e.g. truck rollovers
- Fires – on farm, sales barns, fairs
- Weather - ice, tornado, flooding
- Power outages
- Livestock and poultry diseases
- Zoonotic diseases
- Chemical spills




Emergency Preparedness and Biosecurity

**What the livestock and
poultry sectors have done
to prepare**

Industry Activities

- OLPC advocated for provincial animal health legislation.
- **Result:** the Ontario Animal Health Act was passed in December 2009.




- 
- Encourage adequate funding and power for the Chief Veterinary Officer with an Industry Advisory Board.
 - **Result:** The role of the CVO was established in the Animal Health Act along with the establishment of an Industry Advisory Board.

- Requested an improved, larger Animal Health Laboratory.




- **Result:** An additional \$25 million was invested into improvements resulting in an Animal Health Lab with surge capacity in the event of a disease outbreak.

- 
- Supported on-farm risk assessments in nine livestock sectors to determine disease exposure risk and compliance to best standards.
 - Developed commercial insurance (a world first) for multi-species and multi-diseases.
 - **Result:** Insurance for Avian Influenza in poultry, Bluetongue in sheep and currently working on “multi-peril” in swine.



- Provide low-cost biosecurity solutions to our members.
- **Result:** www.agbiosecurity.ca and www.ontlpc.ca websites as well as numerous articles in industry publications.

- 
- Inform our partners about our initiatives.
 - **Result:** Information sent to all Ontario municipalities and Public Health Units and a presentation at the ROMA conference. Regular consultation with CFIA, OMAFRA, University of Guelph Animal Health Lab, and major service sectors.



- OLPC promotes disease simulations and the industry has run several exercises to test their and government's ability to respond effectively to a disease outbreak.

- Poultry sector established the Feather Board Command Centre to coordinate emergency response.



- OLPC and the poultry associations founded Agricultural Response Materials Management Inc. (ARMMI) which established an inventory of emergency response resources.



- The Feather Board Command Centre ran a disease simulation exercise in June 2010 to test their capacity to respond, the ability to deploy ARMMI and the effectiveness of OLPC's communication network.



- Biosecurity Standard Operating Procedures have been developed for 20 different service sectors and training sessions held.





- Livestock and poultry sectors have developed on-farm food safety programs which include some biosecurity components.
- Ontario Veterinary Medical Association project developed biosecurity protocols for veterinarians and provided training.

- Beef, veal, swine, sheep, goats, and rabbits are all currently conducting biosecurity gaps analyses for their sectors.
- Ontario Pork is supporting research on biosecurity and disease mapping at the University of Guelph.





Protect and Prevent

- **Protect** the health of animals and so reduce economic losses.
- **Protect** the health of veterinarians and their families.
- **Protect** the health of farmers and their families.
- **Prevent** the spread of potential food-contaminating bacteria.



Summary

Our farmers understand that:

- good animal health also protects human health and that
- good animal health is good for business!

Ontario Livestock and Poultry Council

39 William Street


Elmira, ON N3B 1P3

519-669-3350

Fax 519-669-3826

www.ontlpc.ca

info@ontlpc.ca



Ontario Livestock
and Poultry Council
www.ontlpc.ca



Thank you