

Pre ISVEE XII Workshop
Developing Methods for Effective Surveillance

KEY MESSAGES



Need

- How much resource should be put into detecting new events?
- Should we do surveillance for known, treatable, non-statutory diseases?
 - Eg measuring coccidiosis
- Need to measure prop. morbidity of endemic disease?

Objectives

- Consider alternative approaches than surveillance (Danish pig/avian TB example)



- Innovative approaches often not considered in developed country setting
- Need to start by considering use of existing data
 - ‘too much of a luxury to *design* surveillance’
- Consider risk appetite versus cost
 - ‘Incorporate prior data to make surveillance more cost effective’
- Accuracy/precision required differs with objective
 - Value of perfection?
- Integrate surv strat with planned risk management
 - Danish example, test for Campy 1 week before slaughter
- Focus on outcome - challenge work commissioned if no clear link to useful one
 - Eg measuring coccidiosis
- Case finding very different from monitoring trend

Key Messages – Enhancing/improving efficiency

- Ensure direct link between surv. & risk management
- Consider existing data sources before planning surv
- Consider use of proxy measures for detecting short lived/clustered events
- Share effort – eg USDA weekly report from scanning media
- Ensure benefit to reporter exceeds cost
 - Including effective comms and understanding of wider benefits
- Tools in development that will be more cost effective
 - Scenario tree analysis
 - Expert decision support strategies



Key Messages

Reporting & implementation

- No consensus on specific definitions, so surv must be described case by case
 - Consider use of 4 categories proposed by AC
- Joint reporting from and to both public and animal health authorities for zoonoses

Issues

- ‘Unknown unknowns’ - Epi tools used by lay people
 - Use of input based vs output based standards
 - Tools used in ignorance of underlying science
 - No QA of surveillance designs/strategies



– Trust

- Eg Bovine TB in UK – affects wider than TB!
- Motivate contributors
- Provide service to investigate unusual events
- Educate farmers and vets about their role
- Share cost/impact of reporting more widely than the individual – how?

– Communication of benefits

– Design often based on assumption about incentives

- Eg dip tanks built but not used

