

## Animal Health & Welfare Working Group Notes – June 1, 2023

- Josh White opened the meeting and discussion on the Framework and goals reporting. He commented on the launch in April meeting in April. Focus on AH&W working group is to support reporting on the GRSB goals.
- Bruce McConnell mentioned that some of the national/regional approaches may differ from the specific AH&W targets. This is ok, and what's important is to report out on what's relevant.
- Lora Wright (SureHarvest) discussed next steps – SureHarvest is working through feedback with the intent to inform the final reporting and associated templates, which is currently planned to happen in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter. SureHarvest is willing to set up 1:1 meetings with Roundtables if needed to discuss their specific data/goals/tracking.
- Discussion:
  - Josh noted the example of dehorning may be relevant in some contexts but not all.
  - From the Paraguay Roundtable perspective, it is important to focus on production efficiencies such as improving pregnancy rates and then calf survival.
  - Bruce raised the point of weaning approaches as a potential area where it is possible to relate.
  - Roz raised a point about getting the context and sentiment related to the AH&W goals – it would be beneficial for all Roundtables to hear the background on the goals and reiterate the intent.
  - Josh: Any practices that can be referred to that reduces mortality could be referenced.
  - Bruce: pointed out there's a lot of relevance with the AH&W goals and targets across all geographies.
  - Additional examples were discussed on pain mitigation. Even if an individual Roundtable has not identified this as their goal verbatim ("pain mitigation") they may have set goals around the root cause(s) of the issue.
- The GRSB reporting template was reviewed to provide a preview of the document. Engagement levels were reviewed with the participants on the call. Emphasis is being put on the first two engagement levels ("Committed" and "Measuring"). It was noted that the engagement level may be different for each goal area depending on where a Roundtable's efforts are at on each.
  - It was suggested that an example of a completed template may be beneficial to show Roundtables the practical approach and how data will be collected.
- Josh noted there's interest in creating more GRSB resources and/or a training approach specific to AH&W activities and initiatives. Examples of resources may exist at a national level but the AH&W working group will be further exploring this.
- Discussion on hot branding was raised, as branding is still a legal requirement in quite a few countries. There's an opportunity to think about alternatives, such as RFID (Electronic ID) tags, etc. Hot branding may also be banned in other countries.
- Relative to getting all Roundtables updated, Scott noted the next National Roundtable (NRT) meeting will be on Thursday, June 15, 3pm Central US/Canada time.
- The Goals Reporting Template will be shared soon with Roundtables to begin the data collection process.

Project ideas were discussed relative to GRSB funding.