



## US SHIP Quarterly Newsletter

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### US SHIP In the News



US SHIP was a hot topic at the annual meeting of the American Association of Swine Veterinarians last month. SHIP was mentioned in all eight mainstage presentations and in several breakout sessions, demonstrating a great momentum for SHIP as the national health certification program that can provide a foundation for future domestic disease elimination efforts!

The US SHIP program was also featured in an article in Farm Progress magazine: <https://www.farmprogress.com/animal-health/u-s-ship-aims-to-keep-hogs-safe-from-disease> and in a National Pork Board video series on foreign animal disease preparedness: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oKRwkbjPVU>

### Enrollment Update



Hawaii has joined our effort, bringing our total to 34 states participating in the US SHIP program! We are now at over 11,400 sites, with an estimated 73% of the breeding herd and 62% of the growing pig herd enrolled in US SHIP. In addition to expanding the enrollment, Official State Agency (OSA) efforts are now focusing on certification of those sites and inclusion in the site status verification database (resolution approved at HOD 2023).

The enrollment process is simple and easy, and interested parties should contact their Official State Agencies for more information.

## GCC Meeting Recap



The US SHIP General Conference Committee (GCC) met in person on December 18th and 19th, 2023, in Ames, Iowa. The US SHIP GCC includes nine members representing the six districts and three at-large positions elected by producers at the 2023 US SHIP House of Delegates (HOD). Also in attendance were members of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), including Veterinary Services Associate Deputy Administrator Dr. Koren Custer, Dr. Dustin Oedekoven of the National Pork Board, and the US SHIP staff.

The key items discussed at the meeting were:

- Established HOD bylaws including timelines for standard and resolution proposals (>100 days prior to HOD) and distribution of HOD proceedings for state reviews (>45 days prior to HOD)
- Provided USDA with recommendations for permanent Senior Program Coordinator position recruitment including skill sets, industry experience, and location for position and staff
- Supported continued work in the areas of biosecurity, traceability, and surveillance, as well as identified a plan for GCC review of Program Standards as they are transitioned to a standardized USDA format to ensure intent is maintained
- Unanimously supported future expansion of US SHIP to include domestic disease classifications
- Pursue the inclusion of Florida and Louisiana due to feral pig populations

“The US SHIP GCC is working to represent the industry's interests regarding ASF & CSF prevention and preparedness and is additionally focusing on continuing to provide a higher level of transparency. You can expect to see additional summaries of GCC meetings with the intent of elevating the level of trust around the work of the GCC on your behalf”, said Mike Walker, Chair of the elected GCC.

**You can read more details about the meeting [here!](#)**



## HOD 2024 preparation!

Progress continues in preparation for HOD 2024 in each of the 3 technical subcommittees of US SHIP.



### US SHIP Surveillance Working group:

Surveillance is focused on incorporating the USDA ASF/CSF active surveillance of case compatible submissions to veterinary diagnostic laboratories as per approved standard 2023-6.



### US SHIP Biosecurity Working Group:

Biosecurity efforts continue with three working groups focused on **feed biosafety, site biosecurity/feral pig risk mitigation, and transport sanitation.**



### US SHIP Traceability Working Group

Traceability has implemented a pilot project in partnership with 13 state veterinarians/board of animal health offices, 13 multi-state producers, four packing plants, and two entities providing the Repository of Inter-premises Swine Movement Record Services, i.e., AgView housed with the National Pork Board and RABapp housed at North Carolina State University as per approved resolution 2023.1. This pilot aims to provide common reporting standards and simple approaches to sharing swine movements across state lines for State Animal Health Officials. The pilot will provide experience to further develop functional, scalable, and sustainable repository systems for interstate growing, breeding, or exhibition swine

In addition to a system of inter-premises swine movement records for State Animal Health Officials, the US SHIP Traceability Pilot Project intends to work collaboratively with US SHIP OSAs, packing plant facilities, AgView, and RABapp to track movement records of loads of pigs received and shipped from the facilities.

Results of the pilot will be distributed with the 2024 US HOD package for further review and discussions at HOD 2024.



### Reminder!

In an effort to improve awareness and outreach materials, please send the US SHIP staff suggestions for names of groups or organizations who might benefit from additional, targeted outreach or meetings. Also, share any newsletter copy, presentations, brochures, or marketing materials you have used to increase awareness of US SHIP