Contagious Animal Diseases – the science behind trade policies and regulations

The magnitude and value of international trade with animal products

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The magnitude and value of international trade with animal products

• Some background facts

• Some reflections on the future

• Some Swedish perspectives on trade with animals and animal products
Food supply (FAO, kcal/capita/day)

Food Supply, meat, (FAO, kcal/capita/day)
Value of some trade commodities (WTO million USD)

Ministry of Enterprise, Energy and Communications Sweden
Government Offices of Sweden

Some reflections on the future

- In light of the increased trade in animal products it could be noted that a vast majority of animal production still is consumed in the country where it is produced
- Trade in animal feed has also increased significantly
- What we have seen lately will most probably continue, i.e. still increasing levels of meat consumption in the US and EU, and more or less rapid increases in meat consumption in many other countries, especially those with strong economic growth
- Continuing increase in trade with feed as well as in animal products and live animals
- Increased trade can lead to increased homogeneity in animal species and increased concentration in production
Per capita consumption of livestock products (FAO)

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Some Swedish perspectives on trade with animals and animal products

- Sweden is, in general terms, positive to free, or more liberalised, international trade, also in agricultural products
- Outbreak of contagious animal diseases do have a severe effect in the short and long run, especially for producers, including those with “clean herds”, but also for consumers and for trade in general terms
- In the short run a measure can be taken due to lack of information, but over time develop to a political and public concern (e.g. ban on EU meat due to BSE)
- The notification within the WTO-framework increase over time, probably party as an effect of increased trade but probably also as a means to influence trade flows
Summary

- The international trade in animal products is relatively small compared to other sectors, but outbreaks of diseases have a large effect.
- We can expect significant future increase in trade with animals and animal products.
- Increased trade may lead to reduction in diversity of traded animal products/live animals.
- We can expect an increased importance of trade in animal products, both for consumers and large scale as well as small scale producers.
- We can expect an increased use of sanitary and phytosanitary measures in international trade, due to increased trade and ambitions to regulate trade.