



## **Risk analysis in animal health decision making<sup>1</sup>**

*Análise de risco para a tomada de decisão em saúde animal*

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Risk analysis, as conducted by the Risk Analysis Team of the Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health within USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), is directed at meeting multiple objectives. These objectives include: (1) providing comprehensive information to APHIS decision makers regarding the disease agent risks associated with livestock and livestock product imports, (2) providing information to trading partners regarding U.S. exports of livestock and livestock products and disease agent regionalization and compartmentalization strategies to assist in their risk analyses, (3) identifying potential disease agent pathways into the United States to aid in developing risk-based and cost-effective surveillance strategies for livestock diseases, and (4) modeling of hypothetical disease agent spread scenarios to analyze potential emergency response options to assist in the development of optimal response strategies. Meeting these multiple objectives involves analyzing essentially the same system of biological and economic effects, though from different perspectives.

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