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Perspectives on Traceability R&D

(Researcher perspective)

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Trace R&D 2009 – Winnipeg, Manitoba

Progress

Competitiveness in international meat exports

Developing country access to international markets

Clearer understanding of:

- changes at producer level to access export markets
 - includes traceability components

Lesson learned:

- traceability can be used effectively by less developed countries to improve animal disease control



Two Critical Issues

1. Opportunity to capitalize on:
 - understanding of livestock producer changes needed to adopt traceability
2. Threat or hurdle to avoid:
 - avoid pigeon holing research themes



Advice/Recommendations

Implementing Successful Canadian Traceability R&D Strategy

1. Funding opportunities are available but most agricultural economics (and veterinary) academia state they are not well advertised or accessed through some unexpected route. Opportunities are learned of through professional relationships.
 - **Rec: send future calls for funding proposals to deans, department heads, *and academia listed in this R&D conference***



Advice/Recommendations

Implementing Successful Canadian Traceability R&D Strategy

2. Communication of needs is happening; could be better.
 - **Rec: university departments take full advantage of initiatives such as this one today**
3. Inter-institutional communication of results could be better.
 - **Rec: provide a clearinghouse of publications/ results**



Advice/Recommendations

Implementing Successful Canadian Traceability R&D Strategy

4. Priorities: I have noticed traceability in (e.g.) Alberta funding sources, but my impression is that it is a secondary tier priority. High tech, laboratory/bench science, and production are main priorities. Applied economics or cross-disciplinary research is less likely to be a priority.
 - **Rec: encourage socio-economic research that builds on need highlighted in previous studies**



