



Steven W. Troxler  
Commissioner

North Carolina Department of Agriculture  
and Consumer Services  
*Veterinary Division*

R. Douglas Meckes, DVM  
State Veterinarian

November 11, 2016

Dear Farmed Cervid Producers.

Since March of 2016, the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) has been monitoring cases of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in reindeer in Norway. These free-ranging animals were the first reindeer known to have become naturally infected with CWD.

On Monday, October 17, 2016, the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's (APHIS) CWD Program Standards Working Group released their proposed revisions to the *CWD Program Standards* at the United States Animal Health Association's meeting. In summary, APHIS announced:

APHIS has proposed changes to the *CWD Program Standards* that would amend the *Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)* adding *Rangifer* (which includes reindeer/caribou) and *Muntiacus* (includes Muntjac) to the list of CWD susceptible species. Because it will take time to implement this regulatory change, APHIS will include language in the revision to the *CWD Program Standards* which acknowledges that these genera are susceptible to CWD and will be added to the list of susceptible species in future changes to the *CFR*.

Additionally, NCDA&CS participated in a conference call on October 26 with scientific experts from APHIS for clarification on this change, and they unanimously agreed that APHIS considers both the *Rangifer* and *Muntiacus* genera as CWD-susceptible species.

Based on this new information released by APHIS, NCDA&CS recognizes the genera *Rangifer* and *Muntiacus* as CWD susceptible cervidae and are not eligible for import into North Carolina under Article 49H. § 106-549.97.

We appreciate your patience as we respond to changing federal regulatory guidance in our effort to ensure North Carolina remains free of CWD.

If you have questions, please call our office at 919-707-3250 or email [farmedcervid@ncagr.gov](mailto:farmedcervid@ncagr.gov).

Sincerely,

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R. Doug Meckes, DVM  
State Veterinarian

ROM/rp  
Enclosures

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