



# Animal Industry News

Volume 11 Issue 1

2010

## From Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northey...

I just wanted to say a quick “Thank You” to each of you for all your hard work to protect animal health in our state and allow our critically important livestock industry to continue to grow. Animal agriculture is vital to our state’s economic health. It contributes \$10 billion in sales annually, and you are a vital part to allowing that to continue.

It has certainly been a challenging year with the budget, and we expect that to continue. We have committed to making sure food safety and consumer protection remain a priority, and the work of our Animal Industry Bureau is a central part of that.

I do want to thank you for your hard work. We continue to make good progress in efforts to protect the state from a wide variety of diseases, including Avian Influenza, PRV, Tuberculosis, and Brucellosis despite the budget challenges we have faced.

Also, I will again be visiting each of Iowa’s 99 counties during the year and hope you will stop by when I’m in your area if it works with your schedule. You can follow where I’m going to be on the Department’s website at [www.iowaagriculture.gov](http://www.iowaagriculture.gov).

Thanks again for all you do and I look forward to continuing to work with you to promote animal health across the state.

**Bill Northey**  
Secretary of Agriculture

**Karey Claghorn**  
Deputy Secretary of  
Agriculture

**David D. Schmitt,**  
D.V.M.  
State Veterinarian

**Randy L. Wheeler, D.V.M.**  
Assistant State Veterinarian

**Web Site:**  
[www.iowaagriculture.gov/  
animalindustry.asp](http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/animalindustry.asp)



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## *Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine*

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## *Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine*

### **Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine**

The Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine welcomes Dr. Rick Cooper, Town and Country Veterinary Clinic, Tama, Iowa to the Board effective May 1, 2009.

Dr. Cooper replaces Dr. Les Hemmingson.

### **Examinations Dates**

North American Veterinary Licensing Exam (NAVLE) – April 12-24, 2010 – veterinary students

Veterinary Technician State Examination – June 18, 2010 (pencil/paper)

Veterinary Technician National Examination – July 15 – August 15, 2010 (newly computerized examination format)

### **Administrative Rules**

The Board Members continue to re-write Administrative Rules 811, Chapter 8 Auxiliary Personnel and Chapter 12 Standards of Practice.

### **Current Address**

Please keep the Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine informed of your current mailing address.

### **Veterinary License Renewals**

The veterinary license renewals and the continuing education record form will be mailed in April 2011. The license will lapse June 30, 2011 if the Vet Board does not receive the renewal slip, fee and the continuing education record by that date. Address changes at the time of renewal should be listed on the back of the renewal slip. Please remember it is your responsibility to notify the Vet Board of any change of address during the licensing triennium.

### **Registered Veterinary Technician Renewals**

The veterinary technician registration renewals and the continuing education record form will be mailed in October 2011. The registration will lapse December 31, 2011 if the Vet Board does not receive the renewal slip, fee and the continuing education record by that date. Address changes at the time of renewal should be listed on the back of the renewal slip. Please remember it is your responsibility to notify the Vet Board of any change of address during the registration

### **Ways To Contact Us:**

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 Bill Northey  
 515.281.5322

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Brand Recorder  
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Farm Deer Program Coordinator  
 Karen Gideon  
 515.242.5950

Premise ID Coordinator  
 Dee Clausen  
 888.778.7675

Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine  
 Ginny Eason  
 515.281.8617

Import Permits  
 Janet Bowers  
 515.281.5547

Brucellosis/Calfhood Vaccination  
 Karla Crawford  
 515.281.8285

Supplies  
 Bob Peterson  
 515.281.5155

Animal Industry Fax  
 515.281.4282

General Information  
 515.281.5305

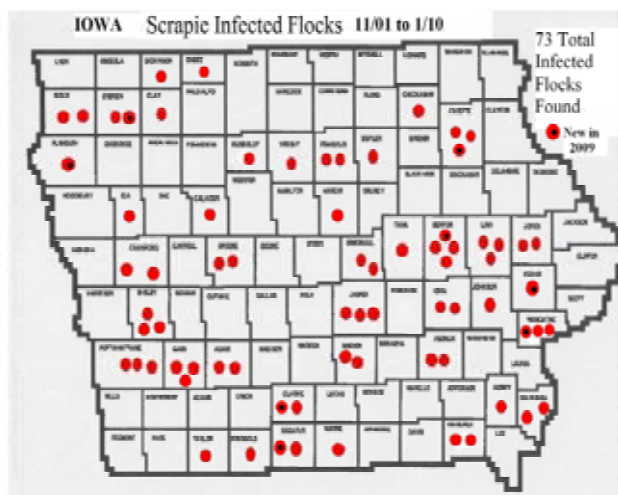
<u>STATE</u>	<u>STATE VETERINARIAN</u>	<u>OFFICE PHONE</u>	<u>PERMIT PHONE</u>
ALABAMA	Dr. Tony Frazier	(334) 240-7255	(334) 240-7255
ALASKA	Dr. Robert Gerlach	(907) 375-8200	(907) 375-8200
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CALIFORNIA	Dr. Richard E. Breitmeyer	(916) 654-0881	(916) 654-1447
COLORADO	Dr. Keith Roehr	(303) 239-4161	(303) 239-4159
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DELAWARE	Dr. Heather Hirst	(302) 739-4811	(302) 739-4811
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GEORGIA	Dr. Carter Black	(404) 656-3671	(404) 656-3667
HAWAII	Dr. James M. Foppoli	(808) 483-7100	(808) 836-3228
IDAHO	Dr. William Barton (acting)	(208) 332-8540	(208) 332-8540
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NEW HAMPSHIRE	Dr. Stephen K. Crawford	(603) 271-2404	(603) 271-2404
NEW JERSEY	Dr. Nancy E. Halpern	(609) 292-3965	(609) 292-3965
NEW MEXICO	Dr. Dave E Fly	(505) 841-6161	(800) 468-6884
NEW YORK	Dr. David Smith	(518) 457-3502	(518) 457-3502
NORTH CAROLINA	Dr. David T. Marshall	(919) 733-7601	(919) 733-7601
NORTH DAKOTA	Dr. Susan Keller	(701) 328-2655	(701) 328-2655
OHIO	Dr. Tony M. Forshey	(614) 728-6220	(614) 728-6220
OKLAHOMA	Dr. Becky L. Brewer	(405) 522-6131	(405) 522-6141
OREGON	Dr. Don Hansen	(503) 986-4680	(503) 986-4679
PENNSYLVANIA	Dr. Craig Shultz	(717) 783-6677	(717) 783-5301
PUERTO RICO	Dr. Dario Gonzalez	(787) 796-1650	(787) 796-1650
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WASHINGTON	Dr. Leonard Eldridge	(360) 902-1878	(360) 902-1878
WEST VIRGINIA	Dr. Gary Kinder	(304) 558-2214	(304) 558-2214
WISCONSIN	Dr. Robert Ehlenfeldt	(608) 224-4872	(608) 224-4878
WYOMING	Dr. Jim Logan	(307) 777-7515	(307) 777-7515
CANADA	Dr. Brian Evans (director)	(613) 225-3775	

## Iowa Scrapie Program

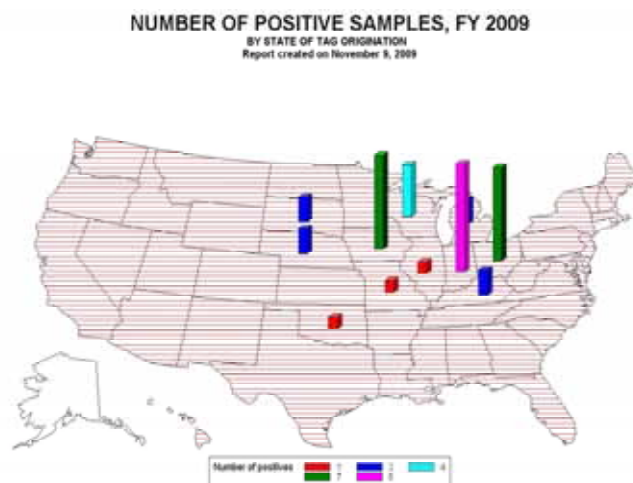
Dr. Pamela L. Smith & Dr. Sharon K. Fairchild  
Designated Scrapie Epidemiologists

**Iowa Progress:** Since the program began in November, 2001, 73 scrapie-infected flocks have been found in Iowa, with 8 of those found in 2009. This number is up from 5 in 2008, so we still have more work to do here in Iowa. Most infected flocks are found through scrapie slaughter surveillance of adult breeding sheep. In order to identify the flocks that these scrapie-infected ewes came from we rely on Scrapie ear tags. In Iowa we have an excellent track record for cooperation with our ID requirements on the part of our flock owners, markets, and dealers. We will continue to focus on assuring that all sheep and goats are properly identified to their flocks of birth. Because of our excellent ID program in Iowa we have been very successful at tracing scrapie-infected animals back to their flocks, which then undergo a flock clean-up plan to assure the elimination of Scrapie from the flock.

### HISTORY OF INFECTED FLOCKS IN IOWA



### SCRAPIE-INFECTED FOUND AT SLAUGHTER



**National Progress:** The goal of the Scrapie Program is to eradicate this disease from the U.S. and have the World Organization for Animal Health, (OIE), declare the United States scrapie free by 2017. The accelerated National Scrapie Eradication Program is now into its 9<sup>th</sup> year, and we appear to be making real progress toward our goal. There has been an 8% decrease in scrapie-positive black face sheep sampled at slaughter between fiscal year (FY) 2008 and FY 2009, an 81% decrease in scrapie-positive black face sheep sampled at slaughter since the start of Regulatory Scrapie Slaughter Surveillance program in FY 2003. Nationwide there was a 38% decrease in the number of newly identified infected and source flocks in FY 2009 compared to FY 2008. This is believed to be due in part to a shift toward scrapie-resistant genetics, which has aided in the eradication of the disease. By using "RR" rams and maintaining a closed flock producers can minimize the risk of scrapie in their flocks.

**Focus on Genetics:** The best ways to prevent the occurrence of scrapie in your flock is to maintain a closed flock, or if purchases are introduced assure that ewes are QR or RR, and use only RR rams in your flock. For more information on The Genetics of Scrapie Resistance, or if you wish to buy or sell "RR" rams please look at the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) Scrapie web pages under "Animal Diseases" at <http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/>.

**Need Scrapie Tags?:** They are available at no cost from USDA. To sign up for the Scrapie Program and order tags call 1-866-USDA-TAG (1-866-873-2824).

**Questions?** Get your scrapie questions answered by calling the Iowa Scrapie Program coordinators: Dr. Pam Smith with IDALS at (515) 669-5633, and Dr. Sharon Fairchild with USDA at (515) 669-3727.

**Premise Identification**

Protect Your Premises, Protect Your Industry  
 Premises Registered by County  
 As of 1/13/2010  
 Dee Clausen, Coordinator

County	County totals	County	County totals	County	County totals
Adair	201	Floyd	246	Monona	120
Adams	110	Franklin	259	Monroe	141
Allamakee	597	Fremont	79	Montgomery	108
Appanoose	147	Greene	176	Muscatine	192
Audubon	151	Grundy	191	O'Brien	318
Benton	295	Guthrie	192	Osceola	179
Black Hawk	193	Hamilton	447	Page	175
Boone	300	Hancock	291	Palo Alto	337
Bremer	202	Hardin	386	Plymouth	451
Buchanan	287	Harrison	138	Pocahontas	159
Buena Vista	385	Henry	223	Polk	118
Butler	249	Howard	379	Pottawattamie	289
Calhoun	209	Humboldt	239	Poweshiek	218
Carroll	411	Ida	128	Ringgold	150
Cass	215	Iowa	265	Sac	277
Cedar	371	Jackson	330	Scott	304
Cerro Gordo	138	Jasper	277	Shelby	222
Cherokee	285	Jefferson	152	Sioux	545
Chickasaw	236	Johnson	377	Story	338
Clarke	165	Jones	386	Tama	225
Clay	268	Keokuk	236	Taylor	243
Clayton	1,034	Kossuth	439	Union	155
Clinton	415	Lee	193	Van Buren	208
Crawford	300	Linn	275	Wapello	160
Dallas	341	Louisa	146	Warren	276
Davis	252	Lucas	128	Washington	399
Decatur	139	Lyon	366	Wayne	132
Delaware	1,064	Madison	241	Webster	270
Des Moines	106	Mahaska	294	Winnebago	202
Dickinson	133	Marion	221	Winneshiek	389
Dubuque	675	Marshall	209	Woodbury	178
Emmet	134	Mills	94	Worth	226
Fayette	399	Mitchell	452	Wright	253
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26,819</b>

## ***Animal Disease Traceability***

Dee Clausen, Coordinator

February 5, 2010 - USDA announced new frame work for Animal Disease Traceability (ADT). The new ADT system is designed to be more flexible and provide the basic tenets of an improved animal disease traceability capability in the United States.

USDA efforts will:

- Only apply to animals moved in interstate commerce;
- Be administered by States and Tribal Nations to provide more flexibility;
- Encourage the use of lower-cost technology; and
- Be implemented transparently through federal regulations and full rulemaking process.

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) role in the new program will be to continue to do outreach to producers, accredited veterinarians, livestock markets and harvest facilities, as well as, continuing to work with industries on advancing animal disease traceability by increasing the amount of searchability of animal traceability data collected through disease program activity, and intrastate and interstate certificates of veterinary inspection. IDALS will continue to register and maintain the database used to register premises.

For more information on animal disease traceability, please visit: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability>

## ***Avian Influenza***

**(High & Low Pathogenic AI Surveillance Programs)**

Dr. Randy L. Wheeler and Jean Saner

Iowa is number one in layers (57 million), number nine in turkey production (over 8 million) and 5<sup>th</sup> in turkey processing. IDALS continues to participate in a **High Path H5 & H7 Avian Influenza (AI) Surveillance and Awareness Program** and a **Low Path H5 & H7 AI surveillance and educational outreach cooperative agreement** with USDA. This has provided an excellent opportunity to increase awareness about avian influenza, offer voluntary free testing and to provide information about biosecurity and the importance of premise identification. All tests are polymerase chain reaction (PCR) from swab sampling of the trachea, cloaca or fresh feces.

Surveillance of small flocks of poultry and birds at swap meets for highly pathogenic H5 & H7 AI is a voluntary program and all testing has been negative. The primary focus for this testing has been around large commercial poultry operations in the state. In addition, AI testing was completed in all Iowa Department of Public Health encephalitides sentinel flocks located around the state.

The **low pathogenic AI surveillance program** focuses on providing information about both bird biosecurity & premise identification and voluntary surveillance testing of 4-H & FFA poultry projects for low pathogenic H5 & H7 avian influenza at Iowa county fairs and the Iowa State Fair. Testing of backyard waterfowl owned by exhibitors was intended to aid in early detection of avian influenza in birds with a greater risk of potential exposure to migrating wild waterfowl which can be carriers of H5 and H7 avian

influenza, and Iowa, of course, is in the Mississippi and Missouri flyways.

This was the third consecutive year of surveillance testing and again fairs were very receptive and appreciative of the efforts of our field staff that performed the testing and provided informational materials. This year there were 83 fairs that participated in Iowa. The remaining twenty (20) fairs either chose not to participate, had time scheduling difficulties, or did not have any ducks or geese entered. The percentage of participating fairs was >80% which was a slight decrease over 2008 testing. This was due in part that chickens and turkeys were not included.

The 83 fairs that participated, including the Iowa State Fair, all tested **100% NEGATIVE** for avian influenza. There were 350 samples tested.

**Avian influenza** continues to be of great concern and highly pathogenic H5 & H7 avian influenza is a reportable disease. Commercial producers are required to have surveillance testing for H5 & H7 avian influenza.

If you would like more information about avian influenza and biosecurity of backyard flocks, please contact our office **515-281-5305**. We can help to provide you with educational materials for your 4-H and FFA exhibitors who raise poultry.

## ***Chronic Wasting Disease – Update 2010***

*Karen Gideon, Farm Deer Program Coordinator*

**Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)** was first identified in the 1960s in a Colorado research facility and since that time it has been found in Wisconsin, Wyoming, Nebraska, New Mexico, South Dakota, Illinois, Utah, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Oklahoma, New York, West Virginia, Virginia, Canada and most recently in a Missouri captive cervid herd.

**CWD** is a fatal disease that attacks the brain and spinal cord of deer and elk, specifically white-tailed deer, moose, mule deer, and Rocky Mountain elk. While the exact cause is not known, it is believed to be a prion disease. A prion is an altered protein that causes other normal proteins to change and cause sponge-like holes in the brain. The origin of these prions is currently unknown. CWD is related to, but different from, scrapie in sheep and Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE or mad cow disease) in cattle and Creutzfeldt-Jacob Disease (CJD) in humans. These diseases also attack the brain and cause deterioration and eventual death. While the possibility of human infection remains a concern, it is important to note there have been no verified cases of humans contracting CWD.

### **Update - Iowa's CWD Voluntary Program**

There are 157 cervid herds currently enrolled in Iowa's CWD Program. Of these 157, 101 herds are whitetail deer, 39 herds are elk, 4 house deer/elk species, 11 are county conservation boards and 2 park/zoos. These herds have a total of 5,091 cervids that are enrolled in the program, broken down into 1,342 elk, 3,727 whitetail, 1 fallow deer, and 21 mule deer.

### **Iowa CWD Program Annual Inventory Reconciliation**

A herd is certified for 12 months. Each cervidae herd enrolled in the CWD Program must have an annual inventory conducted by a state district veterinarian. Inventory requirements are:

- 1) Records kept documenting the history/accountability of all animals in the herd. This includes identification, date of birth and sex of all animals born or received on the premise.
- 2) All animals must have two forms of official identification which are outlined in the rules under 64.104 Definitions "Official Cervid Identification".
- 3) Copies of all health certificates properly filled out and signed by an accredited veterinarian shall be kept to document movement in or out of the herd.
- 4) Surveillance will be maintained by collecting and submitting appropriate CWD tissue specimens by a veterinarian from all cases of mortality, including slaughter, in animals 16 months of age and older and keeping copies of the laboratory reports.

### **Iowa Intrastate Movement Requirements for Cervidae**

**66.14(1)** All intrastate movements of Cervidae other than to a state or federally inspected slaughter establishment shall be accompanied by an intrastate movement certificate of veterinary inspection signed by a licensed, accredited veterinarian. Movement of CWD susceptible Cervidae, other than direct movement to slaughter, shall only be allowed from herds that have been enrolled in the Iowa CWD monitoring program and have successfully completed at least one year.

### **Iowa Import Requirements for Cervidae**

CWD susceptible Cervidae shall only be allowed into Iowa from herds which have satisfactorily completed at least three years in an officially recognized CWD monitoring program. However, Cervidae originating from an area considered to be endemic to chronic wasting disease shall not be allowed entry into Iowa. Cervidae that originate from a herd that has had animal introductions from an area endemic to chronic wasting disease during the preceding five years shall not be allowed entry into Iowa. A permit number must be received by the licensed, accredited veterinarian signing the certificate and issued by Iowa's State Veterinarian prior to movement. For further import requirements, refer to CWD Rule **21—65.12(163)** posted on IDALS website, or contact the Department of Agriculture at 515/281-5547 or 515/242-5950.

In 2009, Iowa permitted in from out of state 190 whitetail deer (60 into hunting preserves) and 35 elk from out of state (7 into hunting preserves).

**All cervidae leaving Iowa** must meet the state of destinations' entry requirements prior to movement.

### **USDA Tuberculosis Testing (Cervidae) - January 11, 2006**

The following Tuberculosis Accreditation testing requirements have been changed:

- 1) Only two annual whole herd tests are required to achieve accredited status (formerly three annual tests were needed).
- 2) Accredited herds will test every three years to maintain their status (formerly it was every two years).

**Note** – All veterinarians must be accredited and certified by USDA to do TB testing on cervidae. Please contact the Federal Office at 515/284-4140.



**Iowa Brucellosis Requirements (Cervidae) – September 19, 2007**

Iowa recognizes new requirements for obtaining and maintaining Certified Brucellosis-Free Cervid herds.

- 1) Only two annual whole herd tests are required to achieve certified status (formerly three annual tests were needed).
- 2) Certified herds will test every three years to maintain their status (formerly it was every two years).

**CWD Testing**

The National Veterinary Services Laboratory requests that the obex be submitted in formalin, one medial retropharyngeal lymph node submitted in formalin, and the other medial retropharyngeal lymph node fresh in a whirl pack on ice. It is Iowa's CWD Program requirements for submission of the obex as well as the medial retropharyngeal nodes on all captive elk and deer 16 months and older. The VS-10-4 form required for laboratory submissions must be completely filled in, showing all forms of identification, mailed with the specimen submission and a copy faxed to the State Veterinarian's office at 515/281-4282.

**CWD Certified Status Program Changes**

Any cervid originating from a certified CWD herd (completion of 5 years or more in a state CWD Program) whether they are coming from out of state or within Iowa, moving into an Iowa certified CWD cervid herd, there will be no change in the anniversary date of the herd of destination. **Example:** Iowa CWD Program herd with a certified anniversary date of October 15, 2002 brings into the herd an animal with a January 1, 2003 certified anniversary date. The Iowa CWD Program herd anniversary date of October 15, 2002 will not be lowered to the January 1, 2003 date.

**The Deerhandler™**

In 2006, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship purchased a mobile Deerhandler™ and 20 black poly covered 7' x 8' panels to use for an alley way and/or a holding pen. The department will allow all deer producers enrolled in the CWD Program, or wanting to enroll in the Program to use this equipment for handling deer for CWD Program purposes and animal health related activities. To receive additional information, contact this office at 515/242-5950.

**Iowa DNR CWD Testing – Hunter-Harvested Deer During 2009-10 Season**

The Iowa DNR was informed by the National Veterinary Services Lab in Ames that none of the 3,628 Iowa whitetail deer tested for chronic wasting disease (CWD) during the 2009-10 season showed any signs of the disease. Again, emphasis was placed on the seven counties in northeastern Iowa that border Wisconsin and Illinois. The Department of Natural Resources also reported an additional 291 cervids that were tested negative for CWD from Iowa hunting preserves.

**Elk on the Loose**

In the last few years there have been several reports of elk running loose in Iowa.

If any sightings are reported to you, please contact the State Veterinarian's office at 515/242-5950 or your local DNR office.

**Contact Information:** Karen Gideon, Farm Deer Program Coordinator at the Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship, Bureau of Animal Industry, 502 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Des Moines, IA 50319, 515/242-5950 or e-mail:

[karen.gideon@iowaagriculture.gov](mailto:karen.gideon@iowaagriculture.gov).

The Chronic Wasting Disease Program information can be accessed on the State of Iowa's, Department of Agriculture website:

<http://www.iowaagriculture.gov>

## ***2009 Feral Swine Report***

### **Dr. Jim Johnson and Ginny Eason**

In calendar year 2009 there have been reports of feral swine located in southern Iowa counties. The reports of these sightings and response are as follows:

- **Taylor and Page counties.** Three mature boars and a sow and piglets were spotted in the Gravity area. It is thought that two of the boars and a sow were killed by hunters. Three pigs shot by hunters were sampled for PRV and CSF with negative results. Attempts to trap these animals earlier had been unsuccessful. In Page County recently, a young pig (20#) was captured and euthanized for sampling and results were negative. Another pig was spotted at this same time. These are the first sightings in Page County. Testing for PRV and Brucellosis has been initiated in swine operations within 10 miles of the feral swine sightings in Taylor County. These include six total confinement units that will test only for PRV and open swine units which will test for PRV and Brucella suis if breeding animals are on that site. Testing is to be completed by March 15<sup>th</sup>. DNR officials have conducted aerial surveillance of the Taylor county area and they are hopeful that most of the swine are no longer in existence. **(continued page 9)**



- **Lucas County.** One animal was shot in Lucas County in July by a Department of Natural Resources employee.
- **Wapello County.** A pig running at large was shot by an Extension employee in September. The Wapello County swine had the characteristic appearance of a domestic swine that was found to be running at large.
- **Polk and Marion counties.** The IDALS Animal Industry Bureau investigated six wild-type swine hogs from two owned herds; two hogs in Polk County and four hogs in Marion County. All of these animals tested negative for PRV and Brucellosis and depopulated.

The USDA Wildlife Services, DNR and IDALS have collaborated to prevent and continue surveillance for feral swine. If you have reports of feral swine in your area please report any sighting to our office. Iowa Code of Law prohibits transporting feral swine into Iowa, breeding feral swine and possessing feral swine. We have worked very hard over the past several years to prevent the incursion and establishment of feral swine in Iowa.



## *IVRRT 2009 Review*

Dr. Randy L. Wheeler and Katie Hyde

The Iowa Veterinary Rapid Response Team is a volunteer organization of members who have been trained to respond to animal emergencies under the authority of the State Veterinarian. IVRRT continues to grow and presently has over 390 members from 90 counties in Iowa and several other states. Membership includes interested industry professionals including veterinarians, veterinary technicians and other animal health-related industry persons such as producers. Our IVRRT had substantial participation at the Tri-State Veterinary Disaster Response Conference in Lacrosse, WI with the collaborating states of Minnesota and Wisconsin as well as several state regional meetings.

IVRRT was involved with other exercises and training including Vigilant Guard and Multi-State Partnership exercises last year. The IVRRT annual conference traditionally meets at the Gateway Conference Center in Ames the day prior to the annual IVMA conference and provides free training and CE credits to its members.

Information about IVRRT and membership can be viewed at the IDALS website:

<http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/AgSec/IVRRT.asp>

## *Pseudorabies (PRV) 2010*

Ginny Eason and Dr. David D. Schmitt

Iowa was granted Stage V status by USDA in 2004, but PRV surveillance continues.

The fee basis for drawing blood samples for PRV testing will remain at \$5.00 per head. The herd stop fee remains at \$20 for the accredited veterinarian.

Swine Exhibition requirements for 2010 involving PRV:

1. No testing is required for native Iowa swine at an Iowa exhibition that involves only market classes, provided all swine are consigned directly to a slaughter establishment from the exhibition. Swine leaving the exhibition from a market class must be consigned and moved direct to a slaughtering establishment.

2. Swine that return from an exhibition to the home herd or that are moved to a purchaser's herd following an exhibition or consignment sale must be isolated and retested negative for Pseudorabies not less than 30 and not more than 60 days after reaching their destination.

(Code of Iowa 166D.13 (2).

**For non-terminal shows, it is important that exhibitors follow-through with the isolation and testing. The serology form must state the reason for testing is post-testing after exhibition.**

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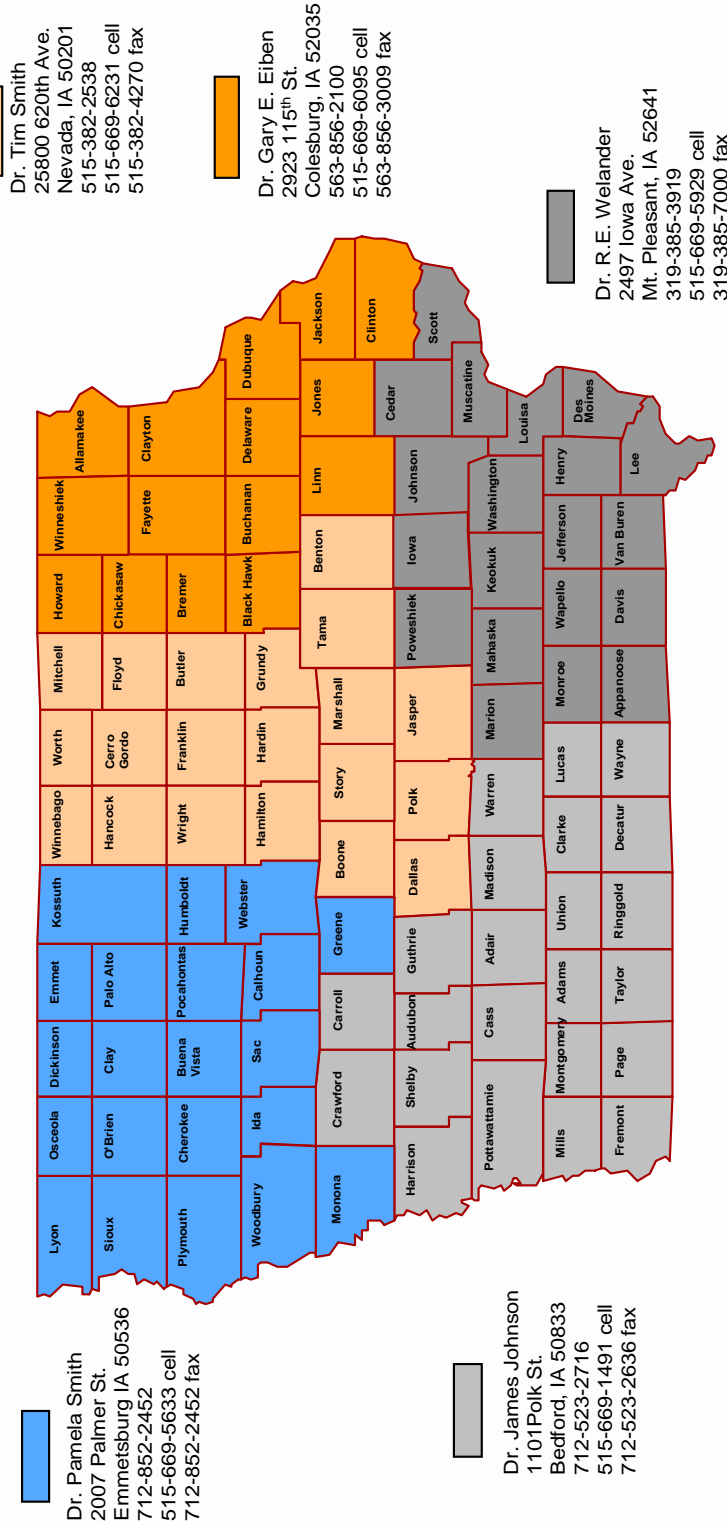
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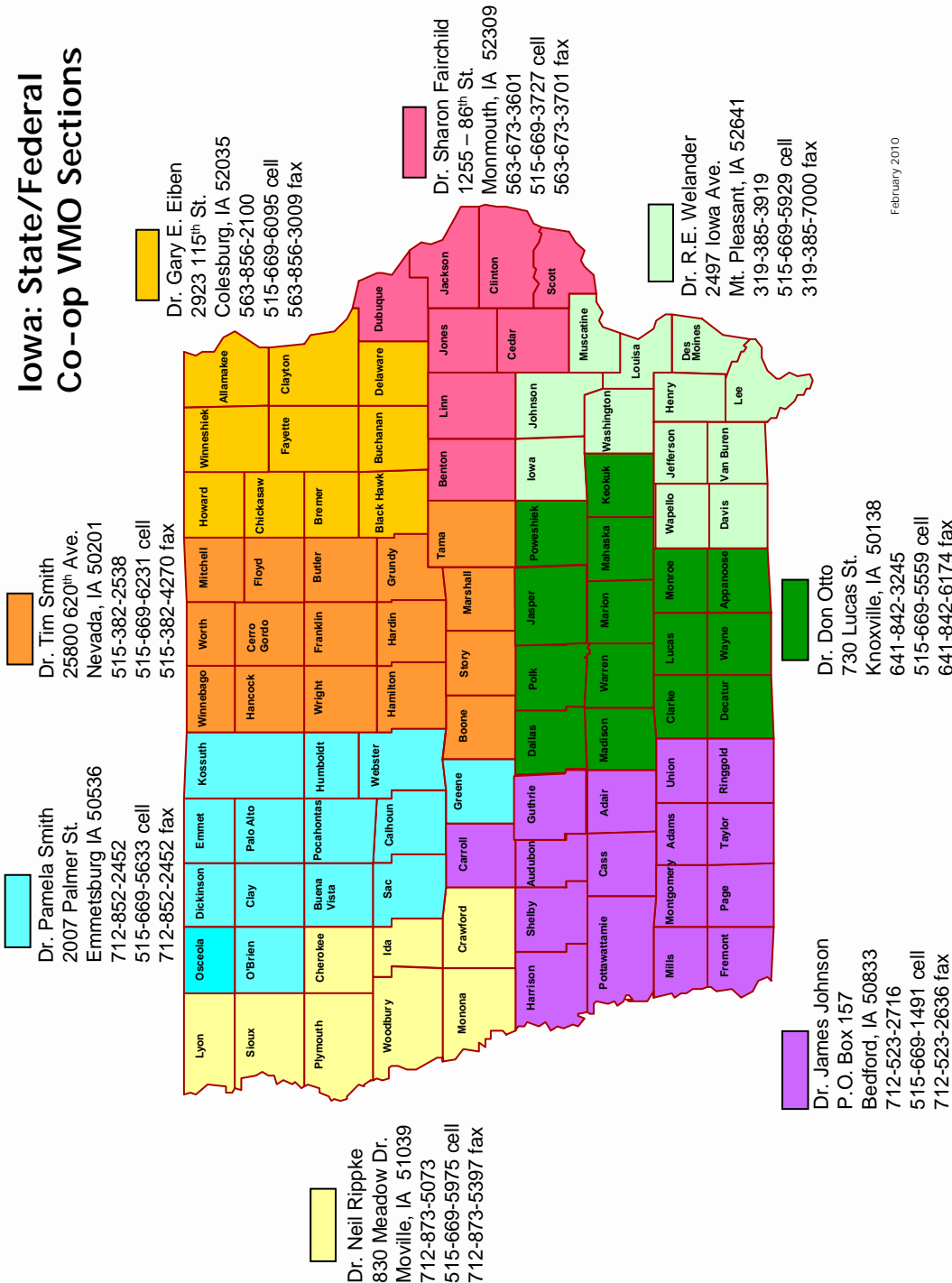
February 2010

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## Brucellosis, Tuberculosis, Scrapie, Pseudorabies

### Iowa: State/Federal Co-op VMO Sections



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## ***Contagious Equine Metritis (CEM)***

Lowell A. Anderson, Area Epidemiologist  
USDA-APHIS -Veterinary Services

On December 15, 2008, the State of Kentucky confirmed a case of Contagious Equine Metritis (CEM) in a quarter horse stallion on a central Kentucky premises. As of January, 2010, 22 stallions, including one that is now a gelding, have been confirmed as positive for CEM by USDA's National Veterinary Services Laboratories, Ames, Iowa.

Trace-back efforts identified another 965 horses exposed to CEM that were located in 48-states (not Hawaii or Rhode Island). Two hundred fifty-four exposed stallions and 711 exposed mares have been or are being tested to determine their CEM status. As of January 12, 2010, 901 of these horses have completed testing requirements and have been found negative. Testing protocols continue for the remaining horses.

A total of 35 horses exposed to CEM were traced to Iowa. Of these traces, it was determined that 1 horse had not been exposed, 4 horses had died of unrelated causes, 6 horses had moved out of Iowa and the remaining 24 horses were tested and treated according to published protocols. Twenty-two mares tested negative, one stallion tested negative and one gelding tested positive. The positive gelding was treated, retested and confirmed negative.

Contagious Equine Metritis is a sexually transmitted disease of horses caused by a bacteria, *Taylorella equigenitalis*. Clinical signs in affected mares may include a mucopurulent vaginal discharge, abortion and infertility. Stallions typically show no clinical signs. Stallions and mares can become chronic carriers of CEM and be sources of infection for future outbreaks. The transmission rate is high and naturally occurs by mating, but contaminated instruments and equipment may be an indirect source of infecting mares and stallions. The bacteria can also be spread via semen collected for artificial insemination. This disease is considered a foreign animal disease in the United States. A foreign animal disease is a terrestrial animal disease or pest, or an aquatic animal disease or pest, not known to exist in the United States or its territories.

An assessment of possible options for addressing the CEM situation in the United States was conducted in June 2009 by the APHIS-Veterinary Services, Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health. In addition to completing the outbreak investigation and response described above, the assessment indicated there would be value in performing testing of additional breeding stallions for detection of *Taylorella equigenitalis*. *Test results from the additional stallions will be used to increase national and international confidence that the overall prevalence of Taylorella equigenitalis in the United States is very low, if it is present at all.*

**The plan includes testing 3,000 active breeding stallions, beginning in February 2010. Sampling targets have been established for each state. Iowa's target is to sample 50 stallions that are currently standing in Iowa and had semen collected or were bred to a mare by live cover in 2008 or 2009. Stallions are not eligible if they have been tested for *Taylorella equigenitalis* in the previous six months or were included in the current CEM outbreak investigation and response. More information about this plan is available on the USDA APHIS website at either of these two Web addresses:**

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal\\_health/content/printable\\_version/sa\\_cemtst.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/content/printable_version/sa_cemtst.pdf)  
[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal\\_health/content/printable\\_version/faq\\_cem2010.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/content/printable_version/faq_cem2010.pdf)

In addition to the benefit to be gained nationally by knowing the results of testing 3,000 stallions for CEM, the individual horse owner may realize benefits, too. This testing provides an opportunity to determine that a stallion likely does not have the bacterium that causes CEM and is not spreading it to other horses. Participation in this testing plan lowers the cost of testing a stallion for CEM since laboratory testing costs are paid by APHIS. Finally this plan offers the horse owner, who may suspect a stallion was exposed to *Taylorella equigenitalis* in the past, a chance to find out and if determined CEM affected to treat him with minimal financial impact.

Specific directions will be provided by the APHIS-Veterinary Services' (VS) Area Office or the State Veterinarian's office in Iowa to ensure consistent methods and materials are utilized. A few of the specifics include: (1) Enrollment of eligible stallions is voluntary; (2) APHIS will pay for laboratory diagnostic testing costs and for shipment of samples to a federally-approved CEM laboratory; (3) All samples must be collected by an accredited equine practitioner; (4) APHIS will not pay for sample collection costs; (5) The sample will include one set of three swabs collected from specified, male anatomical structures; (6) No quarantine restrictions will be imposed while test results are pending.

(Continued on page 13)

However, any stallion found positive for *Taylorella equigenitalis* will be quarantined, then treated and re-tested (with test-mare breeding required) at APHIS' expense (including practitioner fees) until determined to be negative; (7) Stored semen from a positive stallion will be quarantined until it can be determined safe to use; and (8) Stallions treated with systemic antibiotics within the previous 7 days or treated with topical antibiotics applied to the penis or prepuce within the previous 21 days are not eligible for sampling. Contact either the State Veterinarian or the VS Area Office for information, to determine if a stallion is eligible for testing, to learn how to submit samples to a federally-approved CEM laboratory at no cost and to receive confirmation to proceed with sample collection.

Contagious Equine Metritis is listed by the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) as a notifiable disease. United States officials have reported this incident to the OIE. The last time an outbreak of CEM occurred in the U.S. was during the late 1970's. However, a few isolated cases have been reported in several imported equine since that time. The Iowa Administrative Rules, 21-64.1(163), also lists CEM as a reportable infectious and contagious disease. Therefore, before collecting or sending any samples from animals that are suspected of being infected or exposed to this foreign animal disease, contact your State or Federal Animal Health Official. Samples should be sent under secure conditions and to a federally-approved CEM laboratory to prevent the spread of the disease and to ensure standardized test results. Equine owners and veterinarians suspecting an equine is affected with CEM or having information to suggest an equine has been exposed to a CEM culture-positive horse should report this information to either the State Veterinarian or the Area Veterinarian in Charge.

If interested, contact the following individuals by phone or email to obtain information about a listing of federally-approved CEM laboratories and to verify a stallion intended to be sampled meets the eligibility requirements:

Randy Wheeler, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Assistant State Veterinarian  
(515-281-0866, [Randy.Wheeler@iowaagriculture.gov](mailto:Randy.Wheeler@iowaagriculture.gov)) or

Lowell Anderson, USDA-APHIS-Veterinary Services-Iowa Area Epidemiology Officer  
(515-284-4140, [Lowell.A.Anderson@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:Lowell.A.Anderson@aphis.usda.gov)).

Additional information about CEM can be obtained from the following websites:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/hot\\_issues/cem/index.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/hot_issues/cem/index.shtml)

[http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/Factsheets/pdfs/contagious\\_equine\\_metritis.pdf](http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/Factsheets/pdfs/contagious_equine_metritis.pdf)

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal\\_health/content/printable\\_version/fs\\_CEMrev09.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/content/printable_version/fs_CEMrev09.pdf)

## Accreditation Reminder

The USDA has made changes to the National Veterinary Accreditation Program (NVAP). Veterinarians who are already accredited, as of February 2010, must elect to participate in the NVAP and complete an application (VS Form 1-36A). Failure to do so will result in the expiration of a veterinarian's accreditation status. Accredited veterinarians will receive a new national accreditation number to replace any previous state or federal numbers. Accreditation through NVAP must be renewed every three years and accredited veterinarians must complete free, supplemental training from USDA.

**To learn more about the NVAP, contact your local VS Area Office or NVAP headquarters staff.**

### Local VS Area Office:

Regina L. Moriarty  
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### NVAP headquarters staff:

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Web Site: [www.aphis.usda.gov/nvap/](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/nvap/)



## *Johne's Disease Control Program 2010*

Dr. Randy L. Wheeler and Katie Hyde

In calendar year 2009 17 Risk Assessments were conducted at no charge to producers compared to 48 in 2008 and the previous high in 2007 of 64 free assessments. Iowa has been selected as one of the states to receive federal funding in 2010. This will allow processing of more Risk Assessments and further development of Johne's disease outreach component. Johne's calfhooed vaccination is permitted in Iowa with the approval of the State Veterinarian in infected herds as required under federal statues. Vaccination numbers remain high and consistent at ~ 10,000 vaccinates on more than 175 farms. Three new herds qualified in '09. This management tool for controlling Johne's, which has been utilized by the dairy industry for over 25 years, is gaining acceptance and use in the beef operations with good results.

Another component of the Johne's Program which continues to expand is the Test-Negative Herd Status element. These are herds that have conducted the appropriate yearly negative testing to qualify as a Johne's test-negative herd. Producers which elect to disclose their information as well as other Johne's disease information and links are posted on the **Johne's Control Program website**:

<http://www.agriculture.state.ia.us/animalIndustry/johnesDisease.asp>

There were no Status herds in 2006 and presently we have 14 herds at various levels of Test-Negative Status. This includes three herds at Level 4 which is the highest level and indicates 4 or more consecutive years of negative testing. Presently there is only one dairy herd in the Status component.

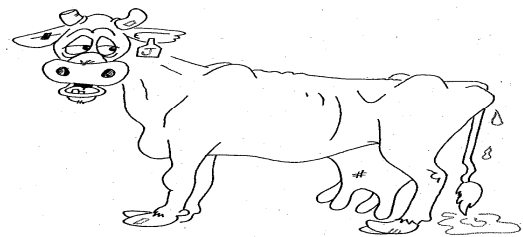
The Iowa State Veterinary Diagnostic Lab has several testing methods including pooling by either PCR or culture. This method allows a more economic manner of herd testing where 5 fecals are combined as a pool at the ISU Vet Diagnostic Laboratory and tested to indicate the presence of Johne's bacteria. If a pool is found positive then the stored back individual samples can be tested individually to determine which of the 5 animals is shedding Johne's.

Milk ELISA testing has been adopted into the National Program and is being performed by some labs such as Dairy Laboratory Services.

An updated Uniform Methods and Rules is being adopted in 2010 which will incorporate some new standards for Johne's Program and testing protocols.

### **FIVE Things to Remember about Johne's Disease and the Control Program**

1. Johne's disease is a REPORTABLE but not quarantineable disease!
  - This means while any positive Johne's test indicates an 'infected herd', a positive individual fecal (PCR or culture indicates the organism is present and this infected animal can only leave the premise for slaughter.
  - "Subclinical" animals can shed the Johne's organisms in their manure and possibly thru colostrum, milk and in utero.
2. The Johne's Disease Control Program is voluntary and confidential within Iowa statutes.
  - Risk Assessments ('walk-through' bio-risk evaluations) are free from your area state District veterinarian.
3. Vaccination can be utilized for control in infected herds with the approval of the State Veterinarian.
  - This management tool has shown great benefit when combined with best management practices.
4. Even though youngest animals are most susceptible, older animals can be infected but clinical signs tend to be delayed.
  - Manure is usual means of transmission - one thimbleful from a heavy to 'Super-shedder' can infect a young calf!
  - 'Super-shedders' shed at the rate comparable to 20,000 low shedders and some can be subclinical initially!
5. Call or visit our Johne's Control Program website for more information and great links including interesting PowerPoints.
  - 515-281-0866 or 515-240-6632 (cell)
  - [iowaagriculture.gov](http://iowaagriculture.gov)







***Tuberculosis Update 2010***  
Lon D. Evans, DVM  
USDA-APHIS -Veterinary Services

Standard fare at the end of a Hollywood monster movie, after the main monster has been defeated, is that scene of an undiscovered nest or some piece of the monster that slips away to come back another day. In the bovine tuberculosis eradication program, we are now somewhere between the rolling of the credits and the opening scene of a sequel. A strong, vigilant surveillance has been finding those remaining nests and new incursions, but it is apparent lately that there have been more discoveries and often in unexpected situations. Tracing animal movements, testing herds, and purchase of exposed animals for necropsy are on the rise in Iowa.

To date, no infected herds have been detected in Iowa, but plenty of animals from newly-discovered infected herds in other states have spent time with Iowa's herds:

In May 2009, TB was detected in a massive dairy operation in Texas. Forty movements involving hundreds of animals in groups containing one or more dairy animals from that operation were traced to several Iowa herds.

In spring 2009, TB was found in a system of beef animals in Nebraska. Documentation showed sixty-one movements, mostly beef heifer replacements coming into Iowa. We are presently at the end of tracing activities to find those animals and testing of certain herds.

In spring 2009, TB was discovered in a cervidae operation also in Nebraska. No evidence so far of any connection with Nebraska's affected beef herd. Although cervidae from that herd have not been traced into Iowa, the fact that an Iowa herd had in the past supplied animals to that herd caused some nervous moments.

In late December 2009, TB was discovered in a beef operation in South Dakota as part of a tracing investigation related to another South Dakota herd. At present, two movements of beef animals from the affected herd are known to have come to Iowa and tracing activities are actively underway. The epidemiology is still developing on this herd but proximity to the affected Nebraska cervidae herd and matching genetic strain suggest a link. No direct connection has surfaced and wildlife transmission is the working hypothesis for now. So far wildlife sampling has turned up nothing.

Other affected herds in Minnesota continued to send us tracing work in 2009 and also from an affected herd in Michigan as recently as a month ago.

Lack of identification is a recurring problem in any tracing effort. This and the practice of removing IDs without cross-referencing to newly applied ID hampered some of the above tracing work. When that happens, instead of tracing an individual animal, the entire mixed group and each of its subsequent reassortments must be traced and herds tested if they are not all accounted for. Presently, 109 cattle have been purchased and necropsied related to these traces. Often the traced animals have already gone to slaughter or have been sold to another state. If we find every last exposed animal in a traced movement, and confirm all to be negative by the surest means possible (necropsy, enhanced tissue collection, histology, PCR and culture) then the path of those animals through Iowa herds can be judged clean. If traced animals entered these herds but were not available to purchase and necropsy, then many Iowa herds had to be tested. Presently, 1000 animals have been tested in 14 whole herd tests in connection with these traces.

When herds require testing, they will be given the caudal fold skin test (CFT) followed by a blood test (Bovigam) on the responders. Under ordinary circumstances, routine CFT testing is followed by comparative cervical skin testing of the responders. However, when dealing with these exposed animal situations, the advantages of the Bovigam test outweigh its drawbacks. The blood test is analogous to a comparative cervical test performed *in vitro*. Living white blood cells are challenged in the lab with *M. bovis* and *M. avium*, and a response is detected-- production of interferon gamma. Whereas the animals are handled just once for the blood test, there are demanding logistical and sample handling requirements that can ruin the test if they are not met. The Bovigam test cannot substitute as a screening test because it is less sensitive than CFT, and a valid blood test requires a tuberculin injection to boost the interferon-gamma response into the correct range for interpretation. A difficult message to convey is that even the follow up tests can produce a false positive. A common cause is mycobacterial infection by an unusual species, but sometimes the cause is not clear. Therefore, sampling of reactors by necropsy is still necessary to confirm whether a *M. bovis* infection is truly present.

(continued page 17)

Even when performed ideally, CFT still misses on the order of 15 to 20 percent of truly infected animals. That is why the traced animals need to be necropsied. A "test out" alternative exists for special circumstances, but it is a costly, complicated protocol that is terrifically burdensome for the producer involving years of whole herd testing and many months of quarantine and repetitive testing on the exposed animals. It still stands, however, as the best and most practical screening test available. CFT testing by regulatory personnel in dairy and beef herds associated with the above traces consistently resulted in 2-7% responders in every herd. This is normal and expected in negative herds. We continue to urge practitioners for proper administration and reading of routine CFT tests: to administer intradermally, not subcutaneously; to take proper care of the tuberculin; and to palpate those caudal folds using thumb and forefinger. Most importantly they need to report any responses—especially the obscure ones, not just the big goose eggs.

## Ordering Tuberculins Has Changed

The National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL) now requires the following information in order for the VS Area Office to fill requests:

Number of Animals

Scheduled test date

Reason for test

Occasionally, serious shortages of tuberculin arise from sudden usage demands. The requested information will help NVSL to stabilize the availability of tuberculin for actual need. Neither accredited veterinarians nor the VS area office will be able to stockpile tuberculins for unscheduled use. Orders are still to be placed with the VS area office. Please have the above information ready. There are now more convenient vial sizes: 10mL (approximately 80-85 tests); 5mL (approximately 40-50 tests); and 1mL (approximately 5-6 tests).

Orders before **2:00pm** Monday through Thursday will be shipped out by UPS Ground to arrive usually the next day.

Friday orders will be held until the following Monday.

**For questions or to place an order, please contact Jasmine Schmitz (USDA APHIS VS): 515/323-2106.**

## *GlobalVetLink Extends New Features to Iowa Veterinarians*

Kevin Maher

Ames, Iowa – February 25, 2010 –GlobalVetLink (GVL®) continues to add new features and improve existing applications to ease the paperwork burden on veterinarians. GlobalVetLink offers the nation's foremost electronic system for animal health documentation. Since their inception, more than 140 million animals have moved using GVL electronic health documents, which include health certificates, EIA (Coggins) certificates, preconditioning certificates and GoPass® equine passports.

A brand new product will be launched at the upcoming American Association of Swine Veterinarians (AASV) convention to benefit swine veterinarians. This product is an electronic veterinary prescription (eVRx<sup>SM</sup>). Concerns that excessive livestock antibiotic use could increase drug-resistance among human pathogens has put veterinarians under scrutiny. GlobalVetLink's eVRx<sup>SM</sup>, a secure, efficient web-based tool to support responsible antibiotic use, is designed to help veterinarians optimize prescribing habits and insure continued food safety. The eVRx<sup>SM</sup> certificate adds to list of products available for swine veterinary use, which also includes electronic veterinary feed directives (eVFDs) and health certificates.

Recent updates have been made to the Iowa Preconditioning Program certificates as a result of feedback received from the bovine veterinary community. The user experience has been improved with updates to the user interface, most notably new, live validation of required information.

GlobalVetLink's electronic document system increases efficiency of veterinary paperwork. Documents are electronically available to state animal health authorities of both the state of origin and destination for health certificates, state of origin for EIA certificates, and the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association for preconditioning calf certificates. Not only do the state animal health officials receive these certificates electronically, but the option to make them available through a secure, online site to the owners is also possible. Owners are granted access to [MyVetLink.com](http://MyVetLink.com) at the issuing veterinarian's discretion, where they can print electronically signed, pdf copies of their EIA and health certificates.

If you'd like to learn more about GlobalVetLink and how it can improve efficiency at your practice, please visit our website at [www.globalvetlink.com](http://www.globalvetlink.com) or call 515-296-0860.

# 2010 Exhibition Regulations

Included with this Newsletter are the 2010 Iowa exhibition regulations. Please keep these on hand to use when preparing health certificates for the State Fair. Please do yourself, our profession, the exhibitors, and the regulatory personnel a favor — do not issue a health certificate if the animal does not meet all the requirements. Exhibiting livestock is a high-risk activity with respect to possible disease transmission.

## DISEASE STATUS

**Cattle Brucellosis:** All states have Brucellosis Free status.

**Swine Brucellosis:** Texas is Stage 2. The rest of the country is Free.

**Cattle Tuberculosis:** Michigan, Minnesota and New Mexico have split state statuses. California is classified as Modified Accredited Advanced. The rest of the country is classified as tuberculosis Free state status.

**Michigan** has split statuses:

- Free status in Upper Peninsula of MI
- Modified Accredited in 7 counties in northern part of the state
- Modified Accredited Advanced rest of the state

**Minnesota** has split state status:

- Modified Accredited in parts of Beltrami, Lake of the Woods, Marshall and Roseau counties (northwest part of state)
- Modified Accredited Advanced all other counties.

**New Mexico** has split state status:

- Modified Accredited Advanced in Curry and Roosevelt counties
- Free status in remainder of state

**California:** Modified Accredited Advanced

**Pseudorabies:** The entire country is Stage V.

### In This Issue...

2010 Exhibition Regulations, CWD Update, Rabies summary, Feral Swine, Johne's, Animal ID, and more.

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