



# Animal Industry News

Volume 10 Issue 1

2009

## From Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northey...

It has certainly been a very eventful and extremely busy year, one that we wouldn't have predicted. However, it's times like these when we truly come together.

During the flooding we coordinated resources between local officials, organizations, and staff who volunteered to assist in the response. I sincerely appreciate all of your efforts, for without you the animals wouldn't have been as comfortable and well cared for.

Despite the tough times the state faced this summer, this has been a very productive time for Iowa agriculture and an enjoyable time for me. I take pleasure in working with a group of people that is so committed to what they do and serving the people and animals of our great state.

Thanks to 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, and I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your efforts.

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

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## *Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine*

The Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine welcomes Dr. Rexanne Struve, Veterinary Associates of Manning and Struve Labs, Inc., Manning, Iowa. Governor Culver appointed Dr. Struve to the Board effective May 1, 2008. Dr. Struve replaces Dr. Sarah Garst, Garst West Veterinary Hospital.

### **Examinations**

The next NAVLE Exam for 4<sup>th</sup> year veterinary students enrolled and who will be graduating from any AVMA accredited or listed school of veterinary medicine is April 13-25, 2009. The next National and State Exam for the veterinary technicians enrolled and will be graduating from any AVMA accredited veterinary technician program is June 19, 2009.

### **Administrative Rules**

The Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine's proposed Administrative Rules 811 for Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14 were accepted and approved by the Iowa Legislative Administrative Rules Committee on October 29, 2008.

The website address to access the administrative rules is

<http://www.legis.state.ia.us/aspx/ACODocs/chapterList.aspx?pubDate=11-05-2008&agency=811>

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

### **Veterinary and Registered Veterinary Technician Renewals**

2,494 veterinarians renewed their active or inactive status veterinary licenses and 231 veterinary technicians renewed their registrations in 2008. The veterinary licenses will expire June 30, 2011 and the veterinary technician registrations will expire December 31, 2011.

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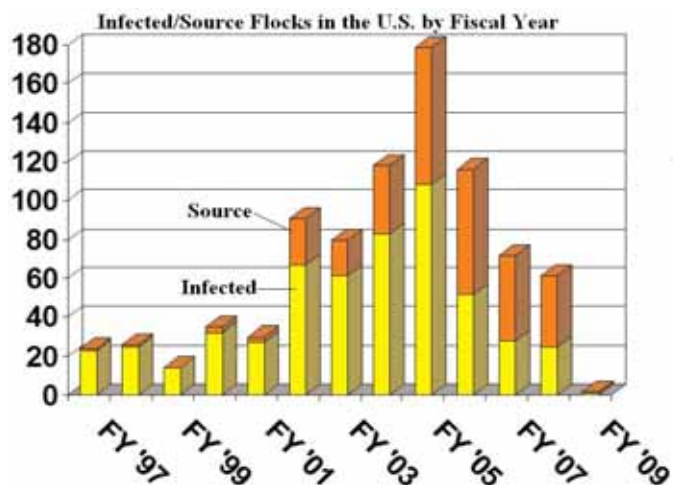
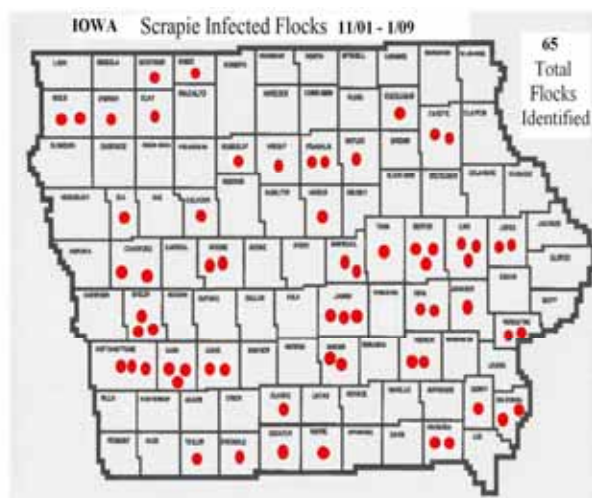
## Iowa Scrapie Program

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

### Scrapie Program Update – January 2009

**Iowa Progress:** Since the program began in 11/01, 65 scrapie-infected flocks have been found in Iowa, with 5 of those found in 2008. Each year the number of flocks found to be infected with scrapie decreases in Iowa, so we are hopeful that we are making real progress. Most infected flocks are found through scrapie slaughter surveillance of adult breeding sheep. Although not all adult ewes are tested at slaughter, records show that most Iowa breeding flocks have had some ewes tested 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 in its 8<sup>th</sup> year, and we appear to be making real progress toward our goal. The number of new infected and source flocks identified dropped from 72 for FY 2007 to 61 for FY 2008 (see graph (note- a source flock is an infected flock where a scrapie infected animal was born)). There were 43,914 sheep tested at slaughter for scrapie during FY 2008, and forty-two of these were positive for scrapie. Except for one positive white-face sheep, which was classified as Nor 98-like scrapie (see below), all of the positives were black-face sheep. The percentage of black-faced sheep found to be positive at slaughter has decreased by 80 percent since the initiation of slaughter surveillance in FY 2003 (from a .98% prevalence down to .20%). 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.



**GOATS** - 3,032 goats were sampled for scrapie during the Caprine Scrapie Prevalence Study, which concluded in March 2008, and none tested positive for scrapie. However, five scrapie-positive goats were identified in 2008 through field investigations in Michigan. One was a clinical suspect submitted for testing by the owner and the other four originated from the birth herd of the clinical case. There was no known contact with sheep—again confirming that scrapie CAN occur and be spread among goats. It is estimated that the U.S. scrapie prevalence in goats is greater than zero and less than 0.1 percent. During 2009 Iowa will participate in the first National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS) Goat study, which will examine producer awareness of diseases, management practices, and look specifically at Johne’s disease, parasites, sore mouth, and CAE.

**Nor 98-like Scrapie** – Is an unusual type of scrapie which can affect sheep of all genotypes—even “RR” sheep, and goats as well. The first case in the U.S. was identified in 2007 and six cases have been found so far. Affected sheep are usually over 5 years of age, and typically do not show signs of disease. There are usually no other infected sheep in the flock. At this point we do not know how, or if, it is spread naturally—it may just occur spontaneously like a mutation in an individual animal. Using RR rams and keeping a closed flock may not provide protection from this type of scrapie, but it is extremely rare as compared to “classical” scrapie.

**If you wish to Sell or Buy RR Rams**, please look at listings on the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) Scrapie web pages under “Animal Diseases” at <http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/>.

**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 1/26/2009  
 Dee Clausen, Premise ID Coordinator

County	County totals	County	County totals	County	County totals
Adair	196	Floyd	190	Monona	115
Adams	107	Franklin	197	Monroe	119
Allamakee	596	Fremont	77	Montgomery	104
Appanoose	142	Greene	166	Muscatine	176
Audubon	137	Grundy	162	O'Brien	301
Benton	282	Guthrie	182	Osceola	168
Black Hawk	182	Hamilton	398	Page	171
Boone	294	Hancock	273	Palo Alto	291
Bremer	191	Hardin	283	Plymouth	399
Buchanan	251	Harrison	132	Pocahontas	119
Buena Vista	297	Henry	215	Polk	111
Butler	179	Howard	350	Pottawattamie	282
Calhoun	172	Humboldt	225	Poweshiek	214
Carroll	372	Ida	113	Ringgold	113
Cass	208	Iowa	254	Sac	212
Cedar	361	Jackson	320	Scott	292
Cerro Gordo	115	Jasper	261	Shelby	214
Cherokee	259	Jefferson	145	Sioux	501
Chickasaw	218	Johnson	365	Story	311
Clarke	133	Jones	364	Tama	213
Clay	251	Keokuk	216	Taylor	227
Clayton	1,021	Kossuth	326	Union	139
Clinton	409	Lee	179	Van Buren	196
Crawford	275	Linn	263	Wapello	139
Dallas	335	Louisa	132	Warren	204
Davis	242	Lucas	106	Washington	369
Decatur	128	Lyon	308	Wayne	125
Delaware	1,028	Madison	225	Webster	266
Des Moines	100	Mahaska	255	Winnebago	188
Dickinson	127	Marion	212	Winneshiek	319
Dubuque	672	Marshall	180	Woodbury	175
Emmet	121	Mills	91	Worth	217
Fayette	357	Mitchell	391	Wright	215
			<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>24,519</b>

## ***National Animal Identification System***

Dee Clausen, Premise ID Coordinator

The Department continues to promote premise registration across the state. NAIS is designed to improve the identification of animals and premises in an ongoing effort to modernize disease control. We continue to advance in premises registration with the help of the USDA.

### **What's new with the National Animal Identification System?**

USDA published a revised memo, Veterinary Services Memorandum No. 575.19 in December, 2008, regarding Administration of Standardized Premises Identification Numbers (PIN) in Veterinary Services, (VS) Cooperative Animal Diseases Program Activities. This article can be found on our website: <http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/animalIndustry/premiseIdentificationProgram.asp>

In correlation with the VS memo 575.19, we have been asked to focus on the issuance of the PIN when conducting disease program work.

The following provides general direction to VS and State personnel in several scenarios regarding the issuance of the PIN.

1. VS personnel conduct federal program work/activity standardized PIN issued by VS (either through Data Management Center, Emergency Management Response Services, etc)
2. VS and State Animal Health Official (AHO) jointly conduct federal program work/activity State and Federal AHO determine jointly (at local level) which PINs are used
3. VS conducts state animal disease program State and Federal AHO determine jointly (at local level) which PINs are used
4. State and/or Accredited Veterinarian conduct federal disease program/work State determines which PIN is used

#### **Reminder:**

**All movement of animals are to comply with State and Federal rules when animals are in interstate commerce. Please be sure to contact the state of destination for the states' requirements.**

#### **New Toolkit for Veterinarians:**

USDA has completed the NAIS Veterinary Toolkit. This tool kit can be found on the USDA website: [http://animalid.aphis.usda.gov/nais/audience/vets/vets\\_toolkit.shtml](http://animalid.aphis.usda.gov/nais/audience/vets/vets_toolkit.shtml)

State personnel will be available by invitation to present NAIS information at clinic meetings held for clients.

Please contact Dee Clausen, the State Premise Identification Coordinator, at 888.778.7675.

*As of April 2008, Iowa was ranked 13 out of the top 20 States that register premises. As of November 2008 there have been over 52% of premises registered in Iowa.*

**Thank you to all of the clinics and industries for continuing to promote the NAIS program as we move forward.**

## *Feral Swine Update*

### Dr. Randy L. Wheeler and Katie Hyde

During 2008 there was a total of four feral swine shot in the state of Iowa. Three of these animals were killed in the Brushy Creek area in eastern Webster County during May and June by Department of Natural Resources conservation officers.

The fourth animal was shot in Jackson County by a bow hunter. It was determined that the animal was a Russian wild-type boar that had escaped from a rodeo exhibition and an investigation has located a source of additional animals which have been dealt with. All of these animals tested negative for PRV and Brucellosis and CSF.

2008 Area surveillance testing of swine facilities within a 10 mile radius where sightings had occurred in 2007 were negative also.

The surveillance testing involved the following counties:

- Des Moines
- Fremont
- Louisa
- Mills
- Pottawattamie
- Washington
- Webster



There have been no additional reported sightings of feral swine in Iowa, but some concerns of pigs displaced by the flooding that could establish a feral population is being studied. USDA Wildlife Services, DNR and IDALS have worked together to prevent and continue surveillance with regard to this matter.

## *Avian Influenza*

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

#### Dr. Randy L. Wheeler and Jean Saner

Iowa is number one in layers (57 million) and number ten in turkey production (over 8 million). 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 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 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.

The 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 107 fairs that were eligible to participate in Iowa, of the 107 fairs, 96 participated. The remaining eleven (11) fairs either chose not to participate, had time scheduling difficulties, or did not have any poultry entered. The percentage of participating fairs was >90% which was an increase over 2007 testing.

The 96 fairs that participated, including the Iowa State Fair, all tested **100% NEGATIVE** for avian influenza. There were 745 samples tested. Of that number the following birds were tested:

- 417 chickens
- 201 ducks
- 80 turkeys
- 46 geese
- 1 pheasant

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

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.

## *IVRRT 2008 Review*

Dr. Randy L. Wheeler

The IVRRT membership continues to increase and presently has over 350 members. Membership is easily obtained by calling 515-281-7583 and the annual meeting is held prior to the annual IVMA meeting.

The summer of 2008 brought the challenges of tornadoes and flooding to much of Iowa. Members of the Iowa Veterinary Rapid Response Team (IVRRT) went out to assist in local animal emergency shelters. Shelters were set up in several flood-affected counties to provide animal health care, food and cover to companion animals whose families were displaced from their home. The following are statistics from just three of the emergency shelters set up in the wake of these catastrophic events.

### Kirkwood Community College/Linn County

Opened June 12 as an emergency shelter  
Served over 1,286 animals with a maximum daily count of 996  
1,000 volunteers worked over 50,000 hours  
85% of animals were returned to their owners

### Johnson County Shelter

Opened emergency shelter at the Johnson Co. fairgrounds June 13 after the city shelter flooded  
Served approximately 880 animals  
Over 400 volunteers  
100% of animals were returned to owners!

### Lee County Shelter

Opened emergency shelter at Lee Co. fairgrounds and later relocated to private facility to support Oakville, Burlington, Ft. Madison, Keokuk  
Served over 70 animals

All of the events were reviewed at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Training Program for IVRRT. Twelve speakers relayed their firsthand experiences with the veterinary challenges faced in getting from ground zero to a place of recovery after this summer's disasters.

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship would like to extend a **"THANK YOU"** to all IVRRT volunteers, IDALS employees, state & county employees and non-governmental organizations that contributed to the response and ongoing recovery after this summer's events.

## *Pseudorabies (PRV) 2009*

Katie Hyde and Dr. Randy L. Wheeler

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

In 2008, the fee basis for drawing blood samples for PRV, in regard to the Pseudorabies Control and Eradication Project, will remain at \$5.00. The herd stop fee remains at \$20 for the accredited veterinarian.

Swine Exhibition requirements for 2009 involving PRV:

1. No testing is required for swine at an 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 directly 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.**

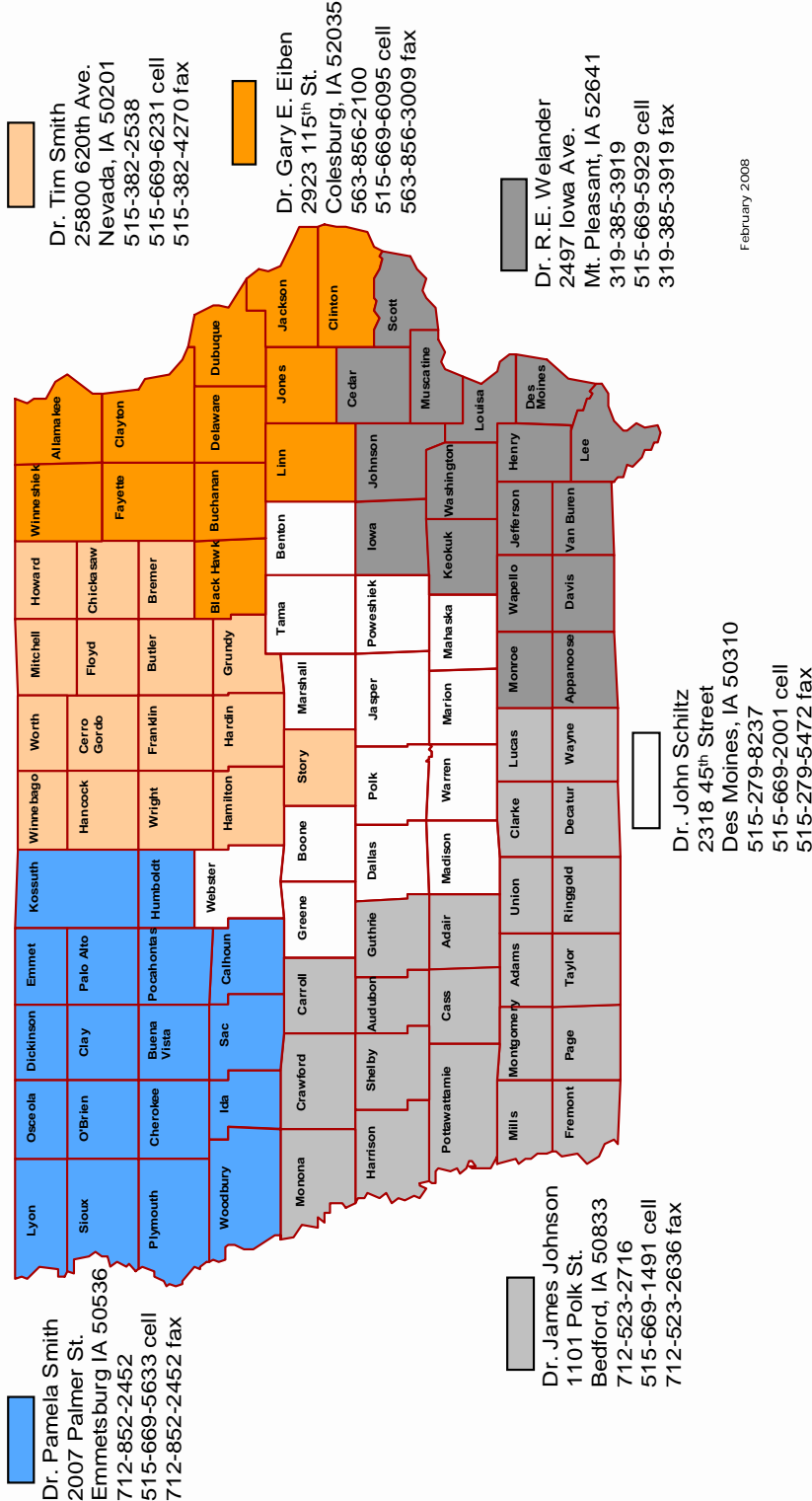


# STATE DISTRICT VETERINARIANS

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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 26, 2009, eleven stallions have been confirmed as positive for CEM by USDA's National Veterinary Services Laboratories. Three of the infected stallions are located in Indiana, four are in Kentucky, one is in Texas, and three are in Wisconsin.

In addition to the 11 positive stallions, the locations of 479 exposed horses have also been confirmed. The total of 490 horses includes 58 stallions and 432 mares located in a total of 45 States.

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.

The USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, together with State Animal Health Officials, is reviewing breeding records provided by the owners of each culture-positive stallion and tracing the exposed animals. The names and addresses of owners of exposed horses are forwarded to the animal health officials of each respective state. A state or federal animal health veterinarian will contact the owner and, with the owner's permission, contact the veterinarian providing their equine health services. Working together, the regulatory and private veterinarians and the horse owner will develop a testing and treatment schedule. *Taylorella equigenitalis is treatable. However, in order to prevent spread of this disease to unaffected horses, a hold order or individual animal quarantine is issued by the state to ensure no direct contact occurs with other horses until after a CEM negative status has been determined and treatment has been completed.*

Testing options vary depending on the pregnancy status of the mares. Swabs are collected from several specified-reproductive-anatomical sites. The sample collection is repeated a total of three times over a seven day period. Several options require an additional sample be collected after foaling. After all samples have been reported as culture-negative by a CEM approved laboratory, treatment with a disinfectant wash and an antibiotic ointment is administered 5-days in-a-row. Exposed stallions have specific testing and treatment protocols that are different from exposed mares. The state or federal veterinarian will oversee the testing and treatment to ensure that it is consistent with nationally established protocols and will also submit the samples to the designated laboratory.

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 CEM-approved laboratory to prevent the spread of the disease and to ensure accurate 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. Currently regulatory officials are tracing all equine exposed to CEM culture-positive stallions during the 2008 breeding season and, for some of these stallions, both the 2007 and 2008 breeding seasons. The information gathered from studying the epidemiology of this incident and the results of testing these horses will be used to guide the tracing efforts. This investigation continues and the information presented here is current as of January 26, 2009 when this article was written and submitted for publication.

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)

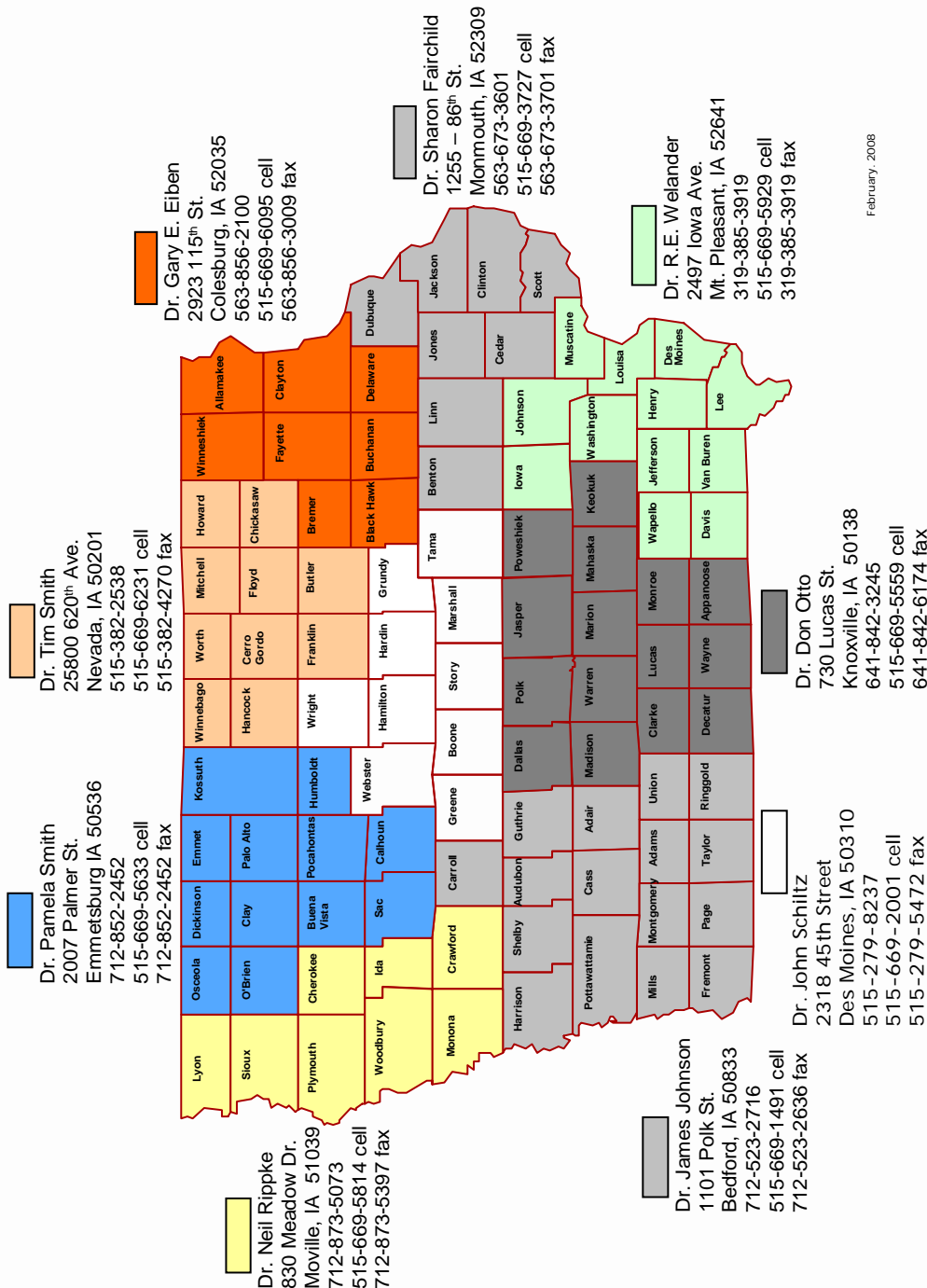
[http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/Factsheets/pdfs/contagious\\_equine\\_metritis.pdf](http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/Factsheets/pdfs/contagious_equine_metritis.pdf)

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

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## Brucellosis, Tuberculosis, Scrapie, Pseudorabies



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## ***Chronic Wasting Disease – Update 2009***

*Karen Gideon, Farm Deer Program Coordinator*

**Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)** is a progressive, fatal disease of both wild and captive cervids (deer, elk and moose) caused by an abnormally shaped protein, called a prion. CWD is diagnosed post-mortem by detecting prion protein in a part of the brainstem, called the obex and also in the retropharyngeal lymph nodes. While the possibility of human infection remains a concern, it is important to note there have been no verified cases of humans contracting CWD.

**In Iowa**, CWD has not been detected; however, with the threat of CWD showing up in 14 states and 2 Canadian provinces over the last 10 years, we will remain diligent in screening and permitting cervids to enter Iowa from all States.

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

There are 159 cervid herds currently enrolled in Iowa's CWD Program. Of these 159, 96 herds are whitetail deer, 44 herds are elk, 4 house deer/elk species, 2 have mixed deer, 11 are county conservation boards and 2 are park/zoos. These herds have a total of 5,292 cervids that are enrolled in the program, broken down into 3,335 whitetail, 1,919 elk, 27 mule deer and 2 whitetail/mule deer mix.

### **Intrastate Movement Requirements**

**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.

All intrastate health certificates for movement of cervidae must have: Consignor's name and address, Consignee's name and address, official identification of each animal. For CWD susceptible cervidae, the certificate shall include the CWD herd premises number, the herd status level, the anniversary date, and the expiration date. The following statement must be included on the certificate for CWD susceptible cervidae: "There has been no diagnosis, sign or epidemiological evidence of chronic wasting disease in this herd for the past year." For other than CWD susceptible cervidae, the following statement must be included on the certificate: "The animal(s) has not spent any time within the past 36 months in a zoo, animal menagerie, or like facility, or has not been on the same premises as a cervid herd which has been classified as a CWD infected herd, exposed herd, or trace herd."

### **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 out, showing all forms of identification, mailed with the specimen submission and a copy faxed to the State Veterinarian's office at 515/281-4282. If assistance is needed on collecting samples for submission to NVSL, please contact your State District Veterinarian, or this office.

### **Iowa – Brucellosis Testing (Cervidae) – September 19, 2007**

There is a voluntary State cervidae brucellosis herd certification program. This program is separate and apart from the State of Iowa's Chronic Wasting Disease Program. Participants in the program must test their entire herd twice (9 to 12 months between testing) to reach the fully certified status, then at 3-year testing intervals. **For more information on Brucellosis testing, contact: IDALS, Animal Industry, State Veterinarian's Office at 515-242-5950.**

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

There is a voluntary Federal cervidae tuberculosis herd accreditation program. This program is separate and apart from the State of Iowa's Chronic Wasting Disease Program. Participants in the program must test their entire herd twice (9 to 12 months between testing) to reach the fully accredited status, then at 3-year testing intervals. Veterinarians must be specially certified to perform the cervidae tuberculosis Single Cervical Testing (SCT). **For more information on TB testing, contact: USDA, APHIS, VS Office at 515-284-4140.**

**Continued on page 13**

### **Cervidae Import Information**

In 2008, Iowa permitted in 180 whitetail deer (114 into hunting preserves), 2 fallow deer and 36 elk.

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. Iowa also requires Tuberculosis and Brucellosis testing within 90 days of entry or from Accredited and Certified herds showing last whole herd test dates. A permit number must be received by the licensed, accredited veterinarian signing the CVI and issued by Iowa's State Veterinarian prior to movement. For complete import requirements refer to CWD Rule **21—65.12(163)** posted on IDALS website [www.iowaagriculture.gov](http://www.iowaagriculture.gov) or contact Animal Industry at 515/242-5950 or 515/281-5547.

**All cervidae leaving Iowa** must meet the state of destinations' entry requirements prior to movement. Before issuing a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection, it is important to contact the Animal Health Officials of the state of destination for entry requirements and to obtain a permit if required.

### **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 or to schedule the Deerhandler™, contact this office.

### **ELK SIGHTINGS IN IOWA**

**In 2008, we received numerous sightings of elk in the wild.**

The Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship is asking that anyone who spots an elk in the wild (not behind fence), to contact this office as soon as possible, or your local Department of Natural Resources Officer.



### **Contact Information**

Karen Gideon, Farm Deer Program Coordinator, Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship, Bureau of Animal Industry, 502 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Des Moines, IA 50319, 515/242-5950, [Karen.gideon@iowaagriculture.gov](mailto:Karen.gideon@iowaagriculture.gov)  
The Chronic Wasting Disease rules can be accessed on the State of Iowa Department of Agriculture's website: [www.iowaagriculture.gov](http://www.iowaagriculture.gov) (Click on Animal Diseases, Chronic Wasting Disease, and Legislative Rules (Pages 17-21))

## *Johne's Disease Report -2008 Review*

Dr. Randy L. Wheeler and Katie Hyde

The **Iowa Johne's Control Program** had decreased 2008 funding for free incentive testing but there was an increase in overall testing and a substantial incidence of infected beef herds from previous years. A new webpage for Johne's disease and the Program is available on the [www.IowaAgriculture.gov](http://www.IowaAgriculture.gov) website.

### Risk Assessments

51 Risk Assessments

28 Beef (18 new)

22 Dairy (17 new)

Approved vaccination agreements for 9 new herds

7,647 Vaccination doses administered

Test – Negative Status Herds JPL 1-4 (Johne's Program Level 4 being highest level):

1 dairy herd maintain/renew **JPL1** status

1 new beef herd to **JPL1**

7 beef herds maintain **JPL2**

2 beef herds to advance to **JPL3**

1 beef herd demoted from **JPL 4 to JPL3** due to herd addition rules

1 beef herd removed from Test-Negative Status component (JPL2) due to test positive results

Organism-based test Positives from 2008 (both Program and non-Program herds)

<u>Test Type</u>	<u>Beef</u>	<u>Dairy</u>
Fecal Culture	34	53
PCR	122	55
PCR pooling	81	0
Environmental	0	8

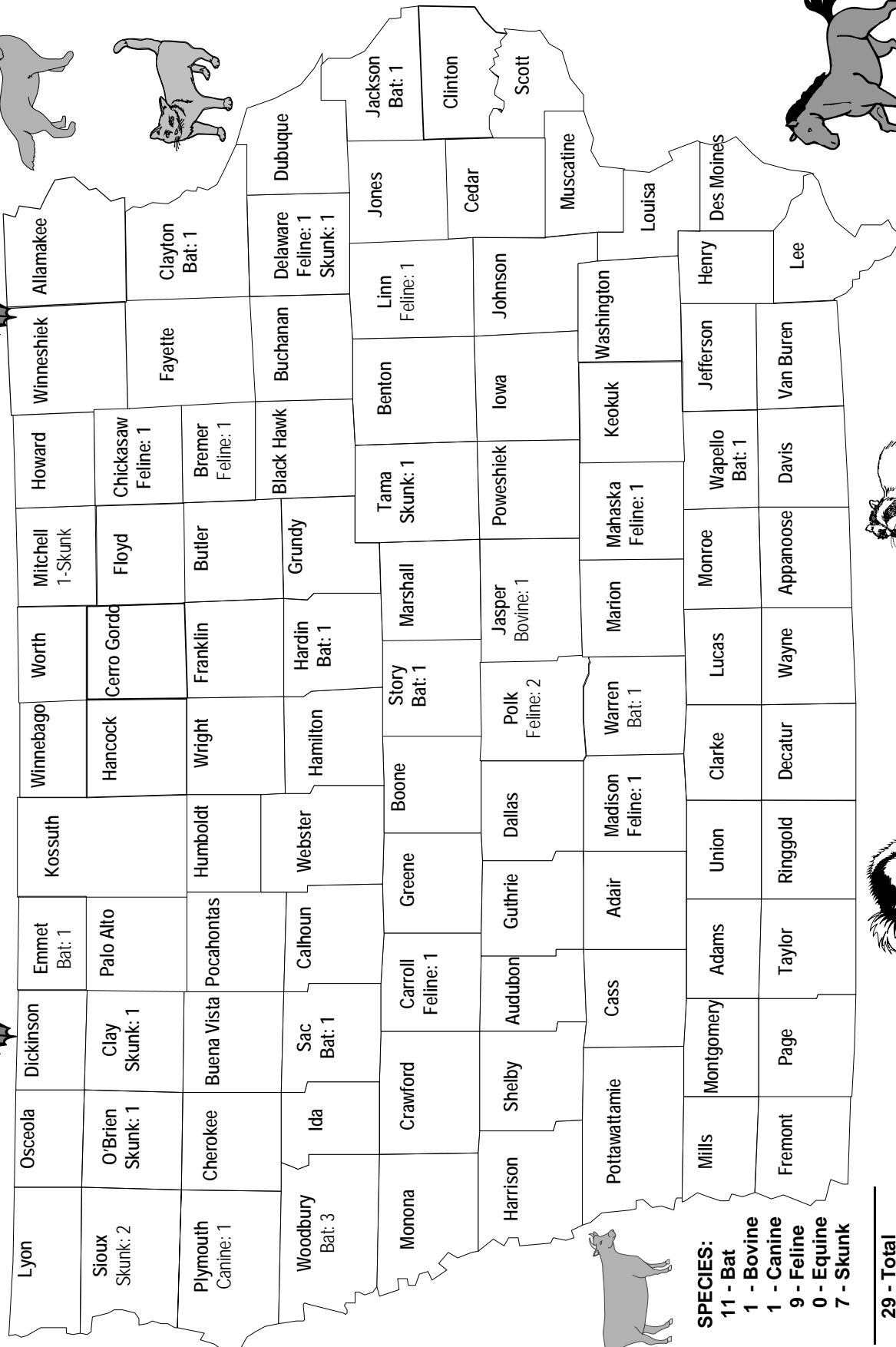
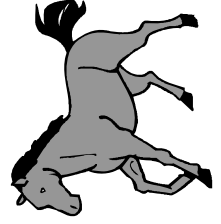
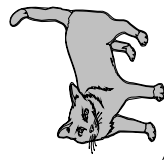
In a 2007 USDA - based national dairy study (**NAHMS Dairy 2007**) revealed that **68%** of the Dairy premises that were sampled by Environmental testing were **infected!**

**Fecal Pooling by VDL** - where 5 individual fecals are combined by the Iowa State Veterinary Diagnostic Lab and tested as a 'pool' to allow testing of a larger number of animals economically. If any pools show positive then the stored-back samples can be individually tested.

**PCR** testing of individual fecals is available at VDL also and this allows for a reduced turnaround time for results and positive results are reported numerically to represent shedding categories from very low to super-shedder levels.

For more information or questions concerning Johne's disease/or the Iowa Johne's Program  
Please call Dr. Randy Wheeler (515)281-0866 or Katie Hyde (515)281-6358

# 2008 IOWA RABIES MAP



**SPECIES:**  
 11 - Bat  
 1 - Bovine  
 1 - Canine  
 9 - Feline  
 0 - Equine  
 7 - Skunk

**29 - Total**

## *Tuberculosis Update 2009*

Lon D. Evans, DVM

USDA-APHIS -Veterinary Services

Just over one hundred years ago, bovine tuberculosis was by far the number one disease of cattle in the U.S. and *Mycobacterium bovis* infection was an important public health threat second to human TB. Around the turn of the century nearly two thirds of childhood deaths was attributed to or complicated by *M. bovis*. Individual states attempted their own control programs, but it was clear that competing interests and limited resources stymied any lasting effect. Only a national program administered cooperatively with the States would make a dent in bovine tuberculosis. By the end of the 1930's the majority of bovine tuberculosis was successfully eliminated through the cooperative state-federal tuberculosis eradication program. The application of pasteurized milk ordinances, improvements in slaughter surveillance, testing, tracing, and a policy of depopulation with indemnity reduced the insurmountable problem to a low level. Despite this initial success, ongoing and developing challenges to completing the job have kept total eradication tantalizingly at bay. More recent challenges include maintaining diligent surveillance to find the remaining infection; dealing with new incursions from enzootic infection in wildlife and developments in trade patterns; and coping with high volume and frequency of animal movements in and out of enormous livestock operations.

Herds infected with tuberculosis continue to rise around the U.S. Since 2000, there have been 78 herds affected with bovine TB: 64% beef, 28% dairy, and the remainder in mixed herds and in captive cervidae. Forty-four herds were in MI, 12 in MN, and the remainder was found in TX, NM, CA, KS, AZ, OR, CO, OK, and NY. A single detection does not necessitate a drop in state status. However, a delay in the herd's depopulation or a finding of 2 or more affected herds in a 2 year period will cause the state to lose its free status. This is why early detection is important before the disease can find its way into multiple herds.

Iowa continues to enjoy TB accredited-free status. Under the free status, the federal rules for interstate movement are less stringent and international export is greatly facilitated. Last year California was added to the list of states with reduced status after a finding of TB in three herds. Those three herds led to a very intensive tracing and testing effort involving testing of around 300,000 animals. Currently four states (CA, MN, MI, and NM) have reduced or split status. Under the reduced status, harsher movement and surveillance standards can be burdensome for veterinarians and costly for producers. Minnesota gained its split state status on October 10, 2008. It allows for a small section in Northwestern MN to have the status of modified accredited. The modified accredited region in Minnesota is the few counties that to date contain affected herds. Increased testing requirements are in place before movement out of the area. The remainder of Minnesota is modified accredited advanced with somewhat less restrictive movement requirements. Details can be found at Minnesota's website <http://www.bah.state.mn.us/tb/index.html>. Iowa's animal movement requirements are found at <http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/animalIndustry/animalAdmissionRegs.asp>

Slaughter surveillance accounts for around two thirds of detections in the US. In the last nine years, partnership with FSIS has realized an increase in granuloma submissions to NVSL by 20-fold to around 10,000 per year. This exceeds the necessary statistical minimum benchmark by a factor of three. There were 1.3 million adult cattle present in Iowa in 2008; 155,000 of them went to slaughter.

Slaughter submissions have detected 355 bovine TB cases nationwide in the past 9 years. The great majority of these were in fed cattle. Since 2000, 1-5 cases of TB are routinely detected per 100,000 imported cattle. The United States imports around one million cattle for feeding from Mexico per year. Whereas it is a fact that much of the bovine tuberculosis detected in the US does have direct links to Mexico, it is unfair to focus excessively on this trade. In 2008 about 27% of TB was found in fed animals with MX brand identification. Practices of frequent animal movements and exposures of great numbers of cattle contribute also to the numbers detected.

In 2008 infected roping steers bearing MX brands exposed 3000 backgrounding heifers in a Texas feedlot and caused a massive tracing and testing effort. The danger from roping steers is they remain active in the US up to 4.5 years and present an increased exposure risk as they travel about. Infection in fed cattle carries somewhat less risk because they generally remain in slaughter channels and are generally slaughtered by 18 months of age.

(continued page 17)



Since 2000, Michigan's ongoing surveillance by means of caudal fold testing detected about 90% of its affected herds. In the other states, testing found 33% of the affected herds. Nationally, 1.36 million caudal fold tests in cattle and bison and 19,000 in cervidae were performed last year. Part of the required annual qualification to maintain or improve state status is that minimum surveillance benchmarks (effective since 2005) sufficient to detect very low disease prevalence must be met. The program benchmark for proper administration of caudal fold testing is set at 1% of total tests in a given period of time that must be classified as responders. The test specificity is 99% at best in that 1% of tests should be falsely positive. The national testing pool returned 1.5% responders equally for cattle and for cervidae.

Caudal fold testing is not a federal requirement for movement from Accredited Free states such as Iowa. Nevertheless, 36,400 tests were performed in Iowa last year largely to satisfy import requirements of other states and also for herds in preparation for the Johnes vaccination program. Two hundred thirty eight responders were reported in 2008. Whereas this rate of 0.65% is under the expected minimum certain improvements have been made and Iowa ranks 23<sup>rd</sup> for the rate of reporting rate of responders. Twelve states reported greater than 1% of tests as responders. This is down from 16 states in 2007.

Although a number of factors have made the final steps of eradication difficult, surveillance is key, and proper testing is one factor over which veterinarians has control. Good testing includes intradermal injection (not subcutaneous), discarding tuberculin no later than 2 weeks after 1st withdrawal of tuberculin from the bottle palpating all sites of the injection reporting all responses even the extremely slight ones, and reporting all testing on VS form 6-22 to the federal Area office. Fortunately, Iowa has not yet had to deal with an infected herd or herds since gaining accredited free status. Our dairy and beef industry must continue to be protected from bovine TB through enforcement of Iowa import requirements and through robust surveillance.

## ***GlobalVetLink Continues to Break New Ground***

Kevin Maher  
GlobalVetLink

With the arrival of the New Year, came plenty of excitement for GlobalVetLink (GVL®), the Ames based company that provides an eHealth Management service to veterinarians across the United States.

GlobalVetLink recently signed up their 45<sup>th</sup> state to allow veterinarians to write electronic Official Certificates of Veterinary Inspection using their service. GVL offers electronic EIA, OCVI, Veterinary Feed Directives and Preconditioning Calf Certificates to their Iowa clients. The electronic certificates are accepted to move animals into all 50 States and three U.S. territories.

On February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 GlobalVetLink implemented secure electronic signature technology on their EIA certificates. This e-signature technology is USDA approved and applies to both the veterinarian and lab technician signatures.

In a letter from Dr. John Clifford of the USDA to Kevin Maher of GlobalVetLink, dated January 30, 2009, Dr. Clifford states: **“Effective immediately, Veterinary Services (VS) will accept electronic certificates for the interstate movement of horses. The results of the EIA tests can be appended to the certificates, and the electronic signatures on the results will be accepted as equivalent to an original signature.”**

The implementation of this secure, electronic signature technology gave way for GVL to offer a new owner login feature. This feature allows vets to give owners access to create their own account, log in and print off their certificates. This permission is given at the veterinarians' discretion with the intent of saving time, paper and postage for the practitioners. The electronic signature technology will follow on the OCVIs later in the year.

To learn more about how GlobalVetLink can help make your paperwork, paperless, visit the website at [www.globalvetlink.com](http://www.globalvetlink.com) or call 515-296-0861.

*GVL is a registered service mark of GlobalVetLink LC, registered in the US Patent and Trade Mark Office.*

## 2009 Exhibition Regulations

Included with this Newsletter are the 2009 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:** Montana is a class A state. All other states have Brucellosis Free status.

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

**Cattle Tuberculosis:** Michigan and Minnesota have split state statuses. California and New Mexico 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 13 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.

**California and New Mexico:** Modified Accredited Advanced

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

#### **In This Issue...**

2009 Exhibition Regulations, CWD Update, Rabies summary, Feral Swine, Johne's, Animal ID, and more.

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