

Trough Talk

*Updates from the Animal Health and Identification Program
at the Oregon Department of Agriculture*



Vet Bites

Updates from our state and district veterinarians

Colleagues,

The Animal Services Programs (ASP) team at the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) works very hard to carry out our assigned responsibilities and provide top-notch public service. The cornerstone to our state's successful regulatory program is you—our accredited veterinarians. Access to, and sharing of, information is critical to the success of any program. As an effort to improve our communication with you we are revivifying the newsletter format that ODA ASP distributed for many years.

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Contact Information

Animal Health and Identification Office

Phone: 503-986-4680
Fax: 503-986-4680

Address:
635 Capitol Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Animal Health and Identification Laboratory

Hours: Monday – Friday
7:30 am – 4:30 pm

Phone: 503-986-4686
Fax: 844-986-4688

Address:
635 Capitol Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Clinical Paper Pushing–Office Updates: *Jenny Vaughn*

In an effort to decrease disease traceback response time, the Animal Health office is now maintaining scanned and searchable copies of all Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVI), Brucellosis Vaccination Records, Official ID Reports, and Tuberculosis Test records received. This change has significantly improved access to statistical data, simplified trace activities, and streamlined CVI submissions to destination states. As a result of this new electronic process, it is no longer necessary to submit both the original and blue copies of these documents!

Only the original document is required.

Many of the USDA APHIS forms (Brucellosis Vaccination Records, TB Test Records and the like) include a box labeled “Agree. Code.” It is most commonly located near the signature box. Please use this box to list either the NAN (National Accreditation Number) or Oregon license number of the signatory veterinarian. Don’t forget to include any leading or trailing zeroes. If you have forgotten your NAN give us a call at (503) 986-4680 and we will be happy to look it up.

Lab Updates: *Lori Brown*

As a laboratory, we pride ourselves on being available and accessible to our clients while running roughly 40,000 tests annually. Our hours are Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm. We have 3 full time staff—Shannon, Shane, and Lori.

Our testing goes in waves dependent on the seasons and movement needs, we are in the midst of *T. foetus* (trich) testing right now, receiving up to 500 samples a day. Please remember to check the expiration date of the pouches; this is important. An expired pouch can only result in an unofficial test up to 3 months past the expiration date. The lab will reject pouches more than 3 month past the expiration date.

In addition, we had an increase in EIA testing (Coggins) due to the cancellation of the Coggins test exemption agreement with Idaho and Washington. We want to remind our vets that we run our test daily at 1 pm with emailed or faxed paperwork back to clients by 3 pm. We scan the original EIA forms into the database to electronically send it back to

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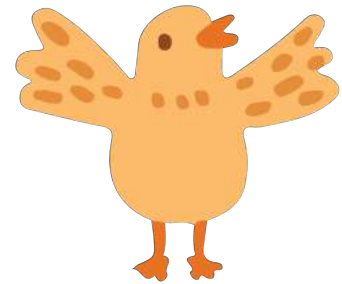
our clients. If you have any questions about EIA testing please contact us directly.

Changes are coming to our pricing and test availability in July. We will no longer offer the Respiratory Panel and Anaplasmosis ELISA due to lack of interest. We have also seen an increase over the recent years in our supplies and reagents, which will increase the cost of some of the tests we offer. Please check our website as we do keep it up to date. We will send notice to our clients with the next set of invoicing. Call with any questions and we will try to help! Animal Health Lab: (503) 986-4686

Birds of a Feather

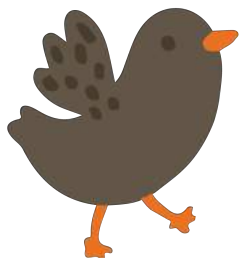
Poultry updates from Avian Health Coordinator, Mariah Crawford

Every spring we welcome the beginning of chick season throughout our state, with hundreds of birds moving across state lines on a daily basis. In preparation, the Oregon Department of Agriculture has deployed over 13,000 pieces of educational material to feed store chains and private poultry producers throughout the state. Animal health officials from the ODA and USDA have participated in chick day talks at local Wilco stores, manned biosecurity and avian influenza educational booths at poultry swaps, and will be working with local 4H and FFA groups to prepare for the upcoming summer fair season. The focus of this year's outreach efforts will be on backyard biosecurity and reminding poultry owners of the ongoing risk of avian influenza. Because we are not currently in an outbreak situation, some owners and producers may be tempted to let their guard down with respect to biosecurity practices. The fact of the matter is however, highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) continues to circulate in the wild waterfowl population. This fact was demonstrated with the identification of a HPAI positive mallard duck in Alaska on August 23, 2016, and another HPAI positive mallard in Montana on January 9, 2017.



We continue to stress the importance of keeping domestic poultry separate from wild waterfowl and maintaining the "Six Simple Steps of Biosecurity" for backyard producers.

In addition to our HPAI centered outreach, ODA has begun working with the Oregon Health Authority on a cooperative project to prevent live poultry associated salmonella infections (LPAI) in people. This project came about in response to higher-than-average LPAIs among poultry owners in the U.S. in 2016. The first salmonella prevention handout is now available in print and electronic versions from ODA. We look forward to continuing in this new effort to prevent salmonella infection in both humans and animals this year.



If you have any questions about our avian health program, educational materials, or need to report a sick or dead bird, please do not hesitate to call: (503) 986-4689



From the Feed Bag

Updates from Feed Safety Specialist, Richard Ten Eyck

Locally, we are working on the details to align our enforcement tools with FDA. The FDA's new Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) has new federal rules on Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) for all feed mills and Preventive Controls (PC) for larger mills. If you sell more than \$2.5 million of animal feed, you have obligations under FSMA this year. Everybody else comes in next year. ODA is asking the legislature to change the definition of commercial feed so it covers all animal food, if adulterated.

Can you make ½ gram of material accurately represent 24 tons of feed? That's the challenge of the Oregon sampling pilot. By gathering lots of little grabs (increments) as a truck unloads, we think we can actually get a repeatable representation of the truckload (decision unit).

A representative sample collected properly, by industry or regulators, is key in trusting lab results and making good decisions based on them.

Nationally, we are collaborating with the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) on building the framework for implementation of FSMA state feed programs. This five-year project begins with writing a playbook that lays out the resources and attributes a state feed program will need for FSMA.

Upcoming Events:

- **4/28 – 4/30:** Oregon Feed and Grain Association Annual Meeting
Salishan, OR
- **5/2 – 5/4:** AAFCO Feed Administrator's Seminar
Medora, ND
- **8/10 – 8/12:** AAFCO Annual Meeting
Bellevue, WA
- **8/12 – 8/13:** AAFCO Pet Food labeling workshop
Bellevue, WA

Contact Information:

Richard Ten Eyck
Phone: (503) 986-4691

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Historically, our newsletter was known as *Animal Health Notes*. We are changing the title to *Trough Talk*. Our goal will be to provide a semiannual publication of timely ASP specific information that we can share with you. Hopefully, the information provided will help you serve your clients better, thereby safeguarding the health of Oregon's animals and citizens.

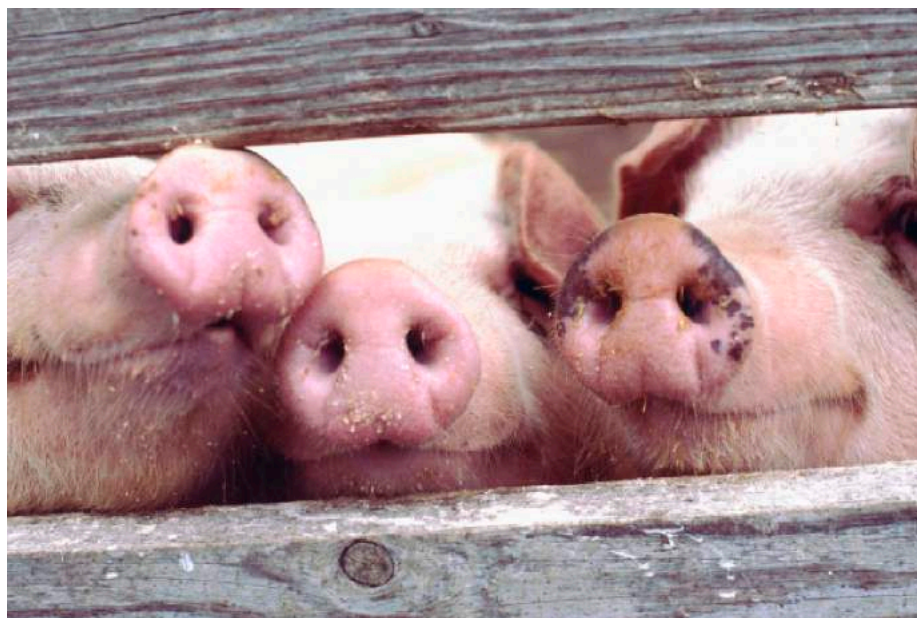


I thought it would be appropriate to provide a brief review of what the ASP programs does, people we have on staff, and how we are organized within ODA. About five years ago the ASP program was combined with the Food Safety program. I should also mention that the Animal Identification program (Brands) is closely aligned with Animal Services and is included in the ODA Food Safety and Animal Services Programs. The Brands program is administered separately from the ASP. Mr. Jack Noble is the manager of that program, and you may hear from him from time to time in this newsletter. ASP personnel include: the State Veterinarian; office manager (Karen Apiado) and support staff (Kim Lawson, Diane Gookin, Jenny Vaughn, and Suzanne Byers also providing assistance); two district veterinarians (Dr. Scott Essex (East) and Dr. Ryan Scholz (West); avian health coordinator (Mariah Crawford); feeds specialist (Richard Teneyck); and three laboratory staff comprised of the clinical lead (Lori Brown) and technicians (Shannon Coulombe and Shane Smith).

What we do:

Our main job is to work with the USDA, and you, to provide the assurance of health for animals leaving our state and for those animals coming into the state. The document that provides the assurance of health is the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI). The information you provide on those CVIs is recorded in our database and forwarded on to the state of destination. Similarly, the information on all incoming CVIs is recorded. The upgrades that have been made in our databases provide us with a tool for rapid and efficient animal tracking capability. When we pair the information from our animal health database with information in the Brands Program database, we have animal tracking capability that is one of the best in the country. That said, the information in our databases does not get there by itself. We rely on the very hard work of our dedicated staff for data entry. One of our goals is to try and ease the data entry job by increasing the use of electronic based documents. We will bring you more

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information on this topic in the near future. Our animal health laboratory staff stays very busy conducting the many required tests required for interstate movement of livestock and for disease surveillance. Our Feeds Program Specialist oversees the required registration of commercial feeds sold in Oregon; reviews labels for all commercial feed blends; samples feeds to ensure nutrient content is consistent with label; inspects medicated feed producers for compliance with current good manufacturing practice regulations; and investigates illnesses potentially associated with feed. The Avian Health Coordinator is another key position for the ASP. She manages the National Poultry Improvement Plan. That program has been growing at a steady rate and participants must follow sanitation, testing, and record keeping procedures. Outreach and education is a key part of that program's success.

Other important tasks that we attend to on a day-to-day basis include: disease surveillance, which sometimes requires us to investigate and respond quickly to reportable and significant diseases, as well as diseases of public health concern; planning for large-scale disease outbreaks and natural disaster emergencies; process pasture-to-

pasture permit requests; provide support and liaison to private veterinary practitioners and OVMA; manage the veterinary product registration program; maintain the existing exotic animal permits; provide input to legislature on concerns pertaining to animal health; modify, negotiate, write, propose to legislature pertinent statutes and rules; liaison with other agencies and animal industry groups; and somehow, keep up with the forms, filing, billing, reporting and other administrative responsibilities that drives the whole operation.

I hope this brief overview gives you a glimpse into the inner-workings of our office. The *Trough Talk* newsletter will be a collective effort of our staff to assemble information from their perspective for your benefit. We welcome your comments and feedback.

Best regards,

Brad R. LeaMaster, DVM, M.S., Ph.D.

State Veterinarian

East Side Update: *Dr. Scott Essex*

Trichomoniasis in Oregon: Still a problem for producers?

Ten years ago, Oregon diagnosed 29 positive Oregon herds with trichomoniasis. At the time, affected counties were Klamath, Lake, Harney, Malheur, Grant, and Baker. Testing was by culture. Huge gains in improving management to eliminate trich have been made. Clearly, the hard work of both veterinarians and the producers has helped reduce the impact of this economic disease. However, trichomoniasis is still a risk in certain parts of the state.

Great news, thus far, for the Oregon trich year in 2017. Only two herds have been diagnosed, both in the Klamath area, which summer here and spend the winter in California on a second ranch. Exposure of Oregon cattle as a result of pasture permitting from other states adds 3 positive herds (Lake and Klamath Counties). This is an improvement. Pasture permitting of cattle last year totaled approximately 110,000 head, over 1,000 bulls.

Oregon's current assessed risk to trich is moderate due to the historic movement of cattle following grass from winter to summer out of trich hot zone regions. Current testing requirements for these cattle are good, but will not be 100% accurate due to the nature of the organism.

Take home messages for the producer are the same:

- Know where your risks are by engaging with your herd health veterinarian.
- Avoid purchasing/leasing unknown open, or short bred cows, and non-virgin bulls, especially from public markets.
- Know the history of the cattle around you and minimize potential to commingle through management strategies.
- If public land grazing, turn out bred cattle or yearlings to the high-risk areas.

Oregon cattlemen tested over 13,000 bulls last year. Improvements have been made to help synchronize testing requirements in each state, with PCR as an official diagnostic test and an increase to the age limit for virgin bulls. Know your state

Pooling of samples—which can lower the sensitivity of the test by PCR—is still not accepted by all states. I am very thankful for the amount of moisture we have received to fill our reservoirs and help agriculture this year.

However, I am also ready for the grass to be growing. Record-breaking storms affected many counties across the Pacific Northwest, ending in a declared state of emergency by Governor Kate Brown. The devastation was extreme in Malheur County due to surpassed snow loads. We received several calls regarding stranded cattle without access to water and feed. We also had reports of increased mortality events involving high-risk production cycle cattle.

In the end, Oregon did what it does best. Local response was the most effective approach, with neighbors helping neighbors.

Questions on trich pertaining to your area can be discussed by phone or email. Thanks again for all your good work out there.

Scott Essex, DVM, M.S.

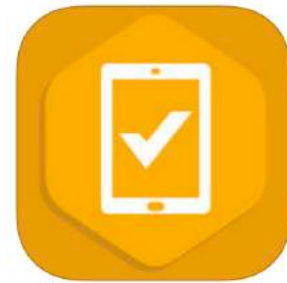
(503) 428-7458
sessex@oda.state.or.us

West Side Update: *Dr. Ryan Scholz*

Electronic CVI's: Entering the 21st century

For several years, the Oregon Department of Agriculture has been exploring ways to provide accredited veterinarians in Oregon a user-friendly alternative to paper Certificates of Veterinary Inspection. The new Animal Disease Traceability regulations enacted by USDA a few years ago, and the increasingly trans-boundary nature of our state's livestock industry, made it apparent that a solution was needed that was efficient for use in the field, while providing for rapid traceability in the event of a disease outbreak.

In April 2016, the Oregon Department of Agriculture partnered with the Institute for Infectious Animal Diseases at Texas A&M University to offer Oregon accredited veterinarians free access to the mCVI mobile application for electronic CVIs.



This application is available for download on Apple and Android devices (phones and tablets), and provides veterinarians with an easy to use interface to complete CVIs electronically in the field or in the clinic. The app also automatically submits the completed documents to both ODA as well as the receiving state.

The mCVI app is available for download from the iTunes or Google Play stores, and registration is done directly within the app.

If you have questions, or would like additional information, please contact Ryan Scholz, DVM, MPH.

(503) 986-4680
rscholz@oda.state.or.us



Oregon
Department
of Agriculture

Contact Information

Oregon Department of Agriculture
Animal Services Programs
(503) 986-4680
www.oregon.gov/ODA

Dr. Brad R. LeaMaster
State Veterinarian
Phone: (503) 986-4760

Dr. Ryan Scholz
Western Oregon
Phone: (503) 986-4680

Dr. Scott Essex
Eastern Oregon
Phone: (503) 986-4680