

Oregon
Department
of Agriculture
Animal Health & ID

Animal Health Notes December 2004

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Report Emergency Diseases

To report a suspected Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) or other animal disease emergency, please call

503 – 986 – 4680

During office hours a live person will answer that number. After 5 pm and on weekends and holidays, you will get a recording that directs you to press 2 to get the phone numbers of veterinarians on call. **Please note these after-hours numbers are for emergency reporting only.**

Vet Emergency Response Team

In September, Deputy State / accredited veterinarians were invited to attend a training session in animal health emergency management and to serve as members of the Oregon Veterinary Emergency Response Team (OVERT). We were pleased that 50 veterinarians attended the initial session that included topics on AHID's planned response to an emergency animal disease event, ves.

disease identification and response. We are planning more sessions in early 2005 and invite any Deputy State/ accredited veterinarians who might be interested to join us. We are still looking for more folks to join forces with us and help build a strong emergency disease response team. Please contact us at 503-986-4680 for location, time and date of the next meeting near you.

National Animal ID System

As many know USDA/APHIS has released some grant funds to stimulate interest and participation in building a national animal identification and tracking system for the purpose of protecting animal health. APHIS is focused on premises and animal ID for one reason alone: to establish the foundation to support its programs to monitor, survey, control and eradicate animal diseases.

The long-term goal is to establish a system that can identify within 48 hours all premises and animals that have had direct contact with a foreign animal disease or a domestic disease of concern.

Currently the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) is voluntary and is being phased in over time. The first phase is premises identification and registration. It is being partially funded this year by federal grants.

We have a cooperative agreement with California, Arizona and Texas that will; 1) grant us funds to develop a premises registration system and begin to populate an Oregon premises data base, 2) grant us funds to develop an animal ID system that; will track dairy cows to and through markets to harvest, track heifers from the farm to heifer growing facilities and back to the farm and dairy steer calves through feeding and market channels to slaughter in California, Arizona or Texas. We expect to follow about 1200 dairy cows and up to 2000 dairy calves.

There is another NAIS project in the Northwest that will involve beef cattle in Oregon. It is called the Northwest Pilot Project (NWPP). The grant funds are being distributed by the Idaho Department of Agriculture to members of the Northwest Pilot Project. Their plan is to successfully track cattle and sheep through market channels. They expect to record about 135,000 animal movement events for some 27,000 animals.

Both of these projects will demonstrate various types of animal identification and tracking methods in an attempt to determine the efficiency and cost of each.

New Faces at ODA-Animal Health & Identification (AHID)

Colleagues,

As your new State Veterinarian, I am looking forward to serving you and enhancing the professional relationship between Deputy State Veterinarians and the ODA-Animal Health and Identification Division (AHID). As Deputy State Veterinarians, you are the State's first line of defense against animal diseases. I value your contributions.

In keeping with tradition we will continue producing a newsletter for licensed, deputy state and accredited veterinarians in Oregon. The information is provided to help you serve your clients better and to protect the health of Oregon's animals. Please share with everyone in the clinic and save for future reference.

Since I started to work here in May 2004, several other folks have joined the AHID team. I want to take a few lines here to introduce them to you. I expect we will all be working together for some time to come.

Help me welcome them,



Don Hansen, DVM, MPVM
State Veterinarian
ODA-Animal Health & Identification Division

Dan Jemelka, DVM, MPH

Dan began working for the ODA, Animal Health and Identification Division (AHID) as the Staff Veterinarian in Salem on September 27, 2004. Born and raised on a farm in Texas, he received his veterinary degree from Texas A&M University. He was in a mixed practice in Texas and later joined the United States Air Force as a veterinarian, received a Masters in Public Health and completed 24 years in the military. Most recently he worked with the Washington State Department of Agriculture in the Food Safety and Animal Health Division. His wife Bobbi and children Amy, Kim, and Beth reside in Centralia WA on a small farm with various animals. They all have been active with their animals in 4-H. Bobbi works as a Supervisor for the Radiology Department at the Olympia Arthritis Clinic, Amy is the past State Dairy Ambassador and is a sophomore at WSU, Kim attends Centralia Community College and Beth attends Centralia High School.

Don Peter, DVM, MS

Don began working for AHID as a Field Veterinarian in Pendleton on September 27, 2004. Don grew up on a farm in Missouri and received his veterinary degree from the University of Missouri. He was in mixed practice in Missouri for several years then returned to the University for a residency in theriogenology. He went on to the University of California at Davis where he earned a Masters Degree in Veterinary Medicine and Surgery. He moved to Oregon where he and his wife Jessie developed a clinic specializing in reproduction medicine and production in cattle and horses. The clinic is called Frontier Genetics and is located in Hermiston. He has two daughters and a son. Ashley works for Frontier Genetics and Jamie works as a housewife. His son Josh is a third-year law student.

Gini Morgart

Gini joined our AHID team as Office Manager in October 2004. She recently moved to Oregon after living in Denver, Colorado for 23-years. She is married and has two daughters in college. Her experience in the world of government and agriculture comes from past administrative positions for a Colorado fire department and two non-profit equine organizations, the Arabian Horse Registry and the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association. As the Office Manager, her main duties are to provide administrative support to the division administrator, state veterinarian, staff and field veterinarians, and office support staff. This can entail much shuffling of paper, but is clearly her pleasure.

Tristen Berg

Tristen is the new Import Permit Coordinator, Exotic Permit Coordinator, and is in charge of Pasture-to Pasture Permits. Tristen has been with AHID since May 2004. Born in Astoria, Oregon, where she grew up active in 4H, she was the 1987 National 4H delegate for Veterinary Science. She now resides in Salem with her husband and three children, which keep her active as a 4H livestock leader in Marion County, and the Treasurer for the Marion County Leaders Association.

Megan Proudfoot-Adams

Megan started with AHID in August 2004 and is the new Brand Records Coordinator. Megan maintains the records of brand inspections performed during transfers of ownership, out of state shipments, and slaughter. She also assists the Field Operations Manager, Brand Recorder, Brand Inspectors and the public by filling supply orders, answering questions, and performing research requests. She grew up in eastern Oregon on a cattle and wheat ranch, but after graduating from Eastern Oregon University in Special and Science Education, she moved to the Willamette Valley. Megan enjoys her job mainly because of the people she works with, but also appreciates the predictability of the work and flexibility it affords.

New Trich Rules Proposed

The Oregon Cattlemen's Association Animal Health Committee and the Bovine Trichomoniasis Advisory Panel have recommended some changes in the Oregon Administrative Rule 603-011-0610, Bovine Trichomoniasis Test Positive Response Program. After several hearings and discussion meetings the panel recommended the following changes.

1. Certified veterinarians, as described in 603-011-0630, must report a positive test result of *Tritrichomonas fetus* to the Department on a form supplied by the Department within 48 hours of determining the result.
2. In response to a positive bovine trichomoniasis test the Department shall conduct an investigation to identify all herds that were potentially exposed to the infected herd.
3. Require permanent identification, as defined by the Department, and testing of all bulls, excepting virgin bulls, in the test-positive herd and exposed herds.
4. All bulls in test-positive herds must each have two consecutive negative test results with each test event separated by at least seven days, after initial diagnosis is made. Bulls that have a positive test result shall be considered infected.

Update on BSE Surveillance in the U.S.

The goal of the enhanced BSE surveillance program is to provide consumers, trading partners, and industry increased assurances about animal health, specifically whether BSE exists in the U.S. cattle population and if so, at what level.

They want to test as many cattle from the high-risk population as possible in a 12- to 18-month period. High-risk cattle are designated as: non-ambulatory cattle; cattle exhibiting signs of a central nervous system disorder; cattle exhibiting other signs that may be associated with BSE, such as emaciation or injury; and dead cattle.

The aim is to sample 200,000 to 270,000 head out of an estimated population of 450,000 high-risk adult cattle. With 200,000 negative samples we could be 95% certain that the prevalence of BSE is less than 1 per 10 million head of adult cattle. At 270,000 negative samples we could be 99% certain that the prevalence of BSE is less than 1 per 10 million head of adult cattle.

Since June 1st there have been more than 130,000 cattle brain samples tested for BSE and all were test-negative. A statistical evaluation of this number indicates that, if BSE exists in the US, the prevalence is less than 1 per million head of adult cattle.

Do your clients know these rules?

A person may not maintain or control any female cattle for breeding purposes unless the animals have been vaccinated against brucellosis.

Oregon Rules require a visible official tattoo in the right ear of each animal examined as evidence or proof of brucellosis vaccination. The brucellosis ear tag does not count.

Any female dairy cattle that have not been vaccinated for brucellosis may be offered for sale or sold only for slaughter.

Any female beef cattle that have not been vaccinated for brucellosis may only be offered for sale or sold for slaughter or into normal feeding channels for slaughter within 12 months of sale.

Under specific situations Oregon Rules allow vaccination of cattle that are older than 12 months of age (called "Mature Vaccination"). However, the only cattle that may be "Mature Vaccinated" for brucellosis in Oregon are cattle that were born in Oregon and not imported. The owner must certify to you as a Deputy State Veterinarian that the cattle were born in Oregon.

USDA and many states do not recognize "Mature Vaccination" as an official brucellosis vaccination. They only recognize calf hood vaccination as official for interstate movements.

Update on Johne's Disease Program

Take our on-line course and become certified to do Johne's risk assessments and management plans. Earn 6 C.E. Credits. We are offering an online Johne's disease training course at no charge for veterinarians who would like a "Johne's tune up". The course has been designed for busy practitioners. You will earn 6 continuing education credits for completing the course. The modules cover topics from pathology to testing to how to do risk assessments and management plans. Each module is designed to take no more than an hour to complete but also depends on the speed of your computer modem. If you are interested in taking this on-line course, please contact Don Hansen at 503-986-4680 to get signed up.

Johne's Herd-Management Plans

We are still seeking veterinarians willing to complete a Johne's risk assessment and outlined management plan with their cattle clients. We will pay the veterinarian \$250 for each herd done. The name of each herd and/or owner may be coded to maintain the privacy of the owner. With preparation and client cooperation, doing a risk assessment and outlining a plan will take about two hours. Please call us at 503-986-4680 and ask for copies of the Risk Assessment and Management Plan Handbooks and they will be sent to you at no charge.

Environmental samples

Veterinarians are required to collect environmental samples from the farm or ranch at the same time they do the risk assessment and plan. Samples should be sent to the Oregon Department of Agriculture-Animal Health Lab in Salem for culture. Send to: ODA Animal Health Laboratory, 635 Capitol Street NE, Salem, OR 97301-2532. The cost of culturing is covered by the grant.

Required samples for dairy farms are:

1. Two 'grab samples' of fresh manure from maternity pens or area.
2. Two 'grab samples' of fresh manure from alleyways leading to or from milking parlor.
3. Two 'grab samples' from the lagoon directly below the pipe that brings effluent from the barn areas into the lagoon.

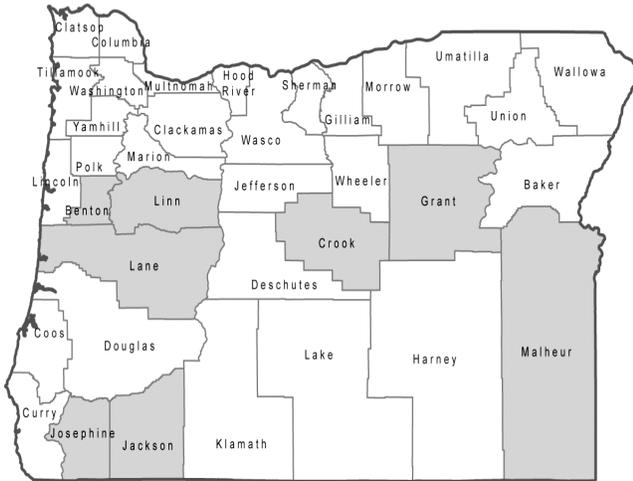
Required sample for beef operations are:

1. Two 'grab samples' of fresh manure from maternity pens or area.
2. Two 'grab samples' of fresh manure from resting or feeding areas where the majority of adult animals congregate.

Sampling or testing animals

Producers can have all mature cattle in their herd tested at no charge to them. *Practitioners are not required to collect these samples.* Producers (or their veterinarian) need only to contact Don Hansen and request herd sampling or testing. We will make necessary arrangements to sample the herd. Initial serum samples will be screened with the ELISA and follow up fecal cultures will be performed on all animals with positive ELISA results. All samples will be coded to assure confidentiality. Coded test results will be sent to producer's veterinarian and the practitioner is expected to send the results on to their client.

2004 West Nile Virus (WNV) activity in Oregon



County	Human	Birds	Horses
Benton	0	1	0
Crook	0	1	0
Grant	0	0	1
Jackson	1	11	4
Josephine	0	5	4
Lane	0	2	0
Linn	0	0	1
Malheur	4	3	22
Total	5	23	32

The first WNV isolation in Oregon was reported in Malheur County birds in August 2004. The virus has since been tracked in one or more species in eight counties. The shaded areas on the map show the counties where WNV isolation was reported. The table gives a breakdown of WNV detected in humans, birds and horses by county as recorded by practitioners, OSU/DL, ODA or public health officials. Since many cases were not reported, the table significantly underestimates the number of actual cases of WNV but does show how wide spread the virus has become in our state.

Since the virus is now considered to be endemic in Oregon, our office will continue to encourage WNV vaccination for horses and that it be done in a timely manner that optimizes effective protection during coming mosquito seasons.

Sources for more information on West Nile Virus

The ODA Animal Health & Identification Division has a web site with general information concerning WNV in horses and humans with links to other sites. Go to http://egov.oregon.gov/ODA/AHID/ahid_wnv.shtml

The Department of Human Services also has a web site for general information particularly regarding human exposure and protective steps. Go to <http://www.dhs.state.or.us/publichealth/acd/w Nile/index.cfm>

Animal Health Notes is a newsletter for licensed, deputy state and accredited veterinarians in Oregon and is produced by the Oregon Department of Agriculture, Animal Health & Identification Division, 635 Capital Street NE, Salem OR 97301-2532.

The information is provided to help you serve your clients better and to protect the health of Oregon's animals. **In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this publication will be made available in alternate formats upon request.** Please share with everyone in the clinic and save for future reference. Tristen Berg, Editor, phone 503-986-4690, e-mail tberg@oda.state.or.us or FAX 503-986-4734. **TTY 503-986-4762.**

Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) Surveillance

Bio-terrorism? Agro-terrorism? Accidental Introduction? Regardless of the source, we all need to remain aware of signs of foreign animal diseases and the steps to take if an FAD is suspected.

As a Deputy State Veterinarian, you have the authority to quarantine in cases of emergency disease. **If you suspect an FAD**, use your authority and impose quarantine on behalf of the State Veterinarian. Determine the exposure potential then immediately call us at **503-986-4680** for assistance and back up.

A foreign Animal Disease Diagnostician will be sent to investigate further.



No potential FAD cases should be disregarded. We would rather respond to a dozen “false alarms” than miss the opportunity to stop a catastrophic disease event.

Be particularly alert to these four signs.

1. Sudden, unexplained death in the herd or flock,
2. Severe illness in high percent of animals,
3. Blistering around mouth, nose, teats or hooves,
4. Staggering, falling or other CNS signs.



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