



Animal Health Notes

March 2006

Contact information

Oregon Department of Agriculture
State Veterinarian's Office
Phone: 503-986-4680
Fax: 503-986-4734

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.

Idaho no longer brucellosis free

Idaho is now a brucellosis "A" state. Eligible cattle must be brucellosis tested within 30 days before entering Oregon. "Eligible cattle" means non-vaccinated cattle between 6 and 12 months, officially calfhood vaccinated cattle of dairy breeds over 20 months of age, officially vaccinated beef breeds over 24 months of age, and all springer heifers or those that have calved. Spayed heifers and steers are exempt from testing.

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Important reminder for lab submission forms, test charts, and vaccination report forms

Help us process your tests and forms quickly and accurately! It is important that all documents returned to our office are complete, signed, dated and preferably legible.

Trich notes

Oregon's Bovine Trichomoniasis Test Positive Response Program is up and running for the sixth year. Practitioner cooperation has been wonderful, and producers are, for the most part, enthusiastic and helpful. Trich is pretty much "rooted out" of the easy places, and only still lingers where management practices make it difficult to find. Because the easy part's over, I would make the following observations and suggestions:

1. The Program (ORS 603-011-0610, 0620, & 0630) is defined by positive cases on a yearly basis. We cannot become involved until the practitioner reports a diagnosis. However, it is a rare operation that can "lick" trich in a single year. So, it is critical that local veterinarians follow-up by reminding clients of all the management decisions, above and beyond bull testing, that contribute to cleaning up trich.
2. Managing trich is an area in which veterinarians can be of immense monetary value to their clients.
3. The best sample for diagnosing trich is from testing older bulls fairly recently after they have been actively breeding cows. Therefore, we encourage practitioners and producers to test bull batteries shortly after coming off the cows and include the older bulls, even if they are to be culled.
4. Oregon now has a requirement for tagging bulls in the program. If you are unaware of the tagging and reporting of tagged bulls, please contact Dr. Julie Weikel.
5. As of February 28, 2006, Oregon has 10 positive trich herds and 78 exposed

herds. Hundreds of bulls have been tested in response to the epidemiology follow-ups from the positive cases, and much testing remains to be done before spring breeding. Four counties, all in southern or eastern Oregon are involved so far.

6. One county is actively pursuing an ordinance that will require trich testing of all bulls that utilize public grazing allotments. Other counties may follow suit.
7. Please contact Dr. Julie Weikel, if you have questions regarding Oregon's Trich Program, the forms required, certification/recertification, or trich management practices. Julie Weikel, DVM, Field Veterinarian, at 541-493-2121 or fax: 541-493-2170 email: jweikel@oda.state.or.us

CVI reminder

Certificate of Veterinary Inspection in an official document. The document needs to be complete. Remember the following:

- Shipper is the name, and address where the animal is coming from in Oregon.
- Receiver is the destination where the animal is going, complete address, city and state. To list the state of destination by Texas only, is not an adequate destination. The owner's name showing at Will Rogers Coliseum, Fort Worth, Texas, would satisfy requirements.
- Animal identification, age, sex, breed, test and vaccination information and dates when required.

When you are shipping out of state, it is best to call state of destination for import requirements.

Update on Johne's Disease Program

Johne's status herds

There are currently five dairy herds in the state that have achieved level two status or higher in the Johne's herd status program. Four more dairies have just applied for level one or two status.

Annual renewal of risk assessments/management plans

Two hundred eighty of the state's 350 dairies have a completed Risk Assessment/Management Plan (RA/MP), but many of these are in need of renewal. Current RA/MPs are prerequisite to receiving free Johne's testing and an important component of a Johne's prevention program. Participating veterinarians are paid \$250 for renewal of RA/MPs and \$350 for new RA/MPs.

Sampling and testing animals

Producers can still have all mature cattle in their herd tested at no charge to them. Practitioners are not required to collect these samples. Producers (or their veterinarians) need only to contact Bruce Mueller at ODA-AHID and request herd testing. He will make necessary arrangements to sample the herd. Coded test results will be sent to the producer's veterinarian and the practitioner is expected to share the results with their client.

Online Johne's course

Certification to do risk assessments and management plans for Johne's and other fecal borne diseases is available through a six credit on-line course for veterinarians. Contact Don Hansen or Bruce Mueller at 503-986-4680 if you would like to sign up.

Beef cattle and Johne's

Participation by the dairy industry in the Johne's program has been very strong, but only a handful of beef herds are involved. The program is open to both beef and dairy producers. The following is an article that is to appear in the next Oregon Beef Producer's publication:

Johne's test negative breeding bulls
The Oregon State Veterinarian's office has recently been contacted with questions concerning the value of pre-sale Johne's testing of young bulls. Producers wanted to know how much stock to put in testing of young bulls and whether it is worth paying a bit more for a tested bull.

Certainly no producer wants to get Johne's into their herd as it can cause serious economic losses and is difficult to eradicate once established in a herd. Johne's is a chronic wasting disease of cattle and other ruminants. It causes diarrhea and progressive weight loss in spite of the animal being alert and eating well. It is transmitted primarily by the fecal-oral route, but may be transmitted in milk or in the womb. It usually becomes evident when the animal is four to six years of age, in spite of most infections occurring during calfhood.

Avian influenza talking points

What is avian influenza/bird flu?

There is a flu season for birds just as there is for humans and, as with people, it causes varying degrees of illness.

There are many common strains of bird flu that often cause no visible signs of illness in birds and pose no public health threat.

What is ODA doing about avian influenza?

ODA has a comprehensive Avian Influenza Surveillance and Response Plan that has been in place since April of 2004.

- Periodic meetings are held with poultry producers to update this plan and improve our ability to respond rapidly and appropriately to any type of avian influenza in all possible management systems.
- Active AI testing of apparently healthy chickens is carried out on breeder farms, laying facilities and broiler facilities.
- OSU Veterinary Diagnostic Lab performs AI testing on all birds and poultry submitted to them for post mortem examination.

Is avian influenza in Oregon or the US?

The H5N1 Asian strain of concern has never occurred in the western hemisphere.

However, common strains of avian influenza are frequently present in Oregon and US wild bird populations, especially wild waterfowl and shore birds.

Can poultry be safely consumed?

Eating properly prepared poultry is safe. Safely handling and preparing poultry protects you against avian influenza, as it does against other viruses and bacteria.

How should dead birds be reported?

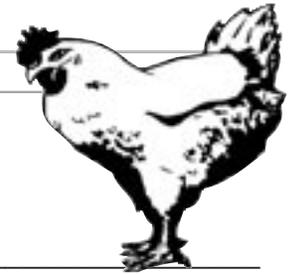
Domestic bird deaths of concern should be reported to the State Veterinarian's Office at 503-986-4680. **Veterinarians may use the form on the next page in determining the necessity of reporting an avian death.** Once reported, an ODA veterinarian trained as a foreign animal disease diagnostician will, if warranted, be dispatched to collect samples and more in depth information. If an ODA veterinarian cannot be reached, then USDA, Animal Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services, should be contacted at 503-399-5871.

Wild bird deaths of concern should be reported to Colin Gillin, Oregon Wildlife Veterinarian, at 541-757-4186 x 232 or by cell at 541-231-9271. In the event that Colin is not available, the appropriate ODFW regional headquarters should be contacted, as listed below.

- High Desert Bend: 541-388-6363 or Hines: 541-573-6582
- Southwest: 541-440-3353
- Northwest: 503-657-2000
- Northeast: 503-963-2138

The situation will be discussed with the caller and, if warranted, the bird(s) will be collected for diagnostic testing.

Additional information about avian influenza can be found on the following Web site: www.usda.gov/birdflu



Suspicious Symptoms in Birds Evaluation Form (Exotic Newcastle/avian influenza)

Owner name _____

Address _____

City

State

Zip

Phone _____

LOCATION OF BIRDS _____
(city, county, etc.)

Type of birds _____

COUNT OF BIRDS

Number of ill birds _____

Number of dead birds _____

Total number on premises _____

Mortality = # dead / total _____

Out of country travel by owner, family,
employee, or visitor? _____

Yes No

To where? _____

Return date? _____

New birds (including pet birds) on premises
within 30-days? _____

Yes No

Where acquired? _____

Acquired dated? _____

Increase in migratory birds on property?

Yes No

If the situation does not meet these criteria,
you or your client may choose to contact
the OSU Veterinary Diagnostic Lab for
necropsy. Call 541-737-3261. The OSU
lab can tell you what specimens are needed
and what the costs will be.

Oregon Department of Agriculture
635 Capitol Street NE (503) 986-4680
Lab (503) 986-4686 Fax (503) 986-4734

SYMPTONS (check all that apply):

<p>Respiratory</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sneezing</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> gasping for air</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> nasal discharge</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> coughing</p> <p>GI</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> diarrhea</p> <p>Sudden death</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> increased death loss in flock</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> other</p>	<p>Neurological</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> drooping wings</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> twisting of head and neck</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> circling</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> complete paralysis</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> acute conjunctivitis</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> swelling and redness of the tissues around the eyes and in neck</p>
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Evaluation

This is a reportable case if you have: any of
the symptoms listed above AND any ONE
of these:

1. Greater than 10% mortality in initial
period
2. Out of country travel by anyone on/or
visiting the farm
3. New birds on premises within last 30 days.

If this is a reportable case, immediately call
503-986-4680.

Quick response and containment could save
millions of dollars in eradication costs.

Tuberculosis testing—A review for accredited veterinarians

With a recent rise in the number of TB cases found on US dairies in a number of states, and the downgrade of California's TB status, it seems a good time for a tune up on TB testing protocol.

As an accredited veterinarian you must follow these guidelines.

1. Handling tuberculin

- Check the expiration date
- Store in a refrigerator
- Do not freeze, and keep out of sunlight
- Do not draw up ahead of time
- Throw away unused portions—oxidizes quickly!

2. Identification

- Record the official identification of every animal tuberculosis tested
- Official identification includes an official eartag or a registration tattoo.

3. Injection

- Use 1 ml. syringe with 26 g 3/8" needle
- Inject 0.1 ml. intradermally in the caudal fold— get a “bleb”!
- Person that injects, must read results (remember which side)
- Do not vaccinate or treat cows on injection day
- There is no meat or milk withdrawal time for tuberculin.

4. Reading the test

- Palpate every injection site you injected
- All animals injected must be read and recorded on official forms
- Read the test at 72 hours post injection ± 6 hours

- ANY swelling is a positive response (check suspect box)
- Report any responders immediately to the office of the State Veterinarian and provide a copy of the test records
- 1-3 percent false positive rate is expected—causes include *M. avium* subsp paratuberculosis, *M. avium*, and other soil-borne Mycobacterium. Be prepared to collect and Fed Ex blood sample from any test responders
- State/federal veterinarians must apply the CCT test on any responders within 10 days of injection, or must wait 60 days.
- Mail white and green copies to the Office of the State Veterinarian within five days of reading the test. If you have any questions, please contact the state veterinarian at 503-986-4680.

Your efforts in carrying out effective TB surveillance are appreciated.

Equine veterinarians important reminder for EIA forms

It is important to provide clients with the yellow copy of the EIA form. Horses going to sale at markets such as the Hermiston Horse Sale or traveling out of state, need the yellow copy of the EIA form. Other states and Canada require the yellow copy, having a photocopy of the Six Month Passport, or the EIA form is not meeting some other state's entry requirements. Please remind clients they will need to keep their copy of the EIA form when traveling or selling their horses.

Oregon Veterinary Emergency Response Team (OVERT) update

The annual OVERT training sessions were held in Corvallis and Bend in September 2005. Forty members participated. Topics included agro-terrorism, response to foreign animal diseases (FAD), FAD in wildlife, and introductory IS 700 course on the National Incident Management System (NIMS). The members received an official certificate of completion from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Emergency Management Institute. Members who were not able to attend will be given instruction on how to complete the course on line.

Also in September, an OVERT training class was given in Baker City to new applicants. There were 11 veterinarians and animal health technicians attending. The lectures given at the annual training classes were presented to the new applicants with the exception of the NIMS IS 700 course. Dr. Don Hansen presented a very comprehensive overview of the Incident Command System in lieu of the IS 700 course.

There are 74 veterinary practitioners and seven animal health technicians that have been trained as OVERT members. Including state and federal employees, Oregon's animal disease emergency response team consists of 110 members.

OVERT training sessions

Two initial training sessions were held in February and early March for applicants who have not received ICS training. Additional ICS training dates will be held at the following locations:

- March 29, Wednesday, Wilsonville, 6-9:30 PM
- April 5, Wednesday, Bend, 6-9:30 PM
- May 3, Wednesday, Grants Pass, 6-9:30 PM.

If a veterinarian or animal technician in your practice is interested in joining OVERT, we encourage them to attend one of these sessions. Please call Dr. Dan Jemelka at 503-986-4680 or email ejemelka@oda.state.or.us to sign up for one of these classes. Additional information will be sent to applicants that sign up. A dinner meal will be provided, round trip vehicle mileage will be paid and three hours of continuing education will be awarded.

Other Oregon Department of Agriculture telephone numbers

Subject	Contact Person	Telephone Number
Accreditation questions	Gini Morgart	503-986-4689
Lab billing questions	Becky Rada	503-986-4683
Lab test results—EIA or brucellosis	Becky or Tristen	503-986-4680
ODALab technical questions	Lee Effinger	503-986-4686
Order supplies	Becky Rada	503-986-4683
Pasture permits	Tristen Berg	503-986-4690

Do you know these new changes?

Minnesota is no longer TB free.

Oregon now requires tb testing for any bovine before entering for dairy over 6 months and beef over 24 months.

Idaho no longer brucellosis free

Idaho is now a brucellosis "A" state. Eligible cattle must be brucellosis tested.

Dairy	Beef
Female cattle without official calfhoo d vaccination- (6 to 12 months) must be tested or neutered	Female cattle without official calfhoo d vaccination- 6 to 12 months must be tested or neutered
Female cattle with official calfhoo d vaccination over 20 months, springer heifers or those that have calved must be tested	Female cattle with official calfhoo d vaccination over 24 months, springer heifers or those that have calved must be tested
Bulls over 18 months must be tested	Bulls over 18 months must be tested
Spayed heifers and steers are exempt from testing.	Spayed heifers and steers are exempt from testing.

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. Tristen Berg, Editor, phone 503-986-4690, e-mail tberg@oda.state.or.us or FAX 503-986-4734. TTY 503-986-4762.

For veterinarians and clinic staff, please share this with your office and keep for future reference.

