



## Animal Industry Division Newsletter

June 2012

*We all have collaborative roles in animal health and disease control in Colorado. Your role in animal health and welfare cannot be overstated. Four of the topics in this newsletter (i.e., VS, EHV-1, rabies, trichomoniasis) highlight the need for immediate notification to the State Veterinarian's Office when you observe clinical signs in an animal that are consistent with one of the reportable diseases in Colorado. To notify the State Veterinarian's Office of a reportable disease, call 303-239-4161; if after-hours, call the same number to obtain the phone number of the staff veterinarian on call. Thank you for your help and let us know where we can help you.*

*Thanks,  
State Veterinarian's Office of Colorado*

### Summary of Items:

- ❑ **Welcome to our Newest Staff Member:** Animal Industry Division of Colorado Department of Agriculture is pleased to welcome Dr. Sara Ahola to the department. Sara, a field veterinarian for Animal industry will be based out of Fort Collins and is a member of the CDA Traceability Team. She will be working state-wide with accredited veterinarians to increase their use of electronic health certificates and other means of capturing animal movement and disease program data electronically. [Click to read more](#)
- ❑ **Vesicular Stomatitis in Horses:** New Mexico has reported three cases of vesicular stomatitis (VS). These cases represent a northern movement of the virus that has been typical in past years when VS outbreaks have occurred. Colorado veterinarians are asked to immediately report to the State Veterinarian's Office any clinical signs of vesicular disease observed in horses or livestock. [Click to read more](#)
- ❑ **Neurological Form of EHV-1 case Confirmed in Colorado:** Colorado Department of Agriculture is continuing to monitor horses exposed to one horse with a confirmed case of Equine Herpes Virus (EHV-1) within the state; a Douglas County quarantined premises has now been released. Strict bio-security and disease prevention practices were instituted on the quarantined premises which contributed to Colorado only having one confirmed case. To date, no other Colorado exposed horses developed signs of EHV-1. There are no horse movement restrictions. [Click to read more](#)
- ❑ **Rabies is on the Rise – Implications for Livestock:** The incidence of rabies in skunks is on the rise in Colorado! The best source for the statistics of rabies surveillance in Colorado is the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) rabies webpage which can be accessed



at <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/zoonosis/rabies/>. Ultimately, the vaccination decision belongs to livestock owners and they will have to weigh the incidence of terrestrial wildlife rabies in their geographical location, the risk of human exposure, the possible financial costs, the potential loss of their animals, and the cost of the vaccination procedure. But local veterinarians can provide the trusted guidance to owners in helping them to make that decision. [Click to read more](#)

- ❑ **Additional Veterinary Accreditation Modules Qualify for CE Credits in Colorado:** The Colorado USDA Veterinary Services office is pleased to announce that there are now 11 Accreditation Supplemental Training Modules approved by the Colorado Board of Veterinary Medicine for continuing education (CE). Not all of the modules that are available on the Accreditation website are approved for Colorado veterinary license CE at this time. Prior to starting a module, please check the list within this article to ensure that you may get both Accreditation and veterinary medical license CE credit. [Click to read more](#)
- ❑ **Changes in the Animal Bonding Statute and its Effect on Agencies that Impound Animals:** The regular legislative session has ended in Colorado and there have been notable changes in CRS 18-9-202.5, formerly known as the animal bonding statute. Many of the changes to the statute are positive and more constitutionally sound, however some of these changes could have several significant impacts that impounding agencies need to be aware of. [Click to read more](#)
- ❑ **Update on Colorado's Electronic Health Certificate Project:** Colorado wants to encourage veterinarians in the use of electronic Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVI). As part of that effort, Colorado has developed an electronic Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (eCVI) that is being field tested this summer with private practice veterinarians in the state. The eCVI was developed in collaboration with the Kansas' Department of Agriculture and is in line with USDA APHIS data standards for the use of electronic CVI's. [Click to read more](#)
- ❑ **Cephalosporin Ban:** Reminder to veterinarians, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) action to prohibit the "extralabel" use of cephalosporin drugs in food-animal production is now in effect. FDA specifically cites cattle, swine, chickens and turkeys, as the "major species of food-producing animals." FDA officials say they are taking this action to "reduce the risk of cephalosporin resistance in certain bacterial pathogens" and to preserve the drug's effectiveness in treating disease in humans. Extralabel use is when a drug is used in a manner other than what is designated on a specific product's label. [Click to read more](#)
- ❑ ***B. ovis* testing at Rocky Mountain Regional Animal Health Laboratory (RMRAHL):** The Rocky Mountain Regional Animal Health Laboratory, RMRAHL, is now offering a *B. ovis* PCR for ram semen samples. For the last 6 months, RMRAHL has been working with Dr. Dan Love and Ed Kline in comparing *B. ovis* isolation and this PCR on semen from known infected rams with excellent correlation. [Click to read more](#)
- ❑ **Bovine Trichomoniasis Update:** The Colorado Department of Agriculture continues to remind cattle owners to test their herd for bovine trichomoniasis. As of 5/23/2012, there are currently five positive trich cases in five Colorado counties: Las Animas, Montezuma, Otero, Weld, and Yuma. So far this year, there have been 10 trich cases in eight counties: Conejos, Kit Carson, La Plata, Las Animas, Montezuma,



Pueblo, Weld and Yuma. Epidemiological data reveals that during the first 5 months of 2012, we have almost reached the same number of positive locations as last year. [Click to read more](#)

- ❑ **Livestock Movement Controls and Permitting in the face of a Disease Outbreak:** In the face of a significant livestock disease outbreak such as foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), controlling the movement of livestock and livestock products would be vital to mitigating the effects of the disease on the livestock industry and the economy. The State Veterinarian's Office has been working with the Colorado State Patrol (CSP), the Brand Board, Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) to develop an emergency plan for limiting the movement of livestock and livestock products in the first 24-72 hours of a disease outbreak. [Click to read more](#)
- ❑ **Secure Milk:** The Secure Milk Supply (SMS) project and plan is intended to identify and address issues to better prepare animal health officials and the dairy industry to keep the dairy industry in business should foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) ever occur again in the United States. We have a number of Colorado veterinarians, CSU faculty, and CSU Extension personnel involved in the Colorado SMS project, if you have interest in being part of the Colorado SMS Planning Team, contact Nick Striegel at 303-239-4162 or email him at [nick.striegel@ag.state.co.us](mailto:nick.striegel@ag.state.co.us). [Click to read more](#)
- ❑ **Dispatches for Alerts, Warnings, and Notifications:** One of the important resources for the State Veterinarian's Office is the Dialogic Communication Corporation (DCC) dispatch system for sending critical notification messages. Through the dispatch system, alerts, warnings, and notification messages can be sent via email, voice messages, or text messages. Important note: If you know of any veterinarians who do not currently receive our alerts, warnings, and notifications, please have those interested individuals email [nick.striegel@ag.state.co.us](mailto:nick.striegel@ag.state.co.us) or [scott.leach@ag.state.co.us](mailto:scott.leach@ag.state.co.us) so that their contact information can be added to our dispatch system. [Click to read more](#)
- ❑ **Reportable Diseases in Colorado:** There are certain diseases that need to be reported to the Colorado State Veterinarian's Office (303) 239-4161 or to the Colorado AVIC Office of the USDA (303) 231-5385. If an animal dies acutely and was exhibiting clinical signs of a reportable disease this incident shall be reported even though no diagnostic testing was accomplished prior to death. Any disease which was not previously known to exist in Colorado shall be reported, i.e. any disease of unusual morbidity or mortality that does not fit a normally expected clinical picture. [Click to read more](#)
- ❑ **State Veterinarian's Office Staff Contact Information:** To get hold of us call 303-239-4161; if after-hours, call the same number to obtain the phone number of the staff veterinarian on call. [Click for staff directory](#)

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## New Staff Members

Animal Industry Division of Colorado Department of Agriculture is pleased to welcome Dr. Sara Ahola to the department. Sara, a field veterinarian for Animal industry will be based out of Fort Collins and is a member of the CDA Traceability Team. She will be working state-wide with accredited veterinarians to increase their use of electronic health certificates and other means of capturing animal movement and disease program data electronically.



Sara lives in Fort Collins with her husband, Jason, and their non-stop 20 month old son, Henry. A native of Washington State, Sara earned degrees in business and economics at Washington State University and went on to teach economics at Walla Walla Community College and later Front Range Community College in Fort Collins. She went back to school to pursue a degree in veterinary medicine at Colorado State University and practiced mixed-animal medicine in Idaho and Oregon before returning to Colorado in 2009. She enjoys backcountry horseback riding and gets her exercise doing agility with her Border collie and chasing her son.

## Vesicular Stomatitis Confirmed in New Mexico

New Mexico has reported three cases of vesicular stomatitis (VS). These cases represent a northern movement of the virus that has been typical in past years when VS outbreaks have occurred. The primary spread of VS is thought to occur through insect vectors that migrate along river valleys. **Colorado livestock owners are warned to take added precautions due to the proximity of the virus. Colorado veterinarians are asked to stay vigilant and to immediately report to the State Veterinarian's Office any clinical signs of vesicular disease observed in horses or livestock.**

"Vesicular Stomatitis can be painful for the animals and costly to their owners," said State Veterinarian, Dr. Keith Roehr. "While this virus does not typically cause death, the animal can suffer from painful sores so it is important to monitor herds for symptoms."

VS is a Foreign Animal Disease that occurs sporadically in certain areas of the western United States. Index cases are typically seen in Texas, New Mexico or Arizona. The last confirmed case of VS in Colorado was in 2006. Veterinarians and livestock owners who suspect an animal may have vesicular stomatitis or any other vesicular disease should immediately contact State or Federal animal health authorities. Livestock with symptoms of VS are isolated until they are cleared through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's diagnostic laboratory testing. There are no USDA approved vaccines for VS.

While rare, human cases of VS can occur, usually among those who handle infected animals. VS in humans can cause flu-like symptoms and only rarely includes lesions or blisters.



### **Vesicular Stomatitis (VS) Signs and Transmission**

VS susceptible species include horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, deer and other species of animals. The clinical signs of the disease include vesicles, erosions and sloughing of the skin on the muzzle, tongue, teats and above the hooves of susceptible livestock. Vesicles are usually only seen early in the course of the disease.

As the disease progresses, the ruptured vesicles erode to produce areas where the epithelium sloughs. Animals with oral lesions may refuse to eat and/or drink due to discomfort which results in weight loss. Coronary band lesions can result in lameness in one or more feet. In severe situations, the hoof may slough or hoof growth may be permanently impacted.

The transmission of VS virus is not fully understood. Most cases are likely spread by insect vectors particularly along river valleys. Biting flies have been shown, both in natural and experimental infections, to be capable of transmitting VS. Sand flies (*Lutzomyia* spp.) and black flies (*Simulium* spp.) have been identified as important species in the transmission of VS.

### **Tips for Livestock Owners**

- **Strict fly control is an important factor to inhibit the transmission of the disease.**
- Avoid transferring feeding equipment, cleaning tools or health care equipment from other herds.
- Colorado livestock owners should contact the state of destination when moving livestock interstate to ensure that all entry requirements are met. A list of contact information for all state veterinarians' offices is available at: <http://www.colorado.gov/ag/animals>.
- Colorado fairs, livestock exhibitions, and rodeos may institute new entry requirements based on the extent and severity of the current VS outbreak. Be sure to stay informed of any new changes event requirements.

For additional information, contact the Colorado State Veterinarian's office at 303-239-4161 or visit [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal\\_health/content/printable\\_version/fs\\_vesicular\\_stomatitis\\_07.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/content/printable_version/fs_vesicular_stomatitis_07.pdf). In addition, national surveillance data for vesicular stomatitis can be accessed at USDA APHIS VS webpage:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/equine/vsv/>

### **Important Points for Veterinarians:**

- Any vesicular disease of livestock is reportable to the State Veterinarian's Office in Colorado – to report call 303-239-4161. If after-hours, call the same number to obtain the phone number of the staff veterinarian on call.
- Since VS is considered an foreign animal disease, any case with clinical signs consistent with VS will warrant an investigation by a state or federal foreign animal disease diagnostician (FADD)
- When VS is suspected, the FADD will gather the epidemiological information, take the necessary blood samples, collect the necessary fluid or tissue from the lesions, and inform the owners and the referring veterinarian as to necessary bio-security and movement restrictions



## **One Confirmed Case of EHV-1 in Colorado**

Colorado Department of Agriculture is continuing to monitor horses exposed to one horse with a confirmed case of Equine Herpes Virus (EHV-1) within the state; a Douglas County quarantined premises has now been released. Strict bio-security and disease prevention practices were instituted on the quarantined premises which contributed to Colorado only having one confirmed case. To date, no other Colorado exposed horses developed signs of EHV-1. There are no horse-movement or event restrictions relating to EHV-1.

Three other facilities received horses from the same transport vehicle. Horses at those facilities remained free of clinical signs of EHV-1 and there are no movement restrictions on those facilities. Unlike the EHV-1 outbreak in 2011, this case was not associated with any equine show or event. To date, no other Colorado exposed horses developed signs of EHV-1.

The State Veterinarian encourages horse owners and event managers to observe basic biosecurity practices such as limiting horse-to-horse contact, separating feeding, watering and tack supplies, and eliminating shared water sources at events to minimize transmission of all infectious diseases.

EHV-1 is not transmissible to people; it can be a serious disease of horses that can cause respiratory, neurologic disease and death. The most common way for EHV-1 to spread is by direct horse-to-horse contact. The virus can also spread through the air, contaminated tack and equipment, clothing and hands.

Symptoms include fever, decreased coordination, nasal discharge, urine dribbling, loss of tail tone, hind limb weakness, leaning against a wall or fence to maintain balance, lethargy, and the inability to rise. While there is no cure, the symptoms of the disease may be treatable and owners are encouraged to talk to their veterinarian about vaccine which can offer some level of protection against EHV-1.

### A reminder:

EHV-1 in its neurological form is a reportable disease in Colorado. Even if EHV-1 has not been confirmed, horses with neurological clinical signs should be reported to the State Veterinarian's Office at 303-239-4161. If it is after-hours, our office phone message will indicate which staff veterinarian is on call.

### EHV-1 Vaccines:

The common vaccines available for EHV-1 immunization do not protect against the neurological form of EHV-1 disease which is commonly called equine herpesvirus myeloencephalopathy (EHM). These immunizations do protect against the respiratory and abortion forms of the disease.

The EHV-1 vaccines are thought to reduce the shedding of the virus and may decrease the amount of circulating virus in the system of infected horses. Therefore, vaccinations prior to exposure may help reduce the severity of infection.



Consult with your veterinarian to determine the best vaccination and treatment strategy for your horses in your particular situation.

## **Rabies is on the Rise – Implications for Livestock**

The incidence of rabies in skunks is on the rise in Colorado! The best source for the statistics of rabies surveillance in Colorado is the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) rabies webpage which can be accessed at <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/zoonosis/rabies/>. The referenced webpage has many helpful resources for veterinarians, public health personnel, educators, and the public. Two important points are the following:

- Skunks are a major vector to transfer rabies to domestic animals and people
- Local veterinarians are a valuable resource to help decide the best course of action to protect livestock from rabies.

One very revealing statistic can be found comparing the number of rabies-positive skunks diagnosed from 2011 to the first five months of 2012. Last year in 2011, there were 23 rabies-positive skunks diagnosed in Colorado; as of May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012 there have been 36 rabies-positive skunks diagnosed. Many of those rabid skunks have been diagnosed in counties close to the Front Range. Rabies-positive skunks are important as skunks are the most common species involved in the transmission of rabies virus to livestock. In addition, they are a major vector of transmission of rabies virus to other species such as cats and dogs too. Rabies is transmitted from infected animals to other species through a bite or by the introduction of virus-laden saliva into a fresh wound, cut or mucous membrane. A rabies-infected animal can expose owners, veterinary personnel, and many other people to rabies. There is no treatment for rabies once an animal becomes infected so veterinary medical and public health efforts have traditionally been focused on prevention. Veterinarians and public health professionals have always recommended vaccination of dogs and cats to prevent infection and to reduce the incidence of rabies in humans in whom it is also a fatal disease. When questions arise about rabies in horses, cattle, and other livestock; the answers are not black and white but it depends largely on the details of that particular case.

The clinical signs in livestock are highly variable but can include some or all of the following:

- Depression with loss of appetite
- A low-grade fever
- Lameness and / or incoordination
- Neurological symptoms, including convulsions
- Increased sensitivity to being touched
- Abdominal pain or colic (straining to urinate or defecate)
- Swallowing problems and drooling
- Odd behavioral changes, nervousness, irritability
- Vocalizations
- Possible aggressiveness



Rabies or suspicion of rabies is a reportable disease in Colorado. Even if rabies has not been diagnosed, practicing veterinarians need to call their local/regional public health agency or the Colorado Department of Public Health (CDPHE). In addition, rabies is considered a reportable disease by the State Veterinarian's Office at 303-239-4161; call us if you have a case that shows clinical signs suggestive of rabies. If it is after-hours, the State Veterinarian's Office phone message will indicate which staff veterinarian is on call.

The *2011 Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control* contains a section with recommendations on handling rabies issues in livestock. Here are some excerpts:

*Livestock, including species for which licensed vaccines are not available, that have frequent contact with humans (e.g., in petting zoos, fairs, and other public exhibitions) should be vaccinated against rabies. Consideration should also be given to vaccinating livestock that are particularly valuable.*

*All species of livestock are susceptible to rabies; cattle and horses are the most frequently reported infected species. Any illness in an exposed animal should be reported immediately to the local health and agriculture officials. If signs suggestive of rabies develop, the animal should be euthanized and the head shipped for testing...*

*(1) Unvaccinated livestock should be euthanized immediately. If the animal is not euthanized, it should be observed and confined on a case-by-case basis for 6 months.*

*(2) Livestock exposed to a rabid animal and currently vaccinated with a vaccine approved by USDA for that species should be revaccinated immediately and observed for 45 days.*

*(3) Multiple rabid animals in a herd or herbivore-to-herbivore transmission are uncommon; therefore, restricting the rest of the herd if a single animal has been exposed to or infected by rabies is usually not necessary.*

*(4) Handling and consumption of tissues from exposed animals might carry a risk for rabies transmission. Risk factors depend in part on the site(s) of exposure, amount of virus present, severity of wounds, and whether sufficient contaminated tissue has been excised. If an exposed animal is to be custom or home-slaughtered for consumption, it should be done immediately after exposure, and all tissues should be cooked thoroughly. Persons handling exposed animals, carcasses, and tissues should use barrier precautions. Historically, federal guidelines for meat inspectors required that any animal known to have been exposed to rabies within 8 months be rejected for slaughter. USDA Food and Inspection Service (FSIS) and state meat inspectors should be notified if such exposures occur in food animals before slaughter. Rabies virus is widely distributed in tissues of rabid animals. Tissues and products from a rabid animal should not be used for human or animal consumption or transplantation. Pasteurization and cooking will inactivate rabies virus (58); therefore, inadvertently drinking pasteurized milk or eating thoroughly cooked animal products does not constitute a rabies exposure.*





The Compendium also states “All horses should be vaccinated against rabies.” In addition, The American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) has included rabies in their “core vaccinations” and defined a recommended vaccination schedule. According to the American Veterinary Medical Association, core vaccinations are the immunizations “that protect from diseases that are endemic to a region, those with potential public health significance, required by law, virulent/ highly infectious, and/or those posing a risk of severe disease. Core vaccines have clearly demonstrated efficacy and safety, and thus exhibit a high enough level of patient benefit and low enough level of risk to justify their use in the majority of patients.”

Often there are questions concerning how the Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) is involved with public health authorities when there is a rabies issue. Here is CDA’s protocol for response to possible exposure of livestock to suspect or confirmed rabid wildlife animals.

1. Confirmed rabid wild mammals: Where direct contact between the wild terrestrial mammal and livestock is highly likely, CDA will handle the situation on a case-by-case basis but will visit the site for an assessment within a timely manner. Vaccination, quarantine, and/or euthanasia may be implemented based on the most recent NASPHV Rabies Compendium. CDA will notify CDPHE and/or local public health on action taken. (Public health officials will notify local animal control when necessary).
2. Suspect wild mammal (unavailable for testing): Where direct contact is highly likely, CDA or local public health will handle the situation on a case-by-case basis and may request the owner to have a veterinarian examine and vaccinate livestock mammals, at the expense of the owner, within a timely manner. A home quarantine or euthanasia may be required, based on most recent NASPHV Rabies Compendium. CDA will notify CDPHE and/or local public health. (Public health officials will notify local animal control when necessary).
3. Suspect or confirmed rabid wild mammal with low risk for direct contact with livestock: CDA will coordinate with state or local public health officials to make recommendations to the owner for the management of the situation in a timely fashion.

Ultimately, the vaccination decision belongs to livestock owners and they will have to weigh the incidence of terrestrial wildlife rabies in their geographical location, the risk of human exposure, the possible financial costs, the potential loss of their animals, and the cost of the vaccination procedure. Local veterinarians can provide the trusted guidance in helping to make that decision.

## **Additional Veterinary Accreditation Modules Qualify for CE Credits**

The Colorado USDA Veterinary Services office is pleased to announce that there are now 11 Accreditation Supplemental Training Modules approved by the Colorado Board of Veterinary Medicine for continuing education (CE). The modules available for accreditation CE are modules 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 15, 18, 20, and 21.

The Colorado continuing education credit approval process requires that each module be approved



individually. This takes time to accomplish; therefore not all of the modules that are available on the Accreditation website are approved for Colorado veterinary license CE at this time. Prior to starting a module, please check the above list to ensure that you may get both Accreditation and veterinary medical license CE credit. The Colorado USDA Veterinary Services office will continue to petition the Board of Veterinary Medicine of the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies for CE credit as more modules are released.

The Accreditation Supplemental Training Modules can be found at:  
[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/vet\\_accreditation/training\\_modules.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/vet_accreditation/training_modules.shtml).

The modules are listed in numerical order. Please remember that you must have your National Accreditation Number available prior to starting a module in order to print the completion certificate at the end. Questions? Contact the Colorado Veterinary Services Area Office at 303.231.5385 or Dr. Richanne Lomkin at 303.888.9264.

## **House Bill 1125: Changes in the Animal Bonding Statute and its Effect on Agencies that Impound Animals**

Scott Dutcher, Chief Investigator - Bureau of Animal Protection

The regular legislative session has ended in Colorado and there have been notable changes in CRS 18-9-202.5, formerly known as the animal bonding statute. The bill generally replaces the word "bond" which has specific legal meaning to "impoundment, care, and provision payment" and increases the amount of due process an animal owner has in an impoundment situation. Many of the changes to the statute are positive and more constitutionally sound, however some of these changes could have several significant impacts that impounding agencies need to be aware of.



A partial list of changes to CRS 18-9-202.5 include:

- The title – The title of this statute was ***"Financial bonding requirements for costs of holding impounded animals."*** It has changed to ***"Impounded animals – costs of impoundment, provision, and care – disposition – procedures – application – definition."***
- Section (1)(a)(II) To the extent practicable, within seventy-two hours after impoundment described under subparagraph (I) of this paragraph (a), upon request from the owner or custodian of the impounded animal, the impound agency shall allow a licensed veterinarian of the owner's or custodian's choosing and at his or her expense to examine the animal at a time and place selected by the impound agency, which examination may include taking photographs of the animal and taking biological samples for the purpose of diagnostic testing.



*Note: This may be very difficult in relation to employee safety, as in cases involving animal fighting, in cases where organized crime and/or drugs are involved. It may also be a challenge to the welfare of the animal in cases where a compromised animal would be required to travel, adding stress to an already stressful situation. It remains to be seen what unintended effects this will have on evidence (tampering with evidence), chain of custody, or other legal issues important to prosecutors.*

- (I)(c)(I) Within ten days after the date of impoundment, the owner or custodian may request a hearing in a criminal court of competent jurisdiction.  
*Note: This hearing is to be held within ten days after the request.*
- (I)(c)(II) At the hearing, the court shall determine, as appropriate:
  - (A) Whether costs associated with the impoundment, care, and provision, as determined by the impound agency, are fair and reasonable and necessary, which costs shall be specifically itemized by the impound agency prior to the date of the hearing and shall include, at a minimum, an accounting of the costs of upkeep and veterinary services.
  - (B) Whether there was probable cause for the impoundment; and
  - (C) If the court finds probable cause for impoundment existed and the owner or custodian elects not to pay the reasonable impoundment, care or provision costs to prevent disposition, release of the animal to the impound agency for disposition.
- (I)(c)(III) A warrant issued in accordance with C.R.C.P. 41 (b) authorizing seizure of the impounded animal constitutes prima facie evidence of sufficient cause for impoundment.  
*Note: According to nolo.com, Prima Facie is Latin for "at first look" or "on its face." A prima facie case is one that at first glance presents sufficient evidence for the plaintiff to win. The defendant must refute the case in some way to have a chance of prevailing at trial.*
- (3) The court shall order an impound agency to refund to the owner or custodian all impoundment, care and provision payments made for the animal if, after trial, a judge or jury enters or returns in favor of the owner or custodian a verdict of not guilty for all charges related to the original impoundment of the animal.

It will be very interesting indeed to see how this new law plays out, what new legal challenges prosecutors will face, and the ultimate effect it will have on animal welfare in Colorado! Our sincere hope is that animals in Colorado will be the beneficiaries.

## **CVIs / Health Certificates**

### **Update on Colorado's Electronic Health Certificate Project**

Colorado wants to encourage veterinarians in the use of electronic Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVI). As part of that effort, Colorado has developed an electronic Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (eCVI) that is being field tested this summer with private practice veterinarians in the state. The eCVI was developed in collaboration with the Kansas' Department of Agriculture and is in line with USDA APHIS data standards for the use of electronic CVI's.



**Sample eCVI**

Colorado Department of Agriculture  
700 Kipling St., Ste. 4000  
Lakewood, CO 80215-8000  
(303) 239-4161

**COLORADO CERTIFICATE OF VETERINARY INSPECTION**  
Contact State of Destination for Movement Requirements and Certificate Validity  
FOR FOREIGN SHIPMENTS (Outside United States or Leaving United States) USE FEDERAL FORM

**Certificate Number**  
**84-null-null**

INSPECTION DATE: _____		SHIPMENT DATE: _____		ENTRY PERMIT #:	
CONSIGNOR - Contact Person at Origin		CONSIGNEE - Contact Person at Destination		CARRIER (Transporter)	
First Name _____ Last Name _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Add Business	First Name _____ Last Name _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Add Business	Business Name _____			
Physical Address of Animals _____		Physical Address of Animals _____		Physical Address _____	
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ County _____	City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ County _____	City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____	Phone Number _____	Carrier _____ Purpose of Movement _____	
Phone Number _____ Location ID# _____	Phone Number _____ Location ID# _____	Carrier _____		Purpose of Movement _____	
Consignor's Address (if different) _____		Consignee's Address (if different) _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Interstate <input type="checkbox"/> Intrastate	
Species/Number in Shipment: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beef Cattle # _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy Cattle # _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Horses # _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Sheep # _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Goats # _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Swine # _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Poultry # _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Cervids # _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Camelids # _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other # _____		Flock/Herd Accredited Free For: Tuberculosis <input type="checkbox"/> Brucellosis <input type="checkbox"/> Scrapie <input type="checkbox"/> NPIP <input type="checkbox"/> John's <input type="checkbox"/> PRV <input type="checkbox"/> CWD <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____		Herd/Flock # _____ Current State/Area Status: Tuberculosis: _____ Brucellosis: _____ Other (specify) _____	
Disease Certification Statements					
<b>INDIVIDUAL ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION AND TESTS</b>					
<b>Beef Cattle</b>				<b>TUBERCULOSIS</b>	
				<b>CAUDAL FOLD TEST</b>	
				<b>BRUCELLOSIS</b>	
				<b>OTHER TESTS, VACCINATIONS/TREATMENT</b>	
OFFICIAL PERMANENT ID	REGISTRY NAME, NUMBER, DESCRIPTION OR OTHER ID <small>All animals presented for test must be listed.</small>	AGE M/Y	SEX	BREED	DATE OBSERVED
					POS/NEG
					TEST
					TEST INTERP.
					VACCINATION LEGIBLE TATTOO
					Please list date & product used
Add a Row		Delete Last Row			
<b>INDIVIDUAL ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION AND TESTS</b>					
<b>Horses</b>				<b>EIA</b>	
				<b>Test:</b>	
				<b>OTHER TESTS, VACCINATIONS/TREATMENT</b>	
REGISTRATION NAME, TATTOO, ELECTRONIC OR OTHER OFFICIAL ID	DESCRIPTION (COLOR, MARKINGS, ETC.)	AGE M/Y	SEX	BREED	DATE
					POS/NEG
					DATE
					POS/NEG
					Please list date & product used
Add a Row		Delete Last Row			
<b>OWNER/AGENT STATEMENT</b>					
"The animals in this shipment are those certified to and listed on this certificate."					
Signature _____		Signature _____		Date _____ Printed Name _____	
Date _____		Address _____		Phone Number _____ Email _____	
		USDA Accreditation #: _____		State of License _____ CO License # _____	
<b>OFFICIAL USE ONLY</b>					
The Veterinarian issuing this certificate is accredited and has been authorized to inspect animals and issue certificates.					
Save Form		Lock & Finalize Form			

Certificate Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Certificate is only valid for 30 days from inspection.**

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This free, desktop-based program is a PDF fillable form that can be saved locally to your computer and printed or emailed to your clients for easy use. Completed forms can be emailed to our office for easy filing and a paper copy does not need to be mailed in.

If you have an interest in the use of Colorado's eCVI or have questions about using other methods of issuing electronic health certificates, please call Dr. Sara Ahola, CDA Traceability Veterinarian at [sara.ahola@ag.state.co.us](mailto:sara.ahola@ag.state.co.us) / 303-870-5494 or your region's state field veterinarian or federal VMO.



## **Cephalosporin Ban**

### **FDA implements cephalosporin ban**

Pork Network

Marlys Miller, Editor, Pork Magazine: April 10, 2012

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) action to prohibit the "extralabel" use of cephalosporin drugs in food-animal production is now in effect. FDA specifically cites cattle, swine, chickens and turkeys, as the "major species of food-producing animals." The order was announced on Jan. 6, and followed with a 60-day comment period, which closed on March 6. FDA officials reviewed the submitted comments and determined that the order of prohibition should go into effect on April 5, "without further revision or delay."

FDA officials say they are taking this action to "reduce the risk of cephalosporin resistance in certain bacterial pathogens" and to preserve the drug's effectiveness in treating disease in humans. Extralabel use is when a drug is used in a manner other than what is designated on a specific product's label. FDA offers these guidelines as prohibited uses:

- Using cephalosporin drugs at unapproved dose levels, frequencies, durations or routes of administration;
- Using cephalosporin drugs in cattle, swine, chickens or turkeys that are not approved for use in that species (for example, cephalosporin drugs intended for humans or companion animals);
- Using cephalosporin drugs for disease prevention.

Cephalosporin drugs may still be used as designated on a product's label for the treatment of a specific disease within a species.

What this means for swine veterinarians and pork producers is that, "effective immediately, cephalosporins cannot be prescribed for use in an extralabel manner except for indications not included on the label and then only at the dose, frequency, duration and route of FDA implements cephalosporin ban administration described on the label," points out the American Association of Swine Veterinarians. "Also, cephalosporins intended for use in humans or companion animals are prohibited for use in swine as is any use for disease prevention."



## News from Rocky Mountain Regional Animal Health Laboratory

The Rocky Mountain Regional Animal Health Laboratory, RMRAHL, is now offering a *B. ovis* PCR for ram semen samples. For the last 6 months, RMRAHL has been working with Dr. Dan Love and Ed Kline in comparing *B. ovis* isolation and this PCR on semen from known infected rams with excellent correlation. It is important to note that the PCR test identified the positive rams 100% of the time; whereas culture was sometimes lost to fungal contamination. This test was designed to be a follow-up test to the *B. ovis* ELISA. When an indeterminate ram is identified through the ELISA test, semen can then be collected and sent into the lab. This test is still in the validation process and we are looking for any producers with indeterminate rams to send in their samples. We will conduct the test at the discounted rate of \$12/sample.

### Bovine Trichomoniasis Update

The Colorado Department of Agriculture continues to remind cattle owners to test their herd for bovine trichomoniasis. As of 5/23/2012, there are currently five positive trich cases in five Colorado counties: Las Animas, Montezuma, Otero, Weld, and Yuma. So far this year, there have been 10 trich cases in eight counties: Conejos, Kit Carson, La Plata, Las Animas, Montezuma, Pueblo, Weld and Yuma. Here is a summary of the number of trich locations from past years; it reveals that during the first 5 months of 2012, we have almost reached the same number of positive locations as last year.

	Positive Trich Locations	Number of Colorado Counties
<b>2011</b>	13	8
<b>2010</b>	9	9
<b>2009</b>	16	9
<b>2008</b>	43	17
<b>2007</b>	32	13

A map detailing trichomoniasis sample submissions by county and the prevalence for trichomoniasis-positive counties can be found at [www.colorado.gov/ag](http://www.colorado.gov/ag).

“Testing and monitoring herds for trichomoniasis is the best method of controlling this infection,” said State Veterinarian, Dr. Keith Roehr. “The State Veterinarian’s Office advised cattle owners to their veterinarian to determine the best management practices for their herd.” “Trich” is a costly, yet preventable, infection that can affect dairy and beef cattle. If bulls become infected, the percentage of open cows can increase from 5 to 30 percent. Trich is a venereal disease of cattle caused by *Trichomonas foetus* (*T. Foetus*). The *T. foetus* infection causes fertility problems, such as early embryonic death or abortion of the calf, and is asymptomatic in bulls.

Colorado trich regulations require all non-virgin bulls changing ownership or being transported into Colorado be tested for *T. foetus* unless the animal is going to slaughter. Bulls on public land grazing



permits or with grazing associations must also be tested prior to turn-out. Several diagnostic laboratories across the state offer trich testing; samples must be taken by an accredited veterinarian. For testing questions call CDA Animal Industry Division at (303) 239-4161.

**Important point for veterinarians doing bovine trichomoniasis testing:**

When requesting trich testing for bulls sampled, we would recommend choosing a PCR test; that way, if one of the bulls is determined to be positive, the rest of the bulls will only need one additional PCR test to release the herd quarantine. By requesting one of the trich PCR tests (i.e., individual PCR or pooled PCR), you will save the producer money, reduce the chance of injury to bull or people, and create goodwill with your clients. Here's what the trich rule states about follow-up testing after a trich-positive bull is found:

***“All other bulls in a positive *T. fetus* herd shall remain quarantined until they have tested negative to three consecutive official *T. fetus* culture tests or two consecutive negative official *T. fetus* PCR tests at least one week apart. The initial negative *T. fetus* test is included in the series of negative tests required.***

## **Livestock Movement Control and Permitting during a Livestock Disease Outbreak**

In the face of a significant livestock disease outbreak such as foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), controlling the movement of livestock and livestock products would be vital to mitigating the effects of the disease on the livestock industry and the economy. With the recent outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in Egypt and other countries, we are constantly made aware that FMD could happen here in the U.S. We are able to learn some real life lessons from other countries' experiences with FMD outbreaks. Other countries like South Korea and Egypt have found that one of the most important components to effectively and efficiently stop the spread of the disease is to institute appropriate livestock movement controls. Here's the problem with livestock movement controls, if livestock movement restrictions are too lax, it results in uncontrolled disease and the livestock industry and consumers suffer. If excessive livestock movement controls are put in place then agricultural commerce shuts down with the end result being the livestock industry and consumers suffer. Therefore, appropriate livestock movement restrictions during an outbreak must not be too loose or too tight. Currently the Colorado Department of Agriculture is developing preparedness plans that include livestock movement restrictions to control the disease but not cripple the industry. Cooperation and compliance by the livestock industry with livestock movement restrictions will be a key factor in a successful emergency response to FMD.

The State Veterinarian's Office has been working with the Colorado State Patrol (CSP), the Brand Board, Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) to develop an emergency plan for limiting the movement of livestock and livestock products in the first 24-72 hours of a disease outbreak.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and checkpoint protocols are being developed with Kansas and Nebraska to address how our states would collaboratively control the movement of livestock and livestock products in the face a significant livestock disease outbreak. Our office, CSP, CDOT, and the



Brands Division are developing protocols for the specific tactical operations when livestock movement control and permitting would be instituted. It details the locations for check-points, resources needed, and provides decision making tools for allowing or refusing livestock movement through a checkpoint. It is an important first step in the collaborative interagency approach to making our preparedness and response plans relative and effective should they ever be needed.

Once we have formalized our planning with KS and NE, we plan to develop similar MOUs and protocols with our other bordering states to further enhance our livestock emergency preparedness and response. The overall purpose is to create efficiencies between the states' animal health officials and mitigate the negative impact to the livestock industry.

## **Secure Milk Supply Workshop**

The Secure Milk Supply (SMS) project and plan is intended to identify and address issues to better prepare animal health officials and the dairy industry to keep the dairy industry in business should foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) ever occur again in the United States. It is a joint project of USDA-AHPIS, Iowa State University, University of California-Davis, and the University of Minnesota along with representatives from industry, state/federal government, and academia who serve on the various workgroups of the project.

The State Veterinarian's Office, Western Dairy Association, Dairy Farmers of America (DFA) has jointly conducted two Secure Milk Supply (SMS) workshops; the most recent one was held in April 2012. The purpose of the workshops is to apply the SMS Plan components to Colorado and its unique dairy industry. Having a Colorado SMS Plan will help to:

- Move milk from farms that have no evidence of FMD disease during an outbreak
- Build the State's emergency disease response capabilities by integrating it into CDA's Colorado's Rapid Response for Ag & Livestock (CORRAL) System and other dairy industry preparedness plans

One of the purposes and outcomes of the recent workshop was to discuss possible processes and biosecurity procedures to have in place for producers, milk haulers, and milk processors to aid the movement of milk from unaffected facilities in FMD control zone; this would greatly help to mitigate the disease outbreak implications for the dairy industry.

Future objectives would be to create more awareness with dairy farmers as to the importance of biosecurity and to exercise a "dry run" of specific protocols that are developed for cleaning and disinfection of trucks and other vehicles during a FMD outbreak. These biosecurity, cleaning, and disinfection procedures would be adapted for the specific sectors within the dairy industry, i.e., dairy farms, milk haulers, and milk processing plants.

We have a number of Colorado veterinarians, CSU faculty, and CSU Extension personnel involved in the Colorado SMS project, if you have interest in being part of the Colorado SMS Planning Team, contact Nick Striegel at 303-239-4162 or email him at [nick.striegel@ag.state.co.us](mailto:nick.striegel@ag.state.co.us).





## **Dispatching of Alerts, Warning, and Notifications (DAWN)**

One of the important resources for the State Veterinarian's Office is the Dialogic Communication Corporation (DCC) dispatch system for sending critical notification messages. Through the dispatch system, alerts / warnings / notification messages can be sent via email, voice messages, or text messages. It is a system that was originally set up to house the contact information on all of the Colorado veterinarians but it has been expanded to serve additional purposes.

Not only is the dispatch system used to send our quarterly newsletters but it also houses the information on all of our Colorado Rapid Response for Ag & Livestock (CORRAL) responders. So in the time of an emergency, we can quickly notify, activate, and deploy needed veterinary personnel to where they are needed. The CORRAL group consists mostly of veterinarians but we also have veterinary technicians, CSU Extension agents, livestock specialists, producers, and veterinary support personnel on the roster. The dispatch system will also be usefulness for Animal Industry by using it to house and maintain all of the credentialing data on our CORRAL responders. The credentialing piece is important in emergency management because if a state agency maintains a roster of credentialed responders, it makes it easier to deploy them, pay them, and give them protection from liability under state statutes.

Important note: If you know of any veterinarians who do not currently receive our alerts, warnings, and notifications, please have those interested individuals email [nick.striegel@ag.state.co.us](mailto:nick.striegel@ag.state.co.us) or [scott.leach@ag.state.co.us](mailto:scott.leach@ag.state.co.us) so that their contact information can be added to our dispatch system. The emails will arrive with an address of [CDA@dccnotify.com](mailto:CDA@dccnotify.com).



## **Reportable Diseases in Colorado**

**The following diseases should be reported to the Colorado State Veterinarian's Office (303) 239-4161 or to the Colorado Area Office of the USDA (303) 231-5385:**

Anaplasmosis (clinical disease only)  
Anthrax  
Avian Influenza (both high or low pathogenic)  
Bluetongue (clinical disease only)  
Brucellosis (bovine, porcine, ovine)  
Bovine Babesiosis  
Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE)  
Canine Brucellosis (also reportable to the Colorado Department of Public Health)  
Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)  
Contagious Equine Metritis (CEM)  
Equine Encephalomyelitis (also reportable to the Colorado Department of Public Health)  
Equine Infectious Anemia (positive Coggins/ELISA)  
Equine Piroplasmiasis  
Equine Viral Arteritis  
Equine Herpes Myeloencephalopathy (EHV-1 & EHV-4)  
Exotic Newcastle Disease  
Johne's Disease  
Malignant Catarrhal Fever  
Plague (also reportable to Colorado Department of Public Health)  
Psittacosis (also reportable to Colorado Department of Public Health)  
Pseudorabies  
Rabies (also reportable to Colorado Department of Public Health)  
Salmonella (pullorum or enteritidis)  
Scabies (cattle or sheep)  
Scrapie  
Screwworm  
Trichomoniasis  
Tuberculosis  
Tularemia (also reportable to Colorado Department of Public Health)  
Vesicular Stomatitis (all species)  
Vesicular Diseases (all species)  
West Nile Virus

**If an animal dies acutely and was exhibiting clinical signs of a reportable disease this incident shall be reported even though no diagnostic testing was accomplished prior to death.  
ANY DISEASE LISTED ABOVE OR FOREIGN ANIMAL DISEASE OR ANY INFECTIOUS DISEASE OR PARASITE OF LIVESTOCK WHICH WAS NOT PREVIOUSLY KNOWN TO EXIST IN COLORADO SHALL BE REPORTED, I.E. ANY DISEASE OF UNUSUAL MORBIDITY OR MORTALITY THAT DOES NOT FIT A NORMALLY EXPECTED CLINICAL PICTURE.**



**State Veterinarian's Office**

700 Kipling Street, Suite 4000; Lakewood, CO 80215

Front Desk = (303) 239-4161; Fax = (303) 239-4164

[www.colorado.gov/ag/animals](http://www.colorado.gov/ag/animals)

(To notify the State Veterinarian's Office of a reportable disease, call 303-239-4161; if after-hours, call the same number to obtain the phone number of the staff veterinarian on call)

NAME	PHONE #	email
Dr. Keith Roehr, <b>State Veterinarian</b>	303-239-4166	<a href="mailto:keith.roehr@ag.state.co.us">keith.roehr@ag.state.co.us</a>
Dr. Nick Striegel, <b>Assistant State Veterinarian</b>	303-239-4162	<a href="mailto:nick.striegel@ag.state.co.us">nick.striegel@ag.state.co.us</a>
Dr. Carl Heckendorf, <b>Animal Health and Disease Control</b>	303-239-4109	<a href="mailto:carl.heckendorf@ag.state.co.us">carl.heckendorf@ag.state.co.us</a>
Dr. Dan Love, <b>Field Veterinarian</b>	970-261-0799	<a href="mailto:dan.love@ag.state.co.us">dan.love@ag.state.co.us</a>
Dr. Ken Newens, <b>Field Veterinarian</b>	303-239-4161	<a href="mailto:kenneth.newens@ag.state.co.us">kenneth.newens@ag.state.co.us</a>
Dr. Sara Ahola, <b>Field Veterinarian</b>	303-870-5494	<a href="mailto:sara.ahola@ag.state.co.us">sara.ahola@ag.state.co.us</a>
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Scott Leach, <b>Aquaculture Program</b>	303-239-4295	<a href="mailto:scott.leach@ag.state.co.us">scott.leach@ag.state.co.us</a>
Mike Threlkeld, <b>Predator Control Program</b>	303-239-4157	<a href="mailto:mike.threlkeld@ag.state.co.us">mike.threlkeld@ag.state.co.us</a>
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Jamee Amundson, <b>Field Technician</b>	308-672-1364	<a href="mailto:jamee.amundson@ag.state.co.us">jamee.amundson@ag.state.co.us</a>
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