



## **Animal Industry Division Newsletter**

April 2013

*Spring is here and we've even seen a little moisture lately. Let's hope we get more and it helps to green up and support Colorado agriculture. As many of you know, we did see one case of Equine Herpes Myeloencephalopathy (EHV-1) at National Western Stock Show (NWSS). Fortunately, a quick diagnosis by the private practitioner and the administration of good biosecurity at NWSS helped limit the spread of this disease. However, it has reminded us of how important it is to have a practical, efficient biosecurity plan in place for large events. We are working to review our livestock emergency response plans and to build our capability for responding to disease outbreaks for livestock events, shows, and the livestock industry in general.*

*Please remember, if you suspect a reportable disease in an animal or see any situation that exhibits unusual morbidity or mortality which does not fit a normally expected clinical picture, please contact the State Veterinarian's Office immediately at 303-239-4161. If after-hours, call the same number to obtain the phone number of the staff veterinarian on call. For a list of the reportable disease in Colorado, visit our website at [www.colorado.gov/ag/animals](http://www.colorado.gov/ag/animals).*

*Thank you,*

*State Veterinarian's Office of Colorado*

### **Summary of Articles:**

❑ ***Federal Animal Disease Traceability Rule Goes Into Effect:***

On March 11<sup>th</sup>, the new Animal Disease Traceability Rule went into effect and impacts animals moving *interstate*. Veterinarians and producers dealing with cattle and bison will see the biggest changes while horses, sheep, goats, camelids, poultry, swine, and cervids see little to no changes. The rule impacts the individual identification of animals and the accompanying Interstate Certificate of Veterinary Inspection that accompanies them when they move interstate. Find out what the new rule says and [Click Here to Read More](#).

❑ ***Release of Colorado's eCVI 2.0 – including a small animal form:***

Over 100 veterinarians now use our electronic Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (eCVI) and we are pleased to announce that we have made some improvements to the form, including an enhancement for issuing certificates for small animals. The eCVI 2.0 has been released and current users should have received an updated version via email. If you want to sign up to use the eCVI just email our office at [coanimals@ag.state.co.us](mailto:coanimals@ag.state.co.us) or call (303) 239-4161. [Click to read more](#)

❑ ***National Veterinary Accreditation Renewal Procedures:***

In 2011 the National Veterinary Accreditation Program (NVAP) was updated to include continuing education requirements for accredited veterinarians and renewal of accreditation every three years. Online renewal can be found at the following link:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/vet\\_accreditation/downloads/renewal\\_online\\_process.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/vet_accreditation/downloads/renewal_online_process.pdf)

Category I Accredited Veterinarians must complete 3 units of APHIS-approved supplementary training (AAST) anytime within their three-year renewal period to renew their accreditation. Similarly, Category II Accredited Veterinarians must complete 6 units of AAST anytime within their three-year renewal period. [Click to read more](#)



- ❑ ***Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) Course at CSU - SAVE THE DATE!***

The 5-day training course is scheduled for **June 24 – 28, 2013** and is sponsored by the Colorado Department of Agriculture and the Animal Population Health Institute of Colorado State University. Course participants are eligible for up to 32 hours of continuing education credit. Interactive case discussions and hands-on exercises are an integral part of the training and are enhanced for 2013. Please contact Dr. Nick Striegel if you have interest in attending the FAD Course, [nick.striegel@state.co.us](mailto:nick.striegel@state.co.us) or 303-239-4162. [Click to read more](#)
- ❑ ***Rabies Incidence increasing in Colorado:***

There has been a significant increase in the incidence of rabies over the last five years in Colorado. In addition to an increased incidence of confirmed rabies cases, there has been a strong movement westward across Colorado with a significant number of cases found along the Front Range. Here are some recommendations for rabies vaccination of goats and camelids. [Click to read more](#)
- ❑ ***Bureau of Animal Protection (BAP) Update:***

Since the beginning of the year, the Bureau has progressed with several cases that started as long ago as 2 years. The Bureau of Animal protection is committed to supporting local law enforcement in the investigation of animal cruelty and neglect no matter the species. Cases of livestock neglect are rare but are no less important when they occur. Reports of suspected animal neglect can be made to the Sheriff or to the Bureau of Animal Protection at the Colorado Department of Agriculture. [Click to read more](#)
- ❑ ***Minimizing Influenza Transmission at Swine Exhibitions:***

In response to a significant increase in the number of human influenza-A cases associated with exposure to swine at exhibitions during 2012, the National Assembly of State Animal Health Officials (National Assembly) and the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians (NASPHV) released a document entitled “Measures to Minimize Influenza Transmission at Swine Exhibitions”. The suggested measures have been organized to address activities before, during and after swine exhibitions, and they are further divided into actions that may minimize risk to swine and risk to humans. [Click to read more](#)
- ❑ ***Update to CDPHE Policy: Management of Domestic Dogs, Cats, & Ferrets Involved in Human Bites:***

Dr. Elisabeth Lawaczek, State Public Health Veterinarian, addresses the confusion on whether vaccination during the ten day quarantine of a dog, cat or ferret changes the effectiveness of the quarantine in determining whether there is zero risk for rabies exposure to a human who was bitten by the animal. Vaccination during the quarantine does NOT affect the effectiveness of the 10 day quarantine. [Click to read more](#)
- ❑ ***Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP):***

The VMLRP shortage areas for Colorado have been submitted by the State Veterinarian’s Office in consultation with the VMLRP Committee. [Click to read more](#) An announcement is expected soon as to which of our proposed shortage areas will be approved. Once those shortage areas are announced, veterinarians can submit their applications. Please continue to monitor the VMLRP program webpage which can be found at [http://www.nifa.usda.gov/nea/animals/in\\_focus/an\\_health\\_if\\_vmlrp.html](http://www.nifa.usda.gov/nea/animals/in_focus/an_health_if_vmlrp.html)



**Federal Animal Disease Traceability Rule Goes into Effect**

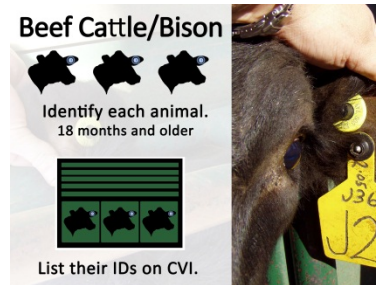
On March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013 the newly released Animal Disease Traceability Rule went into effect. The goal of ADT is to improve the traceability of animals involved in a disease outbreak. Two implications of the new rule for veterinarians will be in the:

- Writing of interstate certificates of veterinary inspection (CVIs / health certificates)
- Ear-tagging/identification process in some species

Livestock producers affected the most by the rule will be those who have cattle or bison; other species have minimal changes to current identification standards. We have compiled a summary of the rule here, however all accredited veterinarians are encouraged to read more details at USDA's Traceability website: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability/>

**Main Components of the Rule:**

Animals travelling interstate must be officially identified per their species' requirement and be accompanied by an interstate CVI with their individual official animal identification listed. Animals travelling directly to slaughter may be identified with USDA-approved back-tags. Other terms of interstate shipping may be agreed upon between individual states or tribes, such as acceptance of brands and ownership statements. As always, we recommend veterinarians contact the receiving state to ensure proper import requirements are met.



For **Cattle**, the following animals must be identified with official ID ear tags:

- All sexually intact cattle and bison over 18 months of age
- All female dairy cattle of any age
- All dairy males (intact or castrated) born after March 11, 2013

- Cattle and bison of any age or breed used for rodeo, shows, exhibition, and recreational events.



The most common official ID ear tags for cattle that will be used by producers and veterinarians are:

- 840 tags (RFID, "bangle" visual tags, or a combination RFID/bangle)
- Brucellosis or Bangs' Tags (orange metal or orange RFID)
- Silver, "Brite" or NUES Tags (silver metal)





**Horses:** Must be officially identified unless being used as a mode of transportation (e.g. buggy or horseback) for travel to another location and returning to the original location or being transported to for veterinary care and returning to the original location without change of ownership. Official identification can include physical description, ISO-compliant microchips (non-ISO if implanted before 3/11/2015 – 2 year grace period), and digital photographs.

**Sheep & Goats:** No major changes to current requirements. Follow Scrapie rules.

**Swine:** No changes.

**Captive Cervids:** No changes.

**Poultry:** Chicks received from hatcheries or redistributors to poultry growers do not need to be identified, but the growers need to keep records of suppliers. Poultry moving to live-bird markets will need an interstate CVI (or other acceptable document per state) unless they are considered a custom slaughter facility under state regulations. Poultry are exempt from an interstate CVI when going directly to slaughter or rendering.

**Record Keeping:**

Veterinarians are required to retain records of interstate CVIs and other documents related to animal movement for 2 years for poultry and swine, 5 years for all other species. CVIs must be submitted to the issuing/shipping state within 7 days.

**What does this mean for producers, veterinarians, and auction markets?**

- Veterinarians will need to individually list all official ID tags for animals moving on an interstate CVI. Livestock that need individual official IDs listed on the CVI are
  - ✓ Sexually intact beef cattle and bison over 18 months of age
  - ✓ Intact dairy cattle of any age (dairy steers need to have official ID but do NOT need the official IDs listed on the CVI)
  - ✓ Rodeo, show, exhibition cattle of any age
- Attachments with a list of official IDs for the individual animals can be used when accepted by the shipping and receiving state, e.g. VS-622 Tuberculosis Test Record.
- Producers and veterinarians will need to order 840 official ID ear tags from tag manufacturers or distributors who are required to keep records as to which livestock location has received the official ID ear tags
- Veterinarians will still need to order metal brucellosis and “brite” tags (NUES tags) or brucellosis RFID tags from the Rocky Mountain Regional Animal Health Laboratory (RMRAHL).
- ***If the livestock that are being moved interstate already have an official ID, that particular ID must be read and recorded on the CVI instead of placing another official ID in the animal’s ear***

The main purpose of the new ADT rule is to ensure a rapid response when livestock disease events take place. An efficient and accurate animal disease traceability system helps reduce the number of animals involved in an investigation, reduces the time needed to respond, and decreases the cost to producers and the livestock industry. Questions? Call our office for clarification at (303) 239-4161.



## ***Colorado Electronic Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (eCVI)***

With over 100 veterinarians in Colorado using our eCVI, the word is getting out how easy it is to start using this simple PDF-based form. Now, the new and improved 2.0 version is being released with some major improvements:

- Addition of a small animal form – whether you are mixed-animal practice, small animal exclusive practice, or the feedlot vet that occasionally writes a health certificate for a dog, this form is for you. Switch easily from a large to small animal form with the click of a button.
- Easily add animal data row-by-row and copy down information for animals that is the same, such as breed, color, sex. It makes writing a certificate for a load of cattle easy.
- Made a mistake or the owner changed their mind on who was shipping? Easily delete rows for animals that are no longer covered by the eCVI.

And as always this form has some great benefits that make it easy to go electronic:

- Free – just email or call us to get your copy.
- Adobe PDF-based. You don't need fancy software to use it. It only takes a free download of Adobe Reader to get started.
- Fast – just fill in the required fields and email the form to us and your clients. No more mailing in paper copies.
- Portable – because it lives on your computer, you can take it with you for field visits and calls. Issue your health certificate on the spot and then email it to us.
- No Internet Required – to build the form you don't need the Internet. You only need the Internet to email it in to us. So, out in the field and can't get service, no problem, send it in when you get back to the office.

In addition, when the eCVI is submitted to our office, the State Veterinarian's Office can extract the electronic data and more easily transfer the livestock movement and animal ID data into our database to improve animal disease traceability capabilities! The State Veterinarian's Office is also participating in a pilot project with the National Center for Foreign Animal and Zoonotic Disease Defense (FAZD) Center on the building of an iPad application for the issuing of electronic health certificates. We will keep you updated on this exciting project!

Here are just a few comments we've received from some practicing veterinarians in the State:

"This is so easy and fast!"

"This is quicker than any other electronic health certificate I have used."

"I LOVE the eCVI...very easy and convenient."

If you are interested in getting started with the CO eCVI, email us at [coanimals@ag.state.co.us](mailto:coanimals@ag.state.co.us) or call (303) 239-4161.



### ***National Veterinary Accreditation Renewal Procedures***

In 2011 the National Veterinary Accreditation Program (NVAP) was updated to include continuing education requirements for accredited veterinarians and renewal of accreditation every three years. A renewal date is provided to each accredited veterinarian upon initial accreditation, or upon the completion of the “elect to participate” process for accredited veterinarians. For veterinarians that elected to participate, initial renewal dates have been randomly assigned throughout 2013, 2014, and 2015 so that renewal activities do not occur all at the same time. If the NVAP has your correct e-mail address in your accreditation records, an e-mail reminder of your renewal will be sent to you at six (6), three (3), and one (1) month prior to your renewal date. **Please note it is essential that if you change your e-mail address, you notify the Area Office so that we can update your record to ensure you receive all NVAP correspondence in a timely manner.** If you did not provide an e-mail address, the NVAP will send a reminder notice via USPS three (3) months prior to your renewal date. If you do not know your accreditation renewal date contact the Area Office at 303-231-5385.

There are two options for you to utilize to renew your accreditation:

1) Online renewal can be found at the following link:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/vet\\_accreditation/downloads/renewal\\_online\\_process.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/vet_accreditation/downloads/renewal_online_process.pdf)

2) Alternatively, you may print a copy of the VS Form 1-36A and forward it to the VS Area Office at 755 Parfet Street, Suite 136, Lakewood, CO 80215. The VS Form 1-36A can be found at the following link:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/vet\\_accreditation/downloads/vs1-36a.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/vet_accreditation/downloads/vs1-36a.pdf)

If you perform accredited duties in more than one State, it is only necessary to renew your accreditation in the State in which your business address is located. This option can be completed at any time within 6 months prior to your renewal date. **Please do not submit anything related to your accreditation renewal prior to six (6) months before your renewal date.**

Category I Accredited Veterinarians must complete 3 units of APHIS-approved supplementary training (AAST) anytime within their three-year renewal period to renew their accreditation. Similarly, Category II Accredited Veterinarians must complete 6 units of AAST anytime within their three-year renewal period. Each module of AAST represents one unit of training, and takes approximately one hour to complete. The Colorado Board of Veterinary Medicine has also approved many of the modules as continuing education for veterinary license renewal. Contact the Area Office for information on which modules have been approved by the Board. Please do not submit copies or originals of any AAST Certificates of Completion to APHIS.

AAST for accreditation renewal is available in several formats:

1. On the NVAP website under Training Modules at:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/vet\\_accreditation/aast.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/vet_accreditation/aast.shtml)

You must know your 6 digit National Accreditation Number (NAN) to access each module Certificate of Completion. If you do not know your NAN, please contact the Area Office. At the conclusion of each module, be prepared to print your Certificate of Completion or save it in PDF format to a secure file. You must retain your Certificates of Completion as the information contained on the certificates will be



needed for accreditation renewal when you submit your application. You may also be requested to display your Certificates of Completion during periodic training audits.

2. Lectures at veterinary meetings and conventions updated at the NVAP Presence at Upcoming Conferences

Website: [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/vet\\_accreditation/upcoming\\_conf.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/vet_accreditation/upcoming_conf.shtml)

If neither of these options provide sufficient opportunity for you to complete the modules, please contact the Colorado Area Office or your local Veterinary Medical Officer for further assistance.

To view a ten minute video on the renewal process click on the following link: **ten-minute video on the renewal process.**

### ***2013 Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) Training Course at Colorado State University***



The five day FAD training course is scheduled for **June 24 – 28, 2013** and is sponsored by the Colorado Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Industry and the Animal Population Health Institute of Colorado State University. Course participants are eligible for up to 32 hours of continuing education credit.

Veterinarians within the United States who desire a global perspective of animal disease and current information on

important foreign animal diseases that could severely impact the livestock, equine, and poultry industries are invited to attend. Presentation topics include:

- Recognition and diagnostics of vesicular diseases,
- Foot & Mouth Disease, African Swine Fever, Classical Swine Fever ,
- Avian Influenza, Exotic Newcastle Disease,
- Foreign Equine Diseases, CEM,
- Role of wildlife in FADs,
- Animal emergency response, Depopulation & carcass disposal,
- The economics of FADs

Interactive case discussions and hands-on exercises remain an integral part of the training and are enhanced for 2013.

Past participants recognized the value and importance of this training. Selected comments include:

- Very useful course on reaction to outbreaks and skills needed post-diagnosis. Plus provided summary of diseases that will give an index of suspicion.
- I truly felt like we had world experts speaking and instructing us. What an amazing resource and opportunity.
- Excellent faculty, program, and audience. A quality learning experience.
- This course was very well-organized! Your team did an excellent job of not only teaching us, but also making it an enjoyable experience.:-)



- This was an extremely well organized course with impressive range of topics presented by a truly fantastic group of people.

The Colorado Department of Agriculture sponsors registration and housing fees for selected individuals within the State of Colorado. Additional information and on-line registration will be available soon. Please contact Dr. Nick Striegel at [nick.striegel@state.co.us](mailto:nick.striegel@state.co.us) or 303-239-4162 if you have interest in attending the FAD Course.

### ***Rabies Increasing in Incidence***

There has been a significant increase in the incidence of rabies over the last five years in Colorado. In addition to an increased incidence of confirmed rabies cases, there has been a strong movement westward across Colorado with a significant number of cases found along the Front Range. The predominant terrestrial animal affected have been skunks which act as a vector for infecting other mammals like dogs, cats, horses, cattle, coyotes, mountain lions, and even bison. Other wildlife species that can carry and transmit the rabies virus are bats, raccoons, and foxes. Recently, the Larimer County Department of Health and Environment confirmed that a fox in Larimer County was affected with the rabies virus. Since the 1<sup>st</sup> of this year, Larimer County alone has had ten animals that tested positive for rabies. In Colorado, there have been 30 confirmed cases in the first 3 months of 2013. There are many excellent rabies resources on the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment's webpage at: <http://www.colorado.gov/cdphe/rabies>

With the increase in incidence of rabies comes the increased responsibility to inform and recommend that owners not only vaccinate their dogs and cats but also other animals that could be exposed to wildlife that carry and transmit the rabies virus. This would include horses, small ruminants, llamas, alpacas, petting zoo animals, and possibly other valuable livestock. Considering the incidence of wildlife rabies, the lethal outcome of the disease, and the cost and liability when people have been exposed to a possibly rabid animal, the benefits of vaccinating animals for rabies certainly outweigh other potential reasons for not vaccinating for rabies. The *Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control, 2011* recommends that "All horses should be vaccinated against rabies. 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." The Compendium also has a listing of approved vaccines for the different species and a recommended vaccination schedule, available at <http://www.nasphv.org/Documents/RabiesCompendium.pdf>

For those species of animals in which there are no licensed vaccines, consult with practicing veterinarians or university veterinarians who have had experience in those particular species. Concerning the rabies vaccination of camelids, CSU Veterinary Extension has a fact sheet that addresses vaccine and appropriate dose; it can be found at this link: <http://veterinaryextension.colostate.edu/menu2/camelids/2010%20Rabies%20Poster%20CSU%20VTH.pdf>

Dr. Mary Smith at Cornell University recommends using IMRAB Large Animal at 2cc per head in species for which there is no licensed or labeled rabies vaccine because it is a killed product that is licensed and labeled for more large animal species than other rabies vaccines.





### ***Bureau of Animal Protection Update***

Kate N. Anderson, DVM

Since the beginning of the year, the Bureau has progressed with several cases that started as long ago as 2 years.

In April 2010 an ongoing investigation by the Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) and Park County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) resulted in a court-ordered seizure of more than 400 head of cattle that were starving and dying. The owner/manager, Vernon Wagner, was found to be an unfit owner after a week-long hearing in May of that year resulting in the sale of the seized cattle and court ordered monitoring of the remaining herd. A trial in December 2012 resulted in a court order which restrains Wagner from owning or managing cattle in Park County.



**Park County provided hay**

Because of this order the remainder of Wagner's herd was put into receivership and sold, approximately 600 head. The District Attorney in Park County subsequently charged Wagner with 4 counts of misdemeanor animal cruelty. A trial to a jury in January 2013 resulted in Wagner being found guilty of one count of animal cruelty with a sentence of 30 days in jail which will be suspended upon completion of 80 hours of community service. Mixed in with all the animal issues there were several civil lawsuits filed by business partners and cattle owners that left Wagner owing more than a million dollars in lease payments and cattle sale profits to these partners.



**Weak calf transported for treatment**

On the western slope, Colorado Department of Agriculture bureau agents assisted the Mesa County Sheriff to investigate and ultimately seize more than 60 head of cattle in April 2012. The cattle owned by John Lawton were starving and dying, some of them were kept tied to equipment at Lawton's home. Mesa County charged Lawton with 40 counts of animal cruelty for failure to provide adequate food and water to the animals in his care. Department of Agriculture agents and field personnel were key witnesses in the trial held in March 2013 where the jury convicted Lawton of 34 counts of misdemeanor



**Cow starving on Lawton's property, 2012**



animal cruelty. The cattle had all been sold prior to the trial when Lawton failed to pay the cost of care bond. The proceeds from the sale are being held in escrow by the court pending the final outcome of the case. Mr. Lawton is entitled by law to any proceeds that remain from the sale of his cattle after the costs of care and the costs of the sale are paid. Lawton will be sentenced in May and the department will ask the court to consider permanently restraining him from owing or managing cattle to prevent further animal suffering.

The Bureau of Animal protection is committed to supporting local law enforcement in the investigation of animal cruelty and neglect no matter the species. Cases of livestock neglect are rare but are no less important when they occur. Reports of suspected animal neglect can be made to the Sheriff or to the Bureau.

***Measures to Minimize Influenza Transmission at Swine Exhibitions***  
**Swine Exhibitions Zoonotic Influenza Working Group**  
**March 15, 2013**

Dr. Keith Roehr, State Veterinarian and President of the National Assembly of State Animal Health Officials wrote the following introduction to a new document released that addresses ways to mitigate the transmission of influenza virus at swine exhibitions:

*In response to a significant increase in the number of human influenza-A cases associated with exposure to swine at exhibitions during 2012, the National Assembly of State Animal Health Officials (National Assembly) and the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians (NASPHV) co-chaired the Swine Exhibitions Zoonotic Influenza Working Group. Representatives of the swine industry, swine exhibitions, swine veterinarians, academia, 4-H and state and federal animal and public health agencies (see page 7 for a list of Working Group Members) met electronically and during one face-to-face meeting to develop a document titled "Measures to Minimize Influenza Transmission at Swine Exhibitions". The suggested measures have been organized to address activities before, during and after swine exhibitions, and they are further divided into actions that may minimize risk to swine and risk to humans. These measures are offered for careful consideration depending on the needs of the specific exhibition and can be implemented in whole or in total.*

Here is an excerpt from the paper:

"It is estimated that 150 million people visit agricultural fairs each year in North America. Agricultural exhibitions provide valuable educational venues for the public. Equally important, the exhibition of swine is an important learning opportunity for thousands of youth exhibitors, 4-H and FFA members across the United States. Showing swine for these youth at their county or state fair is the culmination of many months of work dedicated to the care and training of their animal.

Pigs can be infected with human, swine and avian origin influenza A viruses. While rare, influenza A viruses can spread from pigs to people and from people to pigs, but it usually requires close contact between pigs and people. This has happened in different settings,



including agricultural fairs. When people are infected with swine origin influenza A viruses, it is termed as a variant virus infection and denoted with a “v” after the subtype (e.g. H3N2v). In the past 5 years, cases of influenza A H1N1v, H1N2v and H3N2v have been associated with swine exhibitions. In 2011 there were 12 cases of H3N2v reported from 5 states. In 2012 there were a total of 309 cases of H3N2v identified in 12 states. The majority of cases reported exposure to pigs prior to onset of illness and were exhibitors and others in close contact with pigs at agricultural fairs. Sixteen of these individuals were hospitalized and one death was reported. Eleven of the 16 hospitalized cases, as well as the person who died, were people considered to be at high risk for complications from influenza infections. People at high risk include children younger than 5 years of age, people 65 years of age and older, pregnant women and people with certain long-term health conditions (like asthma, diabetes, heart disease, chronic respiratory disease, weakened immune systems, and neurological or neurodevelopmental conditions.)

These cases led to the formation of the Swine Exhibitions Zoonotic Influenza Working Group that has developed a set of measures to minimize influenza virus transmission between swine, from people to swine, and from swine to people at swine exhibitions. Influenza viruses are unpredictable and their impact and circulation can vary by year. It may not be possible to prevent all transmission of influenza viruses at swine exhibitions. The measures described here are offered for careful consideration depending on the needs of the specific exhibition and can be implemented in part or in total. They are not intended to supersede federal, state, or local regulations. These measures were formulated based on current evidence and the collective knowledge of the Swine Exhibitions Zoonotic Influenza Working Group. It is expected that this document will be updated regularly as additional information becomes available.

The suggested measures have been organized to address activities before, during, and after swine exhibitions. Measures are further divided into actions that may minimize risk to swine and risk to humans, although there is significant overlap between those two groups.”

To access the entire document, please go to the CDA webpage at [www.colorado.gov/ag/animals](http://www.colorado.gov/ag/animals) and click on the tab for Livestock Health and then scroll down to the view the paper.

***Update to CDPHE Rabies Policy: Management of Domestic Dogs, Cats & Ferrets Involved in Human Bites***

To: Animal Control Agencies, Local Public Health, and Veterinarians in Colorado  
From: Elisabeth W. Lawaczeck, D.V.M., State Public Health Veterinarian  
Subject: Update to CDPHE Policy: Management of Domestic Dogs, Cats & Ferrets Involved in Human Bites  
Date: March 26, 2013

The Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) is tasked by Colorado Revised Statute to maintain policies related to rabies control, which are referred to directly from statute. The CDPHE Rabies and Prevention Control Policy titled “Management of Domestic Dogs, Cats & Ferrets



Involved in Human Bites” has not been updated since June 2009. One paragraph within this policy has created confusion on whether vaccination during the ten day quarantine of a dog, cat or ferret changes the effectiveness of the quarantine in determining whether there is zero risk for rabies exposure to a human who was bitten by the animal. Vaccination during the quarantine does NOT affect the effectiveness of the 10 day quarantine. If rabies vaccination is inadvertently administered during the quarantine period, the quarantine can be continued as originally planned. Therefore, after consultation with animal control leaders in Colorado, the policy has been changed to be reflective of Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control from the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians (NASPHV) to avoid confusion. Per this compendium from NASPHV: “administration of rabies vaccine to the animal is not recommended during the [10 day] observation period to avoid confusing signs of rabies with rare adverse reactions.”

Therefore, the CDPHE Policy has been changed to state the following:

“Rabies vaccination status should be verified, either by a valid vaccination certificate or contacting the confirmation by the animal’s veterinarian. This information can be provided to the bite victim and their physician to reduce concerns that the animal could be rabid. Due to the possibility of confusing a vaccine-associated adverse event with the onset of rabies, rabies vaccination should be deferred until completion of the observation period. The 10-day quarantine is required regardless of the animal's vaccination status.”

The full policy can be found on the CDPHE rabies webpage at:

<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDPHE-DCEED/CBON/1251607766329> under the section titled “Resources for Public Health, Animal Control, Veterinarians, and Wildlife Professionals” at the link titled “Management of Domestic Dogs, Cats & Ferrets Involved in Human Bites.”

The Colorado Rabies Resource Guide will be updated to reflect this updated policy in the coming weeks. The latest version of the Colorado Rabies Resource Guide is available on the Colorado Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) member’s only webpage (<http://www.colovma.org/>), the Colorado Association of Animal Control Officers (CAACO) member’s only webpage (<http://www.caaco.org/>), the Colorado Electronic Disease Reporting System (CEDRS), or from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) by calling 303-692-2700. CDPHE staff can email the document to requesters, after validating that the requester is a member of this target audience. At this time, due to some of the content, this document will not be posted on the webpage intended for the public.

### ***Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) Shortage Areas***

The VMLRP shortage areas for Colorado have been submitted by the State Veterinarian’s Office in consultation with the Colorado VMLRP Committee. An announcement from USDA is expected soon as to which of our proposed shortage areas will be approved. Once those shortage areas are announced, veterinarians can submit their applications. Please continue to monitor the VMLRP program webpage which can be found at [http://www.nifa.usda.gov/nea/animals/in\\_focus/an\\_health\\_if\\_vmlrp.html](http://www.nifa.usda.gov/nea/animals/in_focus/an_health_if_vmlrp.html)

The VMLRP will pay up to \$25,000 each year towards qualified educational loans of eligible veterinarians who agree to serve in a NIFA designated veterinarian shortage situations for a period of three years. The next VMLRP application period is tentatively scheduled to open in April 2013 and close in June 2013. An individual may submit only one application per cycle.



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