cdfa CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Mission Statement

The Animal Health Branch is California's organized, professional veterinary medical unit that protects livestock populations, consumers, and the State's economy from catastrophic animal diseases and other health or agricultural problems.

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Note: In an effort to reduce costs this newsletter will only be sent electronically.

Animal Health Branch Newsletter

Volume 18 October 2012

2012 Equine Infectious Anemia

by Dr. Katie Flynn

Horse Fly *(Tabanus sulcifrons)*

The California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory confirmed Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) in a 6-year old racing Quarter Horse mare on July 20, 2012. The horse was tested to meet the California Horse Racing Board (CHRB) requirements and upon investigation was found to be asymptomatic. In the initial epidemiologic investigation, CDFA veterinarians located and tested five (5) exposed horses. One (1) exposed 5-year old racing Quarter Horse gelding was confirmed positive for EIA; four (4) other exposed horses were EIA test negative. Seventeen (17) additional exposed horses were subsequently identified and found EIA test negative. In collaboration with the CHRB, CDFA completed the epidemiologic investigation.

Management options for an EIA positive horse are restrictive lifetime quarantine of the individual horse at least 200 yards from other horses or humane euthanasia. The two (2) confirmed EIA positive horses in this investigation were euthanized.

2012 Canadian Equine Infectious Anemia

A notable outbreak of Equine Infectious Anemia was reported in Western Canada in 2012. As of September, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency confirmed equine EIA cases on twenty-six (26) properties in Saskatchewan, four (4) properties in Alberta, three (3) properties in the Yukon and two (2) properties in British Columbia. The United States requires a negative Coggins Test, obtained within 6 months of import, for horses entering the US from Canada.

For more information, click here:

Canadian Food Inspection Agency - www.inspection.gc.ca

Bovine Tuberculosis Update

by Dr. Anita Edmondson

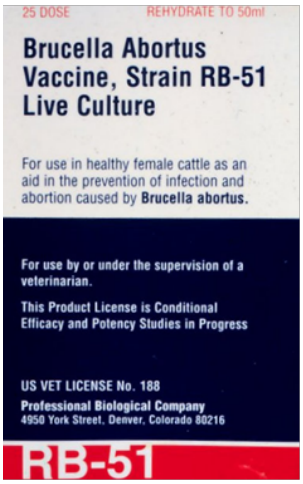
Two (2) bovine tuberculosis-affected dairy herds remain under quarantine on test-and-removal programs in California. CDFA anticipates completion of test requirements and release of quarantines on both these herds by early 2013.

For more information:

http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/animal_health/TB_Info.html

Tips for On-line Brucellosis Vaccine Ordering System

by Dr. Fred Stevens



The Animal Health Branch initiated an online Brucellosis Vaccine ordering system on August 1, 2012. The system allows contract veterinarians to place internet orders for vaccine and related vaccination materials, such as certificate books, official ear tags and tattoo ink, through a custom secure web page (**https://apps4.cdfa.ca.gov/brucvacc**). Order placement requires credit or debit card payment, which eliminates unpaid department billing and accounts receivable. Contract veterinarians may order any time of day; expedited overnight delivery with applicable charges is available with order placement.

Contract veterinarians who have placed orders on the new system have voiced satisfaction. To minimize possible ordering problems, keep the following ordering tips in mind:

- For proper deliver, ensure the correct “shipping address” is on the order.
- Shipping charges when applicable are paid at the time of order placement.
- The “billing address” with 5-digit ZIP code information should match billing address for the credit or debit card.
- A printable “Order Details” page will display following successful processing of the order.
- Allow 2-3 days after ordering for delivery with standard shipping.
- Vaccine deliveries generally arrive after 4:30 PM PST. Have someone available to receive, unpack and refrigerate the vaccine shipment to ensure proper cold chain maintenance of vaccine. Colorado Serum Company will not credit a veterinarian or accept a claim filed for replacement of vaccine if FedEx is unable to deliver the order by 5:00-6:00 PM, the end of the normal business day.
- Contact the CDFA Animal Health Branch (916-900-5002) to report Brucellosis Vaccine Ordering System problems.

California Poultry Transport Requirements

by Dr. Maurice Pitesky

Extensive interstate and intrastate movement of poultry occur on a daily basis in California. Persons moving poultry into or within California should be familiar with the specific regulations that apply to these movements.

Moving Poultry into California

California requires a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI), also known as a health certificate, with poultry* shipments moving into the state. The CVI must include the statement *"The shipment and flock of origin are free from evidence of contagious diseases, Avian Influenza and Exotic Newcastle Disease".* An exemption to the CVI requirement applies to poultry from Pullorum-Typhoid Free flocks, as classified by their State of origin or by the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP); the NPIP certification form must accompany such shipments.

Intrastate Movement of Poultry

The California Food and Agricultural Code (FAC) specifies that the person, carrier or transportation company transporting poultry in the state must have some type of documentation demonstrating ownership or right of possession for the poultry (FAC Section 26601). Additionally, the person transporting the poultry must keep a record documenting the point of origin and destination of the poultry, the names and addresses of the shipper and consignee and the kind and quantity of poultry in the shipment (FAC 26602). The California State Vehicle Code (VC Section 2810) states that the California Highway Patrol (CHP) may **a**) stop any vehicle containing poultry, **b**) inspect the bill of lading, shipping or delivery papers to determine if the driver is in legal possession of the poultry, and **c**) seize or take legal custody of the vehicle and poultry if the officer has a reasonable belief that the driver is not in legal possession of the poultry. All peace officers, sheriffs or deputy sheriffs, California Highway Patrol (CHP) and traffic officers may arrest any person moving poultry in noncompliance with the law and may seize the poultry (FAC 26603).

*Poultry means all chickens, turkeys, turkins, pheasants, peafowl, guineafowl, quail, ducks, geese, swans, gallinules, doves, pigeons, grouse, partridges, francolin, tinamou, ostriches and other ratites (including but not limited to the rhea, emu and cassowary) and hatching or embryonated eggs.

CCR Title 3, Div 2 Ch 2 Article 13 Section 821 (a) (3)

For more poultry information:
http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/Avian_Health_Program.html

Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease 2012

by Dr. Dennis Wilson

Epizootic hemorrhagic disease (EHD), a disease caused by virus of the genus *Orbivirus*, is having a significant impact in deer this year in the United States (US). Although mainly infecting white-tail deer, EHD may be seen in mule and black-tailed deer, elk, bighorn sheep, pronghorn antelope, sheep and cattle. EHD is not transmissible to humans. Two serotypes, EHDV-1 and EHDV-2, known to be endemic in some areas in the United States (US) cause sporadic epidemics. Since 2006, disease associated with a third serotype, EHDV-6, has been seen.

In 2012, all three serotypes were detected in the US; 2012 is the first year with a major outbreak for EHDV-6. Deer mortalities, numbering in the hundreds, were reported in some states. Significant numbers of deer deaths were reported in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, North Carolina, Nebraska, Colorado, Missouri and Indiana. Speculation is that drought conditions in many states have intensified breeding conditions for biting midges of the genus Culicoides. The main EHD vector is considered to be *C. variipennis*, but EHD has also been recovered from mosquitoes and gnats. Freezing conditions impact biting midges, so as fall approaches, the vector impact should lessen.

EHDV cattle infections are generally subclinical; however, an unusual feature in 2012 is the appearance of some severe clinical presentations in cattle, yak (Colorado) and even one bison herd. In states, including Nebraska, Colorado, Iowa and South Dakota, clinically ill animals have been reported. In cattle, the clinical signs can include fever, oral ulcers, salivation, lameness (coronitis) and even weight loss. In pregnant cattle, fetal resorption may occur or, depending on the stage of gestation at time of infection, fetal hydranencephaly may develop. The clinical signs of EHD in cattle are similar to clinical signs of Foot and Mouth Disease, Bluetongue and Vesicular Stomatitis. Due to these presentation similarities, please call your local CDFA District Office to report cattle with these clinical signs so that appropriate sampling and testing may be obtained.

For more information:

http://www.promedmail.org/?p=2400:1000

http://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/publications/wildlife_health_bulletins/WHB_2012-05_Hemorrhagic.pdf

California West Nile Virus - Year to Date Comparisons

West Nile Virus	Number of Confirmed Cases on 9/28/2011	**Number of Confirmed Cases on 9/28/2012**
Horses	10	**20**
Humans	87	**182**
Dead Birds	526	**1376**
Mosquito	1896	**2541**
Sentinel Chickens	252	**420**

For more information:

http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/wnv_info.html

http://westnile.ca.gov

Swine Influenza H3N2v and H3N2pM

by Dr. Hector Webster

Swine have a unique role in the epidemiology of influenza viruses. Cellular receptors in the respiratory tract of swine are very similar to those of humans and birds, allowing simultaneous infection with multiple subtypes of influenza. Subsequently, swine are designated as "mixing vessels" for influenza viruses from different species with gene segments interchanging between viruses through viral assortment. The influenza viruses that emerge after reassortment can represent a new variant virus in the swine population that may not have complete immunity cross-protection against the original viruses. Following the 2009 H1N1 outbreak, the pandemic H1N1 virus exchanged gene segments with H3N2 and H1N2 influenza viruses commonly circulating in swine herds resulting in the development of a new H3N2 variant (H3N2v) that contained a matrix (M) gene segment. Influenza A H3N2v contains genes from avian, swine, human and H1N1 influenzas and appears to be more transmissible from swine to humans than other variant viruses.

From July 12th through September 7th 2012, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (**CDC**) confirmed 296 human H3N2v cases across ten (10) states; the main risk factor for infection was prolonged exposure to exhibition pigs in agricultural fair settings. The CDC reports that "while limited person-to-person spread of this virus has been detected and likely continues to occur sporadically, no sustained community transmission has been found." Most human H3N2v illnesses resulted in influenza-like symptoms with fever, cough, runny nose, sore throat and muscle aches, similar to seasonal influenza. To date, one (1) death has been reported. The CDC continues to work with state public health officials monitoring influenza-like illness in swine exhibitors and communities and responding to this evolving situation.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) voluntary Swine Influenza Virus Surveillance Program identifies virus strains circulating in swine to gain knowledge and improve animal health diagnostics and vaccines. This surveillance provides key swine herd status information and aids in the protection of animal and human health. H3N2v viruses detected in swine are classified as **H3N2pM** because of the presence of the pandemic M gene. Such isolates were obtained from swine in late 2010 and since then have been found in swine across the US.

USDA SIV Surveillance Program
10/1/2010 - 7/31/2012

12,662 swine samples from 3,766 laboratory submissions
1,488 test positive for Influenza A Virus
FY2011 73 submissions positive for H3N2
FY2012 138 submissions positive for H3N2 (***57/138 classified as H3N2pM**)

With the interspecies transmission and infectious nature of swine influenza, standard biosecurity measures are essential to help prevent and control this disease. Swine influenza is of no threat to the food supply and is not transmissible to humans who eat properly handled and prepared pork.

Additional information is available at the following websites:

CDFA **http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/Swine_Health.html**

CDC **http://www.cdc.gov/flu/swineflu/h3n2v-resources.htm** "Materials and Resources"

CDC **www.cdc.gov/flu/swineflu/h3n2v-outbreak.htm** "Influenza A (H3N2) Variant Virus Outbreaks

National Pork Board "**Influenza Resources**"

Staff Biographies

Dr. Anita Edmondson, a Supervising Veterinarian for the Animal Health Branch, is the bovine health lead veterinarian overseeing cattle programs for tuberculosis, brucellosis, trichomonosis and livestock movement. She has been a State employee for more than 25 years and has been with the Animal Health Branch for 18 years.

Born and educated in Britain, Dr. Edmondson received her Veterinary Medicine degree from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland and became a Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. After practicing both large and small animal veterinary medicine in Britain, she pursued additional educational opportunities completing a non-domestic internship at the San Francisco Zoological Gardens and both a Residency Program in Food Animal Medicine and Herd Health and a Masters of Preventive Veterinary Medicine degree at the University of California – Davis School of Veterinary Medicine. Before beginning her long career with CDFA, Dr. Edmondson served as a Veterinary Faculty Member and a Post Graduate Researcher with the University of California – Davis School of Veterinary Medicine.

Anita spends free time with her family and volunteers in 4-H (15 years), FFA, Pony Club and youth soccer activities. She enjoys live theater, is an avid hiker, and loves to travel.

Research Program Specialist II, **Dr. Hector Webster**, has a Masters degree in Animal Science from the University of Hawaii at Manoa and a Veterinary Medicine degree from the University of Cuenca in Ecuador. Dr. Webster oversees the AHB programs for Small Ruminants, Swine Health, Wildlife Services and Ship and Aircraft Inspection. Dr. Webster manages the cooperative program agreements for Scrapie, Classical Swine Fever and the swine garbage feeding control program. His bilingual skills are an asset for development of bilingual outreach materials.

As an AHB staff member for fourteen years, Dr. Webster has participated in disease outbreak eradication responses, including the accelerated swine pseudorabies eradication program (Iowa 1999), the Exotic Newcastle Disease outbreak (CA 2002-03) and several bovine tuberculosis incidents. He has also contributed to avian health mitigation control projects and the bovine brucellosis program.

During his free time, Dr. Webster enjoys soccer, playing the guitar and spending time with his family.

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