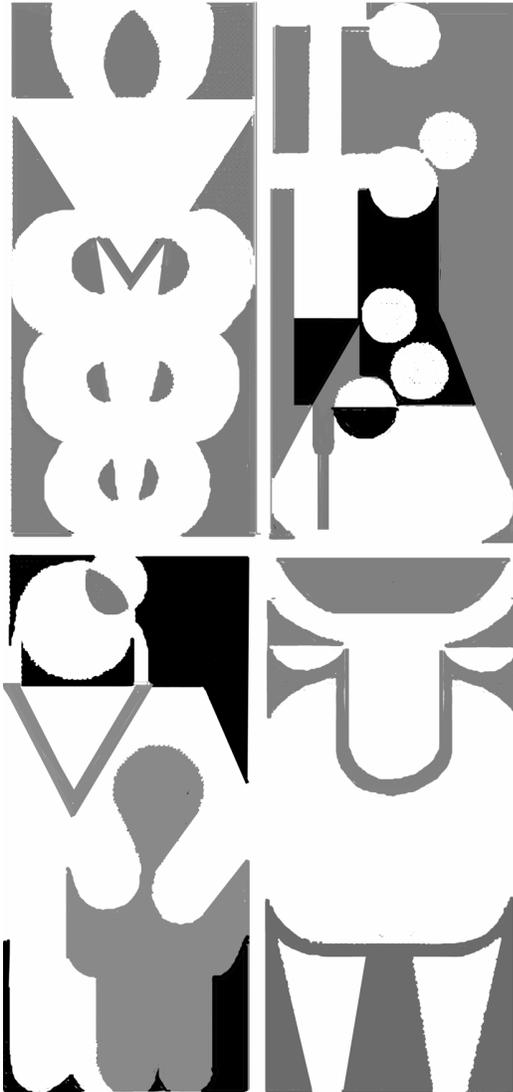


NEWSLETTER



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*ATVPHPM is committed to developing and
fostering the academic base for veterinary public
health and preventive medicine*

Visit the ATVPHPM Web site at...

<http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/atvphpm/>

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Important: Please take a moment to look at your mailing label on the envelope. The number (e.g. 96) in the lower right corner of the mailing label is the last year for which a dues payment has been recorded. Membership dues remain \$15 US annually and are payable on January 1 of each year. If, for example, your dues payment year is indicated to be 96, then to become current you should remit two years dues or \$30.

Chet Thomas - ATVPHPM Secretary/Treasurer

ASSOCIATIONNEWS

President's Message

Dear colleagues:

As I begin my term as President, I want to thank several people for their service to our Association. First to **Hollis Erb** (Cornell) for her leadership over the past two years. I look forward to working with Hollis during my term and in her capacity as chair of the scientific committee for ISVEE 2000. Next, thanks go to **Chet Thomas** (U of WI) who has served as Secretary/Treasurer for at least a dozen years. We owe a lot to Chet and commend him for his service. Chet has decided to step down from his office and you will find a ballot elsewhere in the newsletter. **Ashley Robinson** (U of MN) did a yeoman's job of resurrecting our newsletter last year and has provided a model on which we can build. Thanks Ashley. And finally, I want to thank the members who elected me to this office. I will do my best to serve our Association as its members direct.

Enclosed you will find a ballot for an early election. With the need to elect a new Secretary/Treasurer, the Executive Committee decided to hold the election for other offices that would become vacant this Fall. The new Secretary/Treasurer will take office immediately but the others will assume their offices at the end of our annual meeting in November. Thanks to all who agreed to be nominated.

Now, what of the future? I have two personal objectives to accomplish during my term. The first is to increase communications among the members as well as outside the Association. To that end, our newsletter will be vital. Although it took me more time than I wished, our newsletter is launched again. I am very pleased that **Ron Smith** (U of IL) has agreed to serve as newsletter editor during my term of office. In addition, Ron has agreed to develop and maintain a web site for the Association. These two efforts can go far in increasing communication. However, true communication must be two-way. Your Association needs your input. Please feel free to contact me or any member of the Executive Committee (listed elsewhere).

My second objective is to foster the exchange of teaching materials. Teaching is what our members do best, whether in the context of courses in educational institutions, instruction in government training centers or continuing education activities. We can all benefit from the sharing of materials, exercises and

experiences. For example, about two years ago **Paul Nicoletti** (U of FL) and **David Dreesen** (U of GA) and I met to exchange slides dealing with zoonotic diseases and food hygiene. We all had some unique slides that the others found useful. We all felt that our colleagues in other teaching settings could benefit from such an exchange and I now propose we do this across the Association. If you have slides that illustrate any element of veterinary public health or preventive medicines and would be willing to share them with colleagues, please forward one good copy to me along with a brief description. Please do not send text slides but only illustrations (e.g., pictures, graphs, diagrams, maps, etc.). I will take the initial responsibility of developing a method of cataloging them and providing the membership with a list. Cost would be limited to the expense of duplication and postage. Please remember that pictures of people should also have some type of release from the subject that would allow us to duplicate and distribute copies.

I am eager to hear your ideas for the future of the Association and look forward to working with many of you during my term.

John New (U or TN)

From the Newsletter Editor

This is my first issue of the ATVPHPM Newsletter since assuming the role of Editor. Before jumping in to the first issue, I contacted the former Editor, Dr. Ashley Robinson, whose guidance was most helpful. I have tried to make this issue as informative as previous issues so ably edited by Ashley.

I have also assumed the role of ATVPHPM Webmaster. The ATVPHPM Web site...

<http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/atvphpm/>

was officially launched in April of this year. Besides providing easy access to ATVPHPM documents, I intend this site to be a reference for anyone interested in meetings, workshops, courses, faculty and student positions, and software related to veterinary public health and preventive medicine. I'm especially interested in expanding the graduate programs page, so send me your program descriptions and URLs.

The Newsletter will be distributed as hardcopy to ATVPHPM members and Dean's offices of all North

American veterinary colleges. It will also be available for download from the ATVPHPM Web site.

I anticipate that these initiatives will significantly increase the visibility and impact of our association

and veterinary public health and preventive medicine. Continued momentum will depend on your continued support and contribution of content for the Newsletter and Web site. Be assured that you will be seen!

Ronald D. Smith - ATVPHPM Newsletter Editor

CORRESPONDENCE

Information System on Zoonoses

Dear Epivettters:

Is anybody involved in a surveillance network on Zoonosis (foodborne diseases included)? I'm trying to plan an Information system in my Region (Emilia Romagna, Italy) about this subject. Could you help me (with References, reports, etc) to select the kind of data to collect and the main indexes to calculate?

Thanks.

Marco Tamba, DVM
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Tel/Fax +39 51 503221
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Reply:

We have been slowly building the architecture to support a comprehensive food safety quality assurance system. It has a large surveillance component. It is based around linking different pieces of surveillance information collected from a variety of sources through the use of unique animal ID linked to a

spatially indexed national farms database. Surveillance information will come from routine diagnostic cases at animal health laboratories, diseases and defects data collected at abattoirs and a chemical residues database. To succeed will require the complete cooperation of the farming industry, meat companies, private veterinarians and government veterinary and human health services. Do not underestimate the time it will take to build such a system!

There are a number of papers describing these kinds of developments in the Proceedings of the **8th ISVEE**, Paris, 7-11 July 1997.

Regards,
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DoEpi: Exercises for Teaching Epidemiology and Computing, with a Framework for Creating New Exercises

**Programmed and Edited by Andrew G. Dean, MD, MPH
Epidemiology Program Office
Svati P. Shah & Jeanetta Churchill, MS
Klemm Analysis Group, Inc.**

The exercises and software are in the public domain and may be freely copied, translated, or distributed.

Epidemiology Program Office; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC);
Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.A.

DoEpi CONTENTS

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 - Paralytic Illness in Ababo: Setting up a surveillance system in Africa
 - Surveillance Request: Computerizing an existing system
 - Refugee Camp Nutrition: Nutritional measurements in disasters
 - U.S. State Case Surveillance: How one complex system is programmed
- Instructor's Module:
- * Making a new exercise

Origins of DoEpi:

Computer-assisted instruction (CAI) has advanced beyond the stage of experimentation to play a central role in medical education. For many years, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has used epidemic simulations in paper format for instructing Epidemic Intelligence Service Officers. The epidemiologic exercises used in the annual Epidemiologic Intelligence Service course are one of CDC's premier products, often used and emulated in schools of public health for teaching epidemiology.

A number of these exercises are particularly well suited for adaptation to CAI and for teaching epidemiology, statistics, and computing in an integrated way. Interactive computer exercises in epidemiology have been combined with the teaching of Epi Info, CDC's public domain software system for epidemiologic computing, so that both epidemiologic tasks and the computing tools to perform them are included in the exercises. DoEpi exercises contain text, images, questions, hints, access to Epi Info, and in cases where they may be needed, files to print out student materials. They can thus be distributed in electronic form, over the Internet, or on floppy disks, without the need for an accompanying manual.

Goals of DoEpi:

The overall goals of DoEpi are:

1. To provide a series of computer-based education modules for use by the CDC and the worldwide epidemiologic community
2. To encourage others to develop new exercises by providing a framework for module preparation
3. To promote the use of practical exercises from the real world in teaching epidemiology
4. To integrate the teaching of epidemiologic computing with the teaching of epidemiology

What is a DoEpi Exercise?

Most DoEpi modules consist of scenarios from real public-health events: for example, a foodborne outbreak, consultation on computerization of a surveillance system, or an outbreak of hospital-acquired infections. Each problem is presented with text and photographs, and data files are included, if appropriate. Names and locations may be changed to protect confidentiality, but the overall facts are true to life. The exercise is divided into manageable pieces, with questions to prompt the student and "Hints" to be used after the student (or class) has attempted to solve the problem. The Hints may contain answers to the exercise, correct computer results, or other material. Photographs are in low-resolution format to accommodate older screen displays, conserve disk space, and facilitate distribution over the Internet.

Choosing Exercises:

Most exercises contain a combination of epidemiologic questions for discussion and computer exercises to be done in Epi Info. The table of contents makes it easy to focus on one or the other, and classes and individuals may choose to emphasize either epidemiology or computing. Each exercise begins with "Learning Objectives" that give an idea of the

contents of the exercise. The first few exercises on the menu provide introductory to intermediate materials for both epidemiology and Epi Info. The Advanced Epi Info Programming exercises, particularly the last three, are designed for those who have used Epi Info before and are familiar with the Epi Info Manual.

The INFO item on the main DoEpi Menu leads to a KEY WORD INDEX, which allows selecting a topic (e.g., anthropometry) to display the names of exercises that focus on that topic.

Prerequisites:

***Background**

There is no prerequisite for this introductory material.

***Epidemic Investigations and Research Study**

Some knowledge of epidemiology and study design is assumed. A brief introduction to Epi Info, based on the "Epi Info, Version 6," section of "What is Epi Info" or on reading Chapters 2 and 5 of the Version 6 manual, will be helpful for the computer tasks.

***Advanced Epi Info Programming**

No background is assumed for the Planning exercise, other than some experience in the use of computers. The other three exercises are quite advanced and assume an intermediate level of skill with Epi Info and familiarity with the Epi Info Manual.

***Public Health Surveillance**

These exercises progress from elementary to advanced skills in computing. Some acquaintance with surveillance concepts will be useful, but is not required.

***Instructor's Module**

Making a new exercise requires skill and care in text editing and an instructor's viewpoint in devising an exercise. Customizing a new exercise may require knowledge of DOS batch files and commands and of Epi Info programming, but this is not necessary for all types of exercises.

Using DoEpi:

DoEpi can be used in a variety of ways in a classroom setting. An instructor may choose to

intersperse the computer exercises with more traditional lectures. Within an exercise, an instructor may use all or only a few of the materials and may substitute locally available material at any point. Alternatively, a class of students may work through the exercises at their own pace, alone or in small groups, with the entire group coming together at the end for discussion.

The exercises can also be used individually by motivated students, particularly in isolated areas where classes are not available. Such use is most suitable for students with some epidemiologic background and computer experience.

The exercises provided do not represent a curriculum, since the "Advanced Epi Info" exercises are addressed to a somewhat different audience--those likely to teach Epi Info use, for example--than are the epidemiologic exercises. The hypertext format allows a class or individual to focus more heavily on computing or on epidemiology if desired.

Hardware and Software Requirements:

DoEpi consists of DOS programs built around Epi Info. It requires that Epi Info be installed on the same computer or Local Area Network (LAN) as DoEpi. The programs will run on a 286 computer with 640 K of random access memory in DOS or in a DOS window under Microsoft Windows or Windows95. About 12 megabytes of hard disk space is required for full installation, in addition to the 10 megabytes for a full version of Epi Info. Instructions for installation on a LAN are contained in a file called README.LAN.

Installation:

Several types of DoEpi installation are offered in the INSTALL program. If you have enough disk space (about 12 megabytes), run the INSTALL program and choose FULL INSTALLATION when you are prompted to select the type of installation you want. If you install an exercise you do not need, you may delete it at any time (see "Deleting Exercises" topic.) If you wish to add exercises after an installation has been completed, you may also do so at any time (see "Adding Exercises" topic.)

The Full Installation of DoEpi includes all exercise modules available from CDC, including the Instructor's module. A Partial Installation of DoEpi includes only those exercises that you specify during the installation and certain core modules. The Student Installation loads all but the Instructor's module.

Installation from Diskettes:

To install DoEpi from diskettes, run the program INSTALL.EXE by typing INSTALL, after logging

onto the appropriate floppy diskette drive (e.g., "A:"). Then follow the instructions on the screen.

Installation from the Internet:

DoEpi is available on the Internet for free download. Go to the Epi Info web site at

<http://www.cdc.gov/epo/epi/epiinfo.htm>

and click on "Software" to go to the DoEpi page. Follow directions on the screen to download the software. To install DoEpi from a downloaded copy:

1. Download the software into an existing temporary directory on the hard drive of your computer - e.g., C:\TEMP\INSTALL - the temporary directory should not be called DOEPI. Alternatively, you may download onto a floppy diskette.
1. Unpack the compressed files by typing the first part of the file name at the DOS prompt (in the temporary directory) or by clicking on the file name in your windows File Manager.
2. Type INSTALL at the DOS prompt (in the temporary directory) or click on INSTALL.EXE in your windows File Manager.
3. Follow the installation instructions as they appear on the screen.

Making Installable Copies of DoEpi on Diskette from the Downloaded Files:

DoEpi files from the Internet are in compressed self-expanding executable form, as DOEPI1.EXE, DOEPI2.EXE, and DOEPI3.EXE. To expand each and place the installation files on diskettes, either download them directly onto diskette from the Internet, or:

1. Insert a blank, formatted 1.4 megabyte diskette into the floppy disk drive.
2. Log onto the appropriate floppy diskette drive (e.g., "A:"), and run a DOEPI file (e.g., by typing "C:\TEMP\DOEPI1", if the file is in C:\TEMP). This will place the installation files on the diskette (or in a hard-drive directory if you first log on to that directory).
3. Using two more diskettes, repeat this process for DOEPI2 and DOEPI3.

Using Epi Info with DoEpi:

DoEpi computer tasks automatically call up Epi Info when required and return the student to DoEpi after the task has been performed. To do the computer exercises in DoEpi, you must have installed Epi Info Version 6.04 or later (earlier versions may work, but have not been tested with DoEpi). You must also have the location of Epi Info specified in the DOS computer PATH.

When you installed Epi Info, you were asked if you wished to have the location of Epi Info added to the PATH in AUTOEXEC.BAT file automatically. If you answered "Y" for yes, the PATH statement should already be correct. If you are not sure, you can check on the PATH from the DOS prompt by typing PATH; you should see something like:

```
PATH C:\;C:\EPI6;etc.
```

If "\EPI6;" is present, then the path is set; if not, you can edit the AUTOEXEC.BAT, usually found in the root directory (e.g., C:\AUTOEXEC.BAT), so that its PATH statement contains the location of \EPI6. Do this carefully, recognizing that a semicolon separates items in the PATH. After changing the PATH in AUTOEXEC.BAT, you must reboot (restart) the computer before the PATH takes effect.

As you do the exercises, you will notice that many contain computer tasks -- practical exercises in computing. Computer tasks vary in format between exercises. In the Rhodococcus module, for example, computer tasks require that you do statistical calculations in STATCALC, make a questionnaire in EPED, and enter data in ENTER, starting with the EPI6 menu. The only help provided during these operations is from instructions that can be printed from the files provided.

In later exercises, after you have learned to use the EPI6 menu and to use ENTER and EPED, the computer tasks will move directly to the Epi Info ANALYSIS program, since the focus is on analytic tasks and you should no longer need to practice navigating to ANALYSIS through the EPI6 menu. In Oswego Church Supper, for example, data from 75 questionnaires has already been entered, and the tasks jump directly into tutorials in ANALYSIS rather than to the Epi Info menu.

CLEANUP:

Each exercise has a menu entry called CLEANUP. This option removes files that are copied to the working directory, a necessary step in working with DoEpi on a Local Area Network, where users are generally prevented from writing to or saving files in the program directories. When you run an exercise, the necessary files are copied to directory from which you run DoEpi. They can be removed by invoking the CLEANUP option on the menu. Since CLEANUP removes only specified files, it will not delete files that you have created and named yourself.

Deleting Exercises:

Each exercise is housed in a subdirectory of its own under the \DOEPI directory. After installation, you may decide to delete an exercise if you have disk space constraints, or you may decide to keep only those exercises that meet specific needs. To delete an

exercise, you must delete the entire subdirectory. To delete the KAMP exercise, for example, log into the \DOEPI directory in DOS, type DELETE KAMP (or DELETE KAMP*.*) and respond "Y" to the question that appears. Then type RMDIR KAMP to remove the now empty directory. On newer DOS systems, typing DELTREE KAMP will erase files and remove the directory with one command, but be careful, as "DELTREE" is a powerful command!

After deleting an exercise subdirectory, the name of the exercise will continue to appear in the main DoEpi menu "Exercises" list unless you delete the corresponding MENUITEM from the file DOEPI.MNU.

Adding Exercises:

After partial installation or when new DoEpi modules become available, use the INSTALL program to add additional modules. Each new exercise will be installed in a separate subdirectory under \DOEPI that INSTALL creates.

Exercises that are created locally with the Instructor's module may need special installation that creates a subdirectory and copies the appropriate files. The Instructor should provide instructions for locally created modules. The instructor's module provides a semi-automated setup for a new exercise, saving much of the labor of inserting file names, topic headings, and hypertext controls when an exercise is being created. The set-up process then becomes mostly one of editing and pasting appropriate text into the framework provided, leaving the author free to pursue the creative work of developing the questions, hints, correct answers, and goals and objectives for the exercise. Materials for graphics can be scanned locally or sent to a photo store for conversion to the Kodak CD-ROM format. This method of digitization is widely available at minimal cost. Software for reducing the resolution and number of colors is widely available; instructions are provided in the Instructor's module.

The DoEpi framework is designed so that teachers of epidemiology and/or computing can produce exercises based on their own materials. DoEpi is intended to be a toolbox for teachers of epidemiology worldwide.

Printing Materials:

DoEpi is designed to be, as much as possible, a paperless system. For some computer exercises, however, printed instruction are necessary, unless another computer or projector in the same room is displaying the Computer Task while you do the exercise. DoEpi, therefore, provides files for printing. Some exercise modules contain several files that may be printed and used as class materials. To copy files to a directory for printing from your own favorite word processor, use the PRINT MATERIALS choice on the main DoEpi menu.

Choose PRINTING INSTRUCTIONS to read how to set up for printing. If you prefer to use EPED for printing, use the .TXT files and read them from EPED in the \DOEPI directory or after copying them to another directory.

CME and CEU Credits:

Continuing Medical Education (CME) Credit: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to sponsor Continuing Medical Education (CME) for physicians. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) designates this continuing education activity for up to 42 credit hours in Category 1 of the Physician's Recognition Award of the American Medical Association, as listed in the table below.

Continuing Education Units (CEU) Credit: This program has been structured following the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET) Criteria and Guidelines and therefore is awarding Continuing Education Units (CEU's). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will award up to 4.2 CEU's to each participant who successfully completes this training, as listed in the table below. The CEU is an internationally recognized unit designed to provide a record of an individual's continuing education accomplishments.

Credit will be recorded and a certificate provided on receipt of examination results and a completed evaluation for the exercise.

To receive either type of credit, complete both the examination and the evaluation at the end of an exercise, and, from the same screen, prepare materials to send to CDC. A blank certificate and a data file will be created, and you will be given a chance to save the certificate to a convenient drive and directory from which to send it to CDC. Initially, the file is called SENDTO.CDC, but if you have several such files you may want to give them different names.

The SENDTO.CDC file(s), possibly renamed, should be sent to CDC, using one of the following methods of transmission (the first being preferred):

1. As attachments to an E-mail message, addressed to EPIINFO@CDC1.CDC.GOV
The Subject of the E-mail should be "CME" or "CEU".
2. In the body of an E-mail, addressed as above
3. After printing on paper, send by FAX to (404) 639-0841
4. After printing on paper, send by mail, dog sled, or personal messenger to the address on the certificate.

Number of CME or CEU Credits Allowed per Exercise:

EXERCISE	CME Credits	CEU Credits
Rhodococcus	6.0	0.6
Oswego	3.5	0.35
Toxic Shellfish	1.7	0.2
Oral Contraceptive Use	2.3	0.2
Planning s System*	4.0	0.4
Input	3.7	0.4
Output	4.0	0.4
Menus	3.3	0.3
Surveillance Consultation	1.9	0.2
Ababo	2.5	0.25
Kamp	3.2	0.3
State	6.2	0.6
TOTAL (Maximum)	42.0	4.2

*CME awarded only if a plan is constructed for a public health or biomedical system

Getting Technical Help or Sending Suggestions:

We hope you enjoy DoEpi. Please feel free to e-mail, post, or telephone your questions, comments, and suggestions about DoEpi.

Technical Support:

E-mail: EpiInfo@CDC1.CDC.GOV
U.S. Telephone (404) 639-0840

Comments and Suggestions to:

Svati Shah <ZGA5@CDC.GOV>

or

Andrew G. Dean, MD, MPH

Epidemiology Program Office M/S C-08
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Rd. NE

Join the Epi Info E-mail Discussion Group by sending a message with the words, "Subscribe epi-info," to <listserv@listserv.cdc.gov>

Visit the Epi Info Web site at

[HTTP://WWW.CDC.GOV/](http://WWW.CDC.GOV/) under "Products and Publications" and then "Epi Info and Epi Map". Or go directly to the site at URL
<http://www.cdc.gov/epo/epi/epiinfo.htm>

INTERNETRESOURCES

Medical Impact of the Use of Antimicrobials in Food Animals

From: "WHO WER and Epidemiological Bulletin"
<owner-wer-reh@sun1.who.ch>

16 December 1997

The Division of Emerging and other Communicable Diseases Surveillance and Control (EMC) held a meeting in conjunction with the WHO/FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization) Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Food Hygiene and Zoonoses (BgVV) in Berlin, Germany, from 13-17 October 1997, to review the currently available knowledge on the hazards to human health of the use of antimicrobials in food animals. Over 60 participants from the fields of both human and animal health discussed the public health consequences of such antimicrobial usage, focusing on the emergence of resistant organisms or resistance determinants which could be transferred to humans through the food chain.

The final report of the meeting is available at

<http://www.who.ch/programmes/emc/zoo/oct97.pdf>

International Food Safety News

AMES, Iowa (1-29-98) -- From Oprah Winfrey's court battle with cattle producers in Texas, to an outbreak of E. coli in Canada, you'll see it in the headlines on a newly designed food safety Web site by researchers in Iowa State University's Food Safety Project.

The site now includes a searchable archive of international food safety news. The archive is the result of a partnership between ISU's Families Extension and the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada. Headlines and articles are supplied through FSNet, an electronic food safety news service developed at the University of Guelph.

"This new feature enables people to really see the global impact of food safety issues," said Peggy Sherry, a research associate who designed the site. "Sometimes visitors can access information even before it hits the media." This site is located at

<http://www.exnet.iastate.edu/Pages/families/fs/homepage.html>

Visitors to the site can access the international news by clicking on the headlines. The headlines are updated on a daily basis.

ISU's Food Safety Project is housed in Families Extension and is part of a larger food safety education initiative funded by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Contacts:

Peggy Sherry, Families Extension,
(515) 294-1592

Michelle Johnson, News Service,
(515) 294-8986

Resources on Impact of Veterinary Services on Disease

From: "Michael Meredith" <meredith@farmlines.com>

Our web site has direct information about the progress of eradication programs for major epidemic hog diseases such as classical swine fever and African swine fever in a number of countries. For other infectious diseases, many pig herds are now using "segregated early weaning (SEW)" as a broad tool for eradication of certain infectious diseases in individual herds (e.g. PRRS, enzootic pneumonia and pleuropneumonia). Information about SEW can be found at our web site:

<http://www-pdic.vet.cam.ac.uk/>

You will also find there, links to economic and eradication data for a number of other pig diseases, such as transmissible gastroenteritis, Aujeszky's disease (pseudorabies), swine dysentery, Salmonella, atrophic rhinitis and mange.

There is a "SEARCH" button at the bottom of each page, to allow you to search quickly through the 180 pages of data and links.

Yours Sincerely,
Michael Meredith
Pig Disease Information Centre Ltd.
4, New Close Farm Business Park
Bar Road, Lolworth, Cambs., CB3 8DS, U.K.

UK Tel: 01954-780695
UK Fax: 01954-780235
International fax: +44-1954-780235,
alternative: +44-1223-330886
E-mail: <meredith@farmlines.com>
Web site email: mjm10@hermes.cam.ac.uk

CDC Parasitology Diagnostic Website

From: "Nguyen-Dinh, Phuc" <ppn1@cdc.gov>

<http://www.ncid.cdc.gov/dpdx>

CDC's Division of Parasitic Diseases has established on the Internet a website for diagnosis of parasitic diseases. The website, named "DPDx", is at <www.ncid.cdc.gov/dpdx> and offers two complementary functions:

A "**Reference and Training**" function, in which all users can browse through concise reviews of parasites and parasitic diseases; this also includes an image library and a review of recommended procedures for collecting, shipping, processing, and examining biologic specimens; all material is free of copyright and users are welcome to store and copy material as they wish.

A "**Diagnostic Assistance**" function, in which registered users (mostly laboratorians and other health professionals) desiring assistance in parasite identification can ask questions, request information, and send digital images of specimens for expedited review and consultation by DPD staff; this assistance is free of charge.

The website aims at using the Internet to strengthen the diagnosis of parasitic diseases. The Internet is well suited for that purpose because of its inherent qualities (imaging capabilities; global, rapid, interactive exchanges; flexibility of content). Interested parasitologists and other health professionals are invited to participate in the DPDx network. They can either contribute their material/experience to build up DPDx, or use the DPDx services, or both.

How to contact DPDx: Messages can be sent by clicking on the "Contact Us" buttons found on most pages of the DPDx website: a pre-addressed email frame will automatically appear, use it to send an email to DPDx. Alternatively, send an e-mail to <dpdx@cdc.gov> or to the DPDx contact person at <ppn1@cdc.gov>.

Best regards,
Phuc Nguyen-Dinh
Division of Parasitic Diseases
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Atlanta,
GA 30341, USA
E-mail: ppn1@cdc.gov
Tel: 770-4884435
Fax: 770-4884253

CONVINCE Website and Newsletter

From: "Diane Gildersleeve" <dgilders@mail.vt.edu>

Dear CONVINCe Board Members and Representatives,

For those of you who haven't already seen it, the new CONVINCe website, which we developed here at the Informatics Program at the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, is now up and running. It has the same URL as before:

<http://www.convince.org/>

our thanks to Dr. Dhein and the rest of the Board for their comments and suggestions about the site.

We are continuing to add programs to the site's database of CAI software and websites. If you would like to submit a particular program or website that we have not included, please send an e-mail to Dr. Jeff Wilcke at <jwilcke@mail.vt.edu> . Please include with your e-mail information about the program or website's name, description, URL, and contact information; if there is anything else that will help us properly identify the program and its availability to people visiting the CONVINCe website, let us know that, too.

At the moment, we don't have any articles to include on the newsletter section of the site. If you would like to submit an article for inclusion, please e-mail a copy of the article and any accompanying graphics to Dr. Wilcke at <jwilcke@mail.vt.edu> . We will mark the submissions up in html and post them on the site.

NEWS & COMMENTARY

Human Exposure to Brucella abortus

From: "Dr. James Chin", CDPC-mail

March 13, 1998 MMWR, Vol. 47 / No. 9

On May 26-27, 1997, nine persons (a farmer, four veterinary clinicians, and four veterinary students) in Manhattan, Kansas, participated in an attempted vaginal delivery, a cesarean delivery, and a necropsy on a stillborn calf that died because of *Brucella abortus* infection. The infection was confirmed by isolation of *B. abortus* from placental and fetal lung tissue cultures. The National Animal Disease Center, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), identified the *B. abortus* isolate from the calf as the RB51 vaccine strain.

RB51 is a live, attenuated strain that was licensed conditionally by the Veterinary Services, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA, on February 23, 1996, for vaccination of cattle in the United States. Before 1996, vaccine was made by using the S19 strain. This report describes occupational exposure to animals infected with the RB51 strain and emphasizes the need for surveillance of unintentional exposure of humans to RB51 to assess outcomes of such exposures.

MMWR Editorial Note: Brucellosis, also known as "undulant fever" or "Bangs disease," is a systemic infection caused by *Brucella* sp., small Gram-negative coccobacilli that can infect cattle (infection with *B. abortus*), goats and sheep (*B. melitensis*), pigs (*B. suis*), and dogs (*B. canis*). Worldwide, brucellosis

usually occurs in geographic areas with large populations of these animal hosts. Disease manifestations in animals depend on age and gestational status. The primary sign of infection in female animals is abortion, and in male animals, epididymitis.

Brucellosis in humans is a systemic disease that has an acute or insidious onset; signs and symptoms of the disease include continued, intermittent, or irregular fever of variable duration; headache; weakness; profuse sweaty chills; arthralgia; depression; weight loss; and generalized aches. The disease can persist for periods ranging from days to years if not treated properly. *B. abortus* RB51 infection in humans is possible but has not been documented.

Through a cooperative state and federal effort, the United States is now approaching eradication of the field strain of *B. abortus* in domestic cattle and bison herds. In the United States, the Brucellosis Eradication Program (BEP) was established formally in 1954 to prevent the considerable economic losses caused by abortions that occurred before, or in the absence of, prophylactic vaccination and to reduce transmission of the disease to humans. Vaccination against brucellosis and testing or depopulation of affected herds have reduced the number of infected cattle herds in the United States.

Veterinarians and other animal health-care personnel should be made aware of the possible risk for infection associated with the veterinary use of RB51.

The epidemiologic conditions leading to possible infection in farmers and veterinarians are not unusual. Using the estimated rate of unintentional needle stick injuries among health-care workers in U.S. hospitals as a surrogate for unintentional inoculations with RB51, at least 11,000 needle stick injuries per 5.5 million injections (i.e., the number of Brucella vaccine doses administered in 1996) can be expected during 1 year. Exposure of farm and veterinary personnel to infected calves or placentas is another potential source of human infection, especially on farms where heifers might be vaccinated mistakenly during mid-gestation (i.e., at which time the calf fetus may be at greatest risk for post vaccination brucellosis).

CDC has established a registry of human exposures to the RB51 vaccine strain; after unintentional, conjunctival, or other suspected exposure to RB51, veterinarians, clinicians, or health department personnel should contact CDC's Meningitis and Special Pathogens Branch, Division of Bacterial and Mycotic Diseases, National Center for Infectious Diseases, to report the incident and discuss additional recommendations; telephone (404) 639-3158; fax (404) 639-0817.

FDA Approves Irradiation of Meat for Pathogen Control

From: "Douglas A. Powell" <dpowell@uoguelph.ca>

December 2, 1997
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

The Food and Drug Administration today approved irradiation of meat products for controlling disease-causing microorganisms. The approval applies to fresh and frozen red meats such as beef, lamb and pork. "Irradiation of meat could prove to be another important tool to protect consumers from food-borne disease," said Michael A. Friedman, M.D., Lead Deputy FDA Commissioner. "The process has been shown to be safe and to significantly reduce bacterial contamination."

This approval is based on FDA's thorough scientific review of a substantial number of studies conducted worldwide on the effects of irradiation on a wide variety of meat products. The studies included examination of the chemical effects of radiation,

impact on nutrient content of irradiated products, potential toxicity concerns, and effects on microorganisms in or on irradiated products. FDA concluded that irradiation is safe in reducing disease-causing microbes in or on meats, and that it does not compromise the nutritional quality of treated products.

FDA has previously approved irradiation of poultry to control pathogens, of pork for control of the trichina parasite, of foods such as fruits, vegetables, and grains to control insects, and of spices, seasonings, and dry enzymes used in food processing to control microorganisms.

Subjecting them to radiation from radioactive or machine sources treats food products, which kills significant numbers of insects, pathogenic bacteria and parasites. Irradiation does not make food radioactive, nor does it noticeably change taste, texture, or appearance. The United Nation's World Health Organization and the American Medical Association have generally endorsed irradiation of food products to control food-borne disease in humans.

Disease-causing microorganisms that can be controlled by irradiation include Escherichia coli 0157:H7 and Salmonella species. FDA's approval is the latest action by the Clinton Administration to take positive steps to reduce the number of consumers suffering from food-borne pathogens. Other steps include the implementation of mandatory Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) safety programs at seafood, meat, poultry processing plants; expansion of the nation's network of surveillance sites for food-borne disease; funding additional research on food-borne disease control and detection; increasing the number of inspectors and inspections of domestic and imported produce; and implementing industry and consumer education programs on reducing food-borne illness risks. Irradiation, although a potentially useful tool for helping reduce risk of food-borne disease, is a complement to, not a replacement for, proper food-handling practices by producers, processors, and consumers. This approval is in response to a petition filed in August 1994 by Isomedix Inc. of Whippany, N.J.

MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS & COURSES

See the ATVPHPM Web site at <http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/atvphpm/> for the most current listings.

Quantitative Risk Analysis Modeling Course: Using Monte Carlo Simulation Modeling Techniques - July 6-9, 1998

Organiser - Epidemiology Chapter of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists. To be held at the Veterinary Science Conference Centre, University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia. For additional information, contact Dr. George Perry <georgeperry@ava.com.au>

Risk Management in Agriculture - Principles and Applications' - July 6-11, 1998

International Postgraduate Training Course Wageningen, The Netherlands
Contact <ruud.huirne@alg.abw.wau.nl> for additional information.

Advanced Quantitative Veterinary Epidemiology - July 13-24, 1998

Department of Population Medicine,
University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario, Canada. N1G 2W1

The course occupies 11 days and will consist of lectures, demonstrations, discussions and hands-on analyses of data. The course is aimed at faculty, researchers and Ph.D. level graduate students in epidemiology. Mastery of the course content will enable participants to appropriately analyze and interpret complex data sets arising from observational studies. Graduate credit in quantitative epidemiological methods is available following successful completion of a series of assignments and examinations.

Course Pre-requisites: Participants should be familiar with statistical methods at least to the level of using least squares and logistic regression. In addition, because computing is an essential component of performing advanced analyses, participants must know how to manipulate and analyze data in SAS before this course. During the course you will learn more about data management, enhancing your programs, the use of macros, and how to use SAS procedures such as Proc MIXED, Proc

GENMOD and other advanced software procedures, to analyze your data.

Course Content:

* Week 1 - Analysis of case-control and cohort studies with proportion and count outcomes. The traditional approaches to modeling data will be reviewed, including: unconditional and conditional (for matched studies) logistic and Poisson models; specification and selection of risk factors in regression models; models for counts, multi-level outcomes, and methods for model criticism and evaluation.

* Week 2 - Methods for analyzing correlated responses, including repeated measure designs, in time and space. General problems with repeated measures, fixed versus random effect models, and models for quantitative and categorical outcomes such as generalized linear models and generalized estimating equations. Introduction to analysis of survival data.

Participants are encouraged to bring one or more of their own data sets suitable for analyses with the techniques presented in these modules. Each module will also include our own data bases and SAS programs to illustrate and enhance the concepts and methods covered in the course.

Instructors: The academic coordinators are Dr Wayne Martin and Dr John McDermott. Dr John McDermott (University of Guelph and ILRI) is the major instructor. Dr Mohamed Shoukri (University of Guelph) and Dr Ynte Schukken (University of Utrecht) will also participate in the course. The instructors have published widely on these recent analytic approaches to data analysis and have valuable experience from previous successful short courses.

Fees: The course fees are \$2995 Canadian. Accommodation and meals are extra
Information: If you would like to receive additional information about this course, please contact:

Dr. David Castle, CE Program Manager,
Office of Open Learning at
<dcastle@open.uoguelph.ca>

Design of Vaccination Programmes: From Seroepidemiology to Cost-Effectiveness - July 20-24, 1998

Warwick University, Coventry, UK.
Contact Dr. S. Hicks, Fax: +44 1203 523701; e-mail
<wupert@dna.bio.warwick.ac.uk> for additional
information.

Survival Analysis and its Applications in Veterinary Epidemiology – Aug 3-4, 1998

Please note an important date for your diaries. A two-day course on veterinary epidemiology will be organised by NOSOVE (Nordic Society of Veterinary Epidemiology) as a satellite course of the Nordic Veterinary Congress on August 3-4, 1998 in Helsinki, Finland.

Venue: University of Helsinki, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Finland

Topic: Survival analysis and its applications in veterinary epidemiology.

After an introduction into the topic the course will advance into more specific understanding of the subject in a stepwise manner. In addition to lectures and group sessions, computerized demonstrations will guarantee an optimal atmosphere for a thorough learning opportunity. Attending the course does not require previous experience on the topic. The course will be given in English and a detailed program will be sent to those interested.

Course fee: A course fee of 500 FIM will cover the teaching, materials, lunch, coffee and the course dinner. Accommodation (not included in the fee) is organized by the Nordic Veterinary Congress.

Registration by May 29, 1998:

Olli Peltoniemi, DVM, MVSc
Dept Clinical Sciences
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
University of Helsinki
Pohjoinen Pikatie 800
04920 Saarentaus
Finland
E-mail: <peltonie@vetmed.helsinki.fi>
Phone: +358 19 5295 306
Fax: +358 19 685 1181

17th European Course in Tropical Epidemiology – Sept 7-19, 1998

The "Seventeenth European Course in Tropical Epidemiology" (ECTE) will take place in Lisbon September 7-19, 1998.

The information details of the course are available at :

<http://www.ihmt.unl.pt/epitrop98.htm>

or E-mail: <academica@ihmt.unl.pt>

The ECTE is an introductory course in epidemiology. The emphasis will be on the methodology and practical application of epidemiological tools in developing countries. As such it is appropriate for those with no formal training in epidemiology and statistics. The course is very intensive and applicants should have a good command of English.

Because of the International Exhibition (EXPO 98) in Lisbon (22 May to 30 September) we strongly recommend you to make flight reservations as soon as possible.

Please note that the organizers are not responsible for contacting sponsor organizations and only the safe receipt of your payment by 30 June assures your participation. We hope that you are successful in doing so and we look forward to seeing you in Portugal in September 1998.

Yours sincerely,
Paulo Ferrinho
Course Convenor
Instituto de Higiene e Medicina Tropical Universidade
Nova de Lisboa

Modern Approaches to the Epidemiology and Control of Infectious Disease - September 7-25, 1998

<http://tonsillitis.zoo.ox.ac.uk/course/default.htm>

Wellcome Trust Centre for the Epidemiology of Infectious Disease (WTCEID), University of Oxford, UK.

Both human and veterinary diseases will be covered. Last year the topics included BSE, bovine TB and bovine mastitis.

Supercourse in Epidemiology, the Internet and Global Health

We are in the process of developing a supercourse in epidemiology, the Internet and global health for medical and nursing students. It will be developed by a large group of people worldwide, and provided for free to medical schools. The program represents a series of internet/interactive lectures. Instructors in medical schools can use one lecture or 16 lectures.

In addition we have several leaders to provide specific lectures on the future of the Internet (John Patrick, VP IBM), cardiovascular epidemiology (Jaakko Tuolimehto, National Public Health Institute in Finland), diabetes epidemiology (Peter Bennett, NIH), etc. The course will be translated into Spanish, Japanese and French. There is the interest to have this as part of the African distance education program, and it is being considered to be translated into 4 African languages.

The course will be provided on 3 and 1/2 disc to interface with the Internet where connections are poor, as well as CDs. The students from across the world will talk with each other, as we will have discussion groups, as well as global joint projects to bring the medical students together.

We would very much like people to review the lectures to comment upon them. All lectures will be peer reviewed. Please let us know if you would like to provide input to this course.

Ron LaPorte, Ph.D.
Director, Disease Monitoring and
Telecommunications
WHO Collaborating Center
Professor of Epidemiology
Graduate School of Public Health
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA 15261
<RLAPORTE@vms.cis.pitt.edu>

ISVEE 2000

From: "Salman Mo" <msalman@vagus.vth.colostate.edu>

Breckenridge, Colorado has been selected as the site of the Ninth Symposium of the International Society of Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics (ISVEE). ISVEE promotes the study of veterinary epidemiology and provides a vehicle for the worldwide exchange of animal health information. The date for the symposium is set for August 6- August 11, 2000. This week was chosen because there is less conflict with other related symposiums. The theme of the meeting will encompass the applications of epidemiology for the benefit of animals and public health.

Planning for the symposium has already started. The location is the Beaver Run Resort and Conference Center in Breckenridge. Both USDA: APHIS and the Association of Teachers of Veterinary Public Health and Preventive Medicine have committed to contribute \$10,000 each toward the organization of the meeting. A special account was established at Colorado State University, the headquarters of the organizing committee (see attached list of committee members). We, however, currently do not have sufficient funds to support the preparation of the symposium. The basic cost for the previous ISVEE symposium was approximately \$35,000 to cover mail, circulars, and travel costs for key individuals for the planning session. In addition, we are seeking corporate donations to sponsor banquet events, symposium materials, and scholarships for participants and graduate students who need support for attending the symposium. Your contribution will be acknowledged and will assist in ensuring a symposium, which we hope, will reflect the high quality of our institutions and hospitality.

The symposium provides great exposure to national and international animal health decision-makers, experts, and academicians. The Eighth Symposium of ISVEE was held July 1997 in Paris, France. 594 participants attended the meeting from Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia, North America, South America and the Pacific Rim. We anticipate more than 700 participants in the Ninth Symposium with increased participation from South and Central America. A simultaneous translation to and from Spanish will be provided if funding becomes available.

Contributions should be made to "Colorado State University- International Society of Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics Symposium Organizational Fund" and sent to the following address:

Department of Environmental Health, Attention Pat Key, College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado, 80523-1676.

The organizing committee would be glad to answer any questions related to the symposium. On behalf of the organizing committee, I appreciate your consideration of this request and look forward to an informative and beneficial event.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

See the ATVPHPM Web site at <http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/atvphpm/> for the most current listings.

Veterinary Epidemiologist/ Statistician

Animal Health Trust, Epidemiology Unit
Centre for Preventive Medicine

We require a veterinary epidemiologist or statistician to join our team and work on a major new, externally funded epidemiological study of risk factors for racehorses dying on British Racecourses. The results would be expected to have a major impact on welfare of racehorses.

We are looking for a veterinary surgeon with some experience or training in epidemiology, or a statistician with post-graduate experience. No specialist knowledge of equine disease is required and some training could be provided, if required, for the successful applicant. Salary in the range of 16,000-21,800 depending on age and experience.

The Epidemiology Unit, within the Centre for Preventive Medicine at the Animal Health Trust, carries out collaborative, multidisciplinary research into the causes and epidemiology of infectious equine respiratory disease and the heritability and control of inherited canine diseases. This new post represents an important expansion into the area of factors affecting equine lameness and wastage and the successful applicant could play a major role in the development of a research programme in this area.

For more information, contact James Wood Tel: (00 44)1638 750659,
Fax: (00 44)1638 750659,
E-mail: <james.wood@aht.org.uk>

Application forms are available from the Personnel Manager, Animal Health Trust, Lanwades Park, Kentford, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 7UU, UK.
Tel: (00 44)1638 750659,
E-mail: <rosemary.london@aht.org.uk>
Please quote reference.

Faculty Position - Epidemiologist

The College of Veterinary Medicine at Michigan State University invites applications for a faculty position in analytical epidemiology. This is a non-tenure track position. Requirements include a Ph.D. in analytical epidemiology and strong training in

biostatistics and computer applications. Candidates who also possess the DVM degree, or its equivalent, will be preferred. The emphasis of this position will be research, but the successful candidate will also participate in teaching and will serve as a resource person in helping faculty and graduate students in the clinical sciences and in the Animal Health Diagnostic Laboratory with the design and analysis of research projects and clinical laboratory data. The candidate will be expected to develop an extramurally-funded research program in his/her area of interest. Salary will be commensurate with training and experience. Send application, including curriculum vitae, statement of teaching/research experience and career goals, and the names of three references to Dr. John B. Kaneene, Professor of Epidemiology and Director, Population Medicine Center, A109 Veterinary Medical Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, 48824-1314, phone 517-355-2269. Applications will be accepted until May 15, 1998, or until a suitable candidate has been selected. Applicants must comply with the Immigration Reform Control Act regulations. Michigan State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and encourages applications from members of minority groups.

Paul C. Bartlett, M.P.H., D.V.M., Ph.D.
Professor, College of Veterinary Medicine Michigan State University
Phone: 517/353-2937 fax: 517/432-1042
E-mail: <bartlett@cvm.msu.edu>

Residency / Graduate Study Program in Veterinary Epidemiology

The Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia, is offering a residency / graduate studies program in Veterinary Epidemiology leading to a MS or Ph.D. degree. The program will provide advanced training in epidemiology and population medicine focusing on food animal production, equine health or public health.

To qualify for participation as a resident-graduate student, applicants must have a DVM or equivalent degree. For participation as a regular (non-resident) graduate student, applicants should have relevant training and interest in food animal production, equine

health and/or public health. All applicants must be academically qualified to be admitted to the Graduate School at Virginia Tech. The participant in coordination with the program advisor will determine the focus of the graduate research program. Options include food animal or equine population medicine, public health, diagnostic laboratory - practitioner interface, economics of health, or others.

Residents will be associated with the Production Management Medicine (PMM) section of the Large Animal Clinical Sciences Department. The PMM section provides routine health maintenance and emergency veterinary services for livestock and equine populations within a 35-mile radius of Blacksburg and referral veterinary services for livestock and equine health issues in the states of Virginia and Maryland. Residents will participate in clinical services on a limited rotational basis, in PMM rounds, resident/intern rounds and provide limited didactic teaching to veterinary students. Residents in addition will have the opportunity to participate in in-house clinical services. The residency program will provide training and experience to qualify individuals for board certification by the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine. Residents will take part in disease outbreak investigation and disease surveillance activities, evaluate animal health monitoring programs, and apply epidemiologic methodologies to herd health problems. Residents are expected to pursue an MS or Ph.D. degree. Regular (non-resident) graduate students are expected to provide limited didactic teaching to veterinary students, participate in disease outbreak investigation and disease surveillance activities, evaluate animal health monitoring programs and apply epidemiologic methodologies to herd and public health problems. Cooperation in research, outreach and instructional activities with the Epidemiology group under the leadership of Dr. Will Hueston at the Maryland Campus, in particular in the areas of risk analysis and animal health policy, will be encouraged.

Applicants should provide a copy of their curriculum vitae, a written statement of goals and interests, complete transcripts, GRE scores and names and addresses of 3 persons to be contacted for letters of reference. Please submit applications to: Dr. Francois Elvinger, Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences, VA-MD Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, Phase II, Duck Pond Drive, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0442. Anticipated starting date will be spring or summer of 1998. Assistantships plus tuition are available for residents and graduate students. For inquiries please contact Dr. Elvinger by mail, phone (540)231-7598, fax (540)231-7367, or e-mail: elvinger@vt.edu. Review of applications will

begin January 31, 1998, and continue until identification of suitable candidates.

Francois Elvinger, Dr.med.vet., Ph.D., Dipl. ACVPM Large Animal Clinical Sciences
Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA 24061-0442
Voice: (540)231-7598
Fax: (540) 231-7367
E-mail: [<elvinger@vt.edu>](mailto:elvinger@vt.edu)

Food Animal Production Medicine Residency/Graduate Program

The Department of Veterinary Preventive Medicine at The Ohio State University is seeking applications for a residency/graduate training program. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The successful candidate will assist the Department's regular Clinical Associate Professor in providing preventive and clinical health management services to flocks and herds of the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (DRC) and will also assist in instructing 4th year veterinary students. Currently, DRC has 700 milking dairy cows, 2,500 beef animals, and 6,600 swine on 12 farms in Ohio. The successful candidate must have a DVM (or equivalent) degree and be eligible for Ohio licensure and USDA-APHIS accreditation. This is a 12 month appointment renewable for up to 3 years upon satisfactory performance. The initial stipend will be \$19,000.00 and tuition fee waiver.

Candidates must also be acceptable for admission to the Graduate School. Approximately 40% of the resident's time will be available for graduate study and he/she will be expected to complete a MS in Veterinary Preventive Medicine. Board certification in either ACVPM or ABVP will be encouraged. Starting date is planned for July 1, 1998 or at a mutually acceptable date. Letters of Application should include college transcripts, curriculum vitae, a statement of professional goals, and the names of three references.

Send applications or direct inquiries to Dr. W. G. Queen, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Veterinary Preventive Medicine, 1900 Coffey Road, Columbus, Ohio 43210; Phone: (614)292-1206; Email: [<Queen.1@osu.edu>](mailto:Queen.1@osu.edu).

Further information about this position, the Department of Veterinary Preventive Medicine, and Columbus, Ohio can be obtained from the Department's web site [<http://prevmed.vet.ohio-state.edu>](http://prevmed.vet.ohio-state.edu).

The Ohio State University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Qualified women, minorities, Vietnam-era Veterans, disabled veterans and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

Faculty Position in Food Safety/Epidemiology

The Department of Veterinary Pathobiology, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Illinois invites applications for an ASSISTANT, ASSOCIATE or FULL PROFESSOR (tenure track or tenured) position in Food Safety/Epidemiology. The successful candidate should have an established record or demonstrated potential in original research in food safety/epidemiology. Preference will be given to candidates with expertise in the application of molecular epidemiology techniques to foodborne disease research. He/she will be expected to develop or continue an active research program, and contribute to the professional and graduate teaching programs and other scholarly activities of the Department.

The Department of Veterinary Pathobiology has strong research programs in infectious disease epidemiology, microbiology, parasitology, pathology, toxicology and immunology. The department, college and university offer many opportunities for collaborative research on food safety, production/population medicine and zoonotic diseases. The College of Veterinary Medicine has a strong commitment to the fields of infectious diseases and food safety, and is looking to develop Centers of Excellence in these areas. The College is home to the Center for Zoonoses Research and Infectious Diseases (CZRID). Additional information about the College can be found on its Web site located at:

<http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/>

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) is located in central Illinois midway between Chicago, St. Louis, and Indianapolis. Other Centers of Excellence on the UIUC campus which serve as resources include the Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology, Biotechnology Center, Center for Advanced Study, Keck Center for Comparative and Functional Genomics, and National Center for Supercomputer Applications (NCSA).

Rank and salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. A Ph.D. or comparable qualification is required; A D.V.M. degree is desirable. The University of Illinois is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity Employer.

To receive full consideration, completed applications should be received by July 15, 1998. The committee will begin reviewing applications on July 15, 1998. The position is available beginning August, 1998; the starting date is negotiable. Send letter of application, resume, statement of research interests and names and addresses of three references to:

Dr Ronald D. Smith, Chair
Food Safety/Epidemiology Search Committee
Department of Veterinary Pathobiology
College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
2001 S. Lincoln Ave.
Urbana, IL 61802

Phone: 217/333-2449
Fax: 217/244-7421
E-mail: rd-smith@uiuc.edu

SUGGESTED READING

Free Parasitology Proceedings

From: "Klaas Frankena"
<Klaas.Frankena@GENR.VH.WAU.NL>

February 3 1998, a minisymposium entitled "Changing Perspectives in Veterinary Parasitology" was held in honour of Dr. A. Kloosterman, who ended his active career as parasitologist at the Wageningen Agricultural University.

Free copies of the Proceedings (in UK language, 46 pages) of this symposium are, in limited numbers, available to interested people. To obtain copies please send me your postal address by e-mail. The contents of the Proceedings are listed below.

Contents:
* General introduction (Prof. Cornelissen)
* Reflections on parasitic gastroenteritis (Dr. Jansen)

- * Towards herd health monitoring of parasitic gastroenteritis in young dairy cattle (Dr. Eysker)
- * Gastrointestinal nematode infections and animal production (D. Ploeger)
- * Bibliography

Veterinary Epidemiological Methods

Those of you who attended the ISVEE in Paris last week already might have noticed the new book entitled: 'Application of Quantitative Methods in Veterinary Epidemiology'.

The objective of this book is to teach students, professional veterinarians and animal scientists the proper application of quantitative epidemiological methods and the sound interpretation of analysis results. Hence, they will be better skilled to support farmers and other participants in the food chain in their decision-making about animal and public health issues. The book focuses on quantitative epidemiological methods through theory and elaborated case studies for self-teaching. Additionally, attention is given to aspects related to animal health such as modelling, food hygiene, economics and surveillance systems.

Contents of the book are given below. A more extensive listing of the contents, the preface and other additional information can be found at our server at:

<http://www.zod.wau.nl/genr/epi.html>

Best regards,
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- Introduction to Epidemiology
- Current Areas of Application of Epidemiology and Perspectives
- Principles and Methods of Sampling in Animal Disease Surveys
- Measurement of Disease Frequency
- Basics of Observational Studies
- Multivariate Analysis: Logistic Regression
- Analysis of Time at Risk (Survival) Data
- Veterinary Clinical Trials
- Introduction to Theoretical Epidemiology
- Veterinary Epidemiology and Foodborne Diseases
- Animal Health and Economics
- Monitoring and Surveillance Systems (MOSS)

More information and ordering:

No. of pages: 445
Price: Dfl 175 excluding Dfl 30 shipment and handling (there is a special fare of Dfl 110 ex. for students).
ISBN: 90-74134-35-1 paperback
Publisher: WageningenPers, P.O. Box 42, NL-6700 AA Wageningen, The Netherlands Telephone: +31-(0)317-476514;
Telefax: +31-(0)317-426044;
E-mail: <Info@WageningenPers.nl>

You can obtain an order form by sending a fax or an e-mail to the Publisher.

Machin / Sample Size Tables for Clinical Studies.

Blackwell Science Inc, 1997, \$99.95.

Impact of Changing Consumer Lifestyles on the Emergence/Reemergence of Foodborne Pathogens

Emerging Infectious Diseases 3(4):471-479, 1997.
Centers for Disease Control
Author: Janet E. Collins, American Meat Institute

The Impact of Consumer Demands and Trends on Food Processing - Emerging Infectious Diseases

Emerging Infectious Diseases 3(4):467-469, 1997.
Centers for Disease Control
Author: Don L. Zink, Nestl

Holland / Probability without Equations: Concepts for Clinicians

The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1998, \$16.95.

Hunter / Waterborne Disease: Epidemiology and Ecology

John Wiley & Sons Inc, 1997, \$119.95.

Smith / Career Choices for Veterinarians: Beyond Private Practice

Smith Veterinary Services, 1998, \$27.95.

Current Issues in Public Health

From: "News of New Electronic Journals"
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<http://www.chapmanhall.com/ci/default.html>

ISSN: 1076-7762

Current Issues in Public Health is a subscription-based electronic version of the print publication of the

same title published by Rapid Science Publishers. Full-text is available to subscribers as PDF files.

Current Issues in Public Health serves a forum for timely topics of interest to the public health practitioner. Contributors discuss in what direction their field is headed and new approaches to problems, highlighting both of those that are successful and those that are not, making recommendations on what ideas should be adapted into daily practice.

Each issue covers the following topics:
Public health policy and practice
Public health disciplines and themes
Health of populations
Global health

Contact: <jhelp@rapidcom.co.uk>

Medical Waste Incineration and Agriculture

"Medical Waste Incineration and Agriculture: Industrialization's Impact on the Food Supply," a free brochure available from the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP), identifies food as the primary human route of exposure to dioxin, and medical waste incineration as a major source of those dioxin emissions. Dioxin is a known carcinogen, and has been linked to a variety of other health impacts, including infertility, birth defects, immune system suppression, learning disabilities, altered glucose tolerance and hormone disruption. IATP encourages farmers, processors and food producers to join others in taking an active role to prevent dioxin contamination of our food supply, by helping to eliminate sources of dioxin emissions, such as medical waste incinerators.

"Snail mail" copies of the brochure are available by contacting me directly at the address below (please spare your colleagues and don't order it through the listserv!) or you can view it in the "Resources" section of IATP's Endocrine Disrupter Resource Center at

<http://www.iatp.org/edrc>.

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IATP's Endocrine Disrupter Resource Center:
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Contamination of Animal Products

Contamination of Animal Products: Prevention and Risks for Public Health Scientific and Technical Review, Vol. 16 (2), August 1997

The first two issues of volume 16 form a set entitled Contamination of Animal Products. Issue 16 (1) addresses the risks to animal health of contaminated animal products, while the second issue, Volume 16 (2), is devoted to the examination of hazards to human health from the consumption and use of animal products. As the premier international organization for animal health, it is not only fitting that the OIE has conducted this study of food safety issues in relation to livestock products, but it is also timely.

The safety of food of animal origin for human consumption has become an essential part of the public health debate both within countries and among them. As international trade increases, the issue of equivalence of food safety systems becomes more significant and risk assessment methods to evaluate this become more critical.

The reasons for the enhanced recognition of the importance of food safety relate to changes across the globe. The traditional concern for food safety has been focused on residues from environmental chemicals, drugs and other toxic agents, which can accumulate in animal tissue. Recently, however, the discovery of microbial pathogens that do not affect animals but which cause human illness has changed the equation of concern. Organisms such as *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 or *Salmonella* Enteritidis are examples of these newly emerged pathogens. In addition to causing acute digestive distress in affected people, some of the microbial pathogens have chronic consequences, which can last a lifetime. Food preferences have changed so that the meat of wild animals, either farm bred or naturally harvested, is increasingly common on the menus of restaurants and in the homes of consumers. Fish, whether caught in the wild or farmed, is also increasing in popularity with consumers worldwide. This volume concentrates on the microbial foodborne pathogens associated with the major categories of animals that provide food for people around the world. For each category, there are reports from a variety of countries and regions. In addition, contaminants of non-biological origin are discussed. Finally, mention is made of microorganisms associated with animal manure, which can also cause human illness when inappropriately applied as fertilizer, resulting in

contamination of fruit and vegetables. The role of animal manure and pathogenic microorganisms in food safety has indeed become an important issue for ranchers and farmers throughout the world.

This study of hazards to human health from the consumption and use of animal products by 105 authors in 42 papers should attract a wide audience: from animal and public health authorities, food hygienists and risk analysts to the consumer.

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* The full text is presented in Spanish, with a summary in English

** The full text is presented in French, with a summary in English

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Animal Health Economics: Principles and Applications

A.A. Dijkhuizen and R.S. Morris

306 pages, paperback, 1997

ISBN 0-646-31481-5, NUGI 835

Price: NLG 127

This book has been designed as a guide to the field of animal health economics and its underlying methodology.

The book is primarily aimed at:

- Students in veterinary medicine, animal science, farm management and related fields,
- Veterinarians and extension personnel involved in providing animal health services,
- Government officials involved in disease control policy-making, and
- Research workers in animal health management.

The book includes contributions from internationally recognized experts from the Netherlands, New Zealand, USA, UK and Kenya.

Supplied with the book is a diskette, containing practical exercises (in computer spreadsheets) on the various methods and techniques in animal health economics, including production function analysis, partial budgeting, cost-benefit analysis, decision-tree analysis, Markov chain and Monte Carlo simulation, linear programming and dynamic programming.

Topics included in the book are:

- Framework and methods of economic analysis - Advanced techniques of economic analysis - Risky choice in animal health management - Decision support in animal health management - Use of spreadsheets in animal health economics