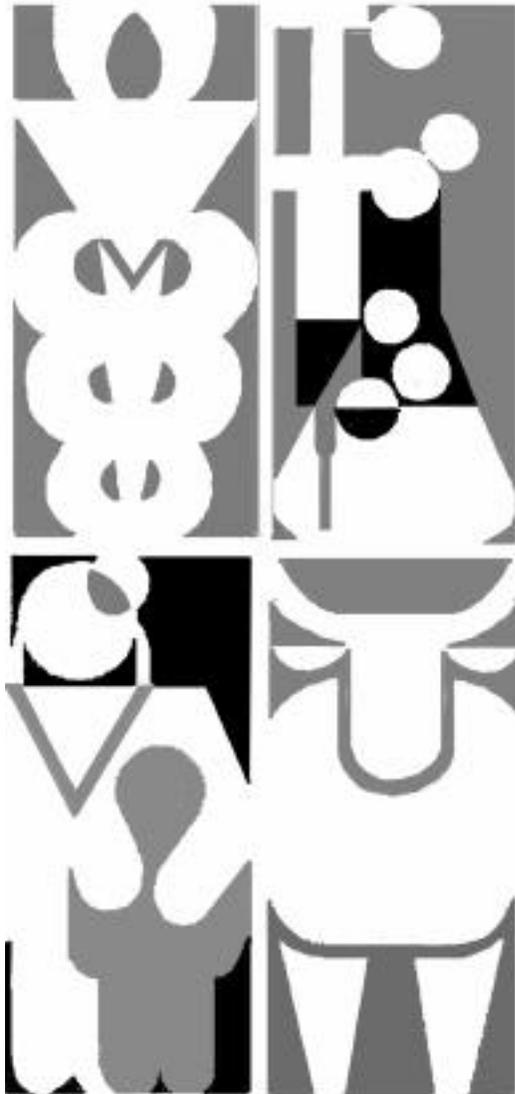


NEWSLETTER



Association of Teachers of Veterinary Public Health and Preventive Medicine

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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. 98) 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 97, then to become current you should remit two years dues or \$30. The ATVPHPM Constitution and By-Laws require that members two years in arrears in payment of dues shall be dropped from membership (Article VIII)

ASSOCIATION NEWS

President's Message

The new decade offers numerous challenges and opportunities in veterinary epidemiology both individually and collectively as Association members.

The most imminent of these is the Ninth International Symposium on Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics (ISVEE) in Colorado in August. Remember that our Association has made a major commitment to support ISVEE. We have given \$10,000 in sponsorship and are committing to waive registration fees (\$150) for up to 1 graduate student per paid-up member. This is another reason why our \$15 dues are the "best deal in town" among the many professional associations that you have to choose from.

Many association members, including Mo Salman and Hollis Erb as Chairs of the Organizing and Scientific Committees, respectively, are playing key organizational roles in the Symposium. Paul Morley is in charge of pre-ISVEE courses which will be jointly sponsored by the Association. If these courses are fully subscribed the Association will benefit substantially. This is especially important as income from external sources such as USDA training courses has decreased and we need to find new ways to generate funds and avoid the need to raise dues. Also, Margaret Slater has kindly taken on the responsibility for chasing members to help identify sponsors for various ISVEE events or items. I know that Margaret has mentioned this need already, but please talk to potential donors and twist their arms accordingly. Also as ISVEE approaches, the Organizing and Scientific Committees may have additional requests for help. Please support them to make this best ISVEE yet!

This year, we will reactivate our Awards Committee. Historically, we have given Awards of Recognition to members and non-members, the McCulloch Memorial Award for contributions to the human-animal bond, and the Mark Gearhart Memorial Graduate Student Award. If you would like to be on the Awards Committee, please let me know as soon as possible. In November, we are planning to have another pre-CRWAD Symposium/Workshop in Chicago. Daniel Scholl is exploring the possibility of having a Workshop focussing on graduate training in Epidemiology/Preventive Medicine/Public Health. More details will follow in the next Newsletter. If there are issues that you want our Executive

Committee to address in this coming year please contact me by phone (530-752-6992) or email iagardner@ucdavis.edu

Finally, I would like to recognize the contributions of Past President John New and the other members of Executive Committee for transitioning the Association so well for the future. Ron Smith, our Webmaster and Newsletter editor, and Jim Thorne, our Treasurer, deserve special thanks for their outstanding contributions over the last 2 years. I think a quote attributed to Arthur Ashe (as used by Gay Miller at the end of her emails) reflects their sense of community: "From what we get, we can make a living; what we give however, makes a life".

Ian Gardner, President; ATVPHPM

Support for ISVEE Participation

From: Bernard TOMA <toma@vet-alfort.fr>

There will be possibility to take in charge the cost of travel for some people going to the IXth ISVEE (August 2000, Breckenridge, USA) and presenting an oral communication. Application must be sent to Pr Toma, ISVEE Chairman. The precision on necessary information will be given to the applicants.

Sincerely
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Preventive Veterinary Medicine (Journal) Update

Sandra Migchielsen is now in charge of the journal at Elsevier Science, replacing Ken Plaxton who still has overall responsibility for Elsevier's global journal programme in animal and veterinary sciences.

The 1998 impact factor of Preventive Veterinary Medicine measures 0.764 (calculated by dividing the number of 1998 citations to articles published in 1996 and 1997 by the number of articles published in 1996 and 1997). Thereby the journal's position continued to rise from 44th to 40th of the 138 journals ranked in the veterinary sciences category.

Based on the origin of the corresponding author, approximately one-third of the papers is submitted from Europe, one-third from the Americas, and one-third from Africa, Asia, Australia and the Middle East. At present the rejection rate is approximately 30%, while refereeing times (from submission date to date of initial decision to the author) are averaging about 13 weeks and publication times (from acceptance to publication) are at around 3-4 months.

In addition to original articles, Preventive Veterinary Medicine occasionally publishes special issues (theme numbers). These may be a collection of peer-reviewed articles originally presented at an international conference/workshop (e.g. the 9th ISVEE meeting in 2000 will be guest edited by Salman), or a series of articles commissioned specifically for publication as a special issue. Examples of the latter presently in the pipeline are a special issue devoted to diagnostic testing, guest edited by Gardner and Greiner, and a special issue on the certification of disease freedom, again guest edited by Salman.

The journal is keen to publish more critical review papers, both mini and maxi, as they appear to be well-received by its readers. Any advice, tips which you can give with regard to topics which might be solicited, potential editors/authors to approach etc. in your own and related areas of interest would be much appreciated. Please contact Sandra at a.migchielsen@elsevier.nl.

Free on-line access to the full-text articles published in Preventive Veterinary Medicine during the last 9 months is presently available via the journal's homepage at <http://www.elsevier.com/locate/prevetmed>! After December 31, 1999, you will have free access to full-text articles of the journal only if your library holds a paid paper subscription to the journal. Tables of Content and abstracts, however, will remain electronically accessible free for all.

AAPHV Position/Policy Statements

From: John New <jnew@utk.edu>

The ATVPHPM is a member of the Public Health Veterinarian Coalition Committee of the AAPHV. The AAPHV has developed position/policy statements on a variety of issues which can be found at the following website:

<http://www.avma.org/aaphv/year2000.html>

Please note the statements on raw milk and Se in eggs.

How to Contact ATVPHPM

Applications for membership, accompanied by a check for \$15 payable to the ATVPHPM, should be sent to:

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Phone: 573/882-6068

FAX: 573/884-5050

E-mail: thornej@missouri.edu

Membership application forms are available online at:

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

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Current and past issues of the ATVPHPM Newsletter are also available online at:

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Molecular (Genetic) Epidemiology

From: Epivet-L - The Veterinary Epidemiologists List

Question:

Is anybody aware of courses on genetic epidemiology, either having its roots in veterinary or human epidemiology?

Answer:

There is an excellent lecture on-line by Dr. Janice Dorman called "Introduction to Molecular Epidemiology". It includes links to other web resources including Courses in Genetic Epidemiology. The lecture is on-line at:

<http://www.pighealth.com/Scourse/lecture/lec0131/001.htm>

Answer:

Genetic epidemiology courses can be found at:

<http://www.gene.ucl.ac.uk/users/dcurtis/lectures.html>

A more general site is: <http://linkage.rockefeller.edu/>

Diagnostic Test Evaluation

From: Epivet-L - The Veterinary Epidemiologists List

Question:

From the experience of any one out there who has done diagnostic test evaluation, i.e., comparison to an existing gold standard, is there a good reference that gets into the specifics of implementation, e.g., sample size estimation, etc?

Answer:

An excellent lecture course on "How to Evaluate a Diagnostic Test" can be found at:

<http://www.pighealth.com/Scourse/lecture/lec0341/001.htm>

State Association Honors Dr. Paul Nicoletti

Gainesville Sun, 9/19/99

Paul Nicoletti, a professor of epidemiology in the University of Florida College of Veterinary medicine, has received the Florida Veterinary Medical Association's 1999 Distinguished Service Award. The award is for exceptional achievements and contributions made toward the advancement of the veterinary medical profession. Recipients are chosen annually by the FVMA's awards committee. To be eligible, nominees must be an active member of the FVMA for at least 15 years. Nicoletti, a professor in the college's department of pathobiology, was honored recently during an awards program at the Wyndham Palace Resort in Orlando.

An international authority on brucellosis, a reproductive disease that affects livestock and is a public health threat to humans, Nicoletti has been a frequent consultant for several international agencies, including the United Nations. Nicoletti served as president of the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine in 1997-98, and was president of the national veterinary honor society, Phi Zeta, from 1997-99. He was inducted into La Academia Veterinaria Mexicana in 1996, only the third person from the United States to receive this honor. Other past honors include selection of the American Veterinary Medical Association's basic sciences teacher of the year in 1994 and FVMA's veterinarian of the year award in 1994. Nicoletti was president of the FVMA in 1995-96 and currently serves as president of the Alachua Veterinary Medical Association.

THE FUTURE OF FSIS VETERINARIANS: PUBLIC HEALTH PROFESSIONALS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

This Draft Report represents the work-in-progress of a Task Force composed of a diverse group of individuals including veterinarians from inside and outside of FSIS, a variety of FSIS management personnel, and individuals affiliated with academe, non-government organizations and foreign governments, convened in early 1999. A public meeting to discuss the Draft Report was held February 1, 2000, at the Washington Plaza Hotel, Washington, D.C

The Executive Summary and Table of Contents of the report are reproduced below. The entire report is available at the USDA-FSIS Web site at <<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/oa/pubs/futurevet.htm>>. For further information contact Dale Boyle, DVM, MPH; Executive Vice President; National Association of Federal Veterinarians; E-mail: nafv@erols.com

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Executive Summary

12/8/99

In 1999, the leadership of the Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) convened a select panel of individuals charged with examining how veterinary medicine, and the profession representing the art and the science of veterinary medicine, should be utilized in food safety. This Blue Ribbon Task Force was made up of a diverse group of individuals including veterinarians from inside and outside of FSIS, a variety of FSIS management personnel, and individuals affiliated with academe, non-government organizations (NGOs) and foreign governments. The findings and recommendations herein contained embody the collective thinking of all perspectives represented on the Task Force. The Task Force met numerous times through 1999 and has concluded its efforts in the following report.

The Task Force Members hope the reader will view their findings as a fundamental work that establishes a considered baseline of reasoning about the role of veterinarians in public and animal health, and food safety that must be continuously reconsidered and reevaluated. The role of the veterinarian as the purveyor of knowledge and expertise that will act as the foundation for the bridge between agriculture and medicine is paramount. Therefore the intent of this report is to fuel a renaissance in thinking about how veterinary medical expertise is considered, but more importantly how veterinary medical expertise is cultivated, nurtured, and utilized.

The profession of veterinary medicine, and the individual veterinarians representing the profession, are continually evolving with the discovery of new knowledge. Therefore in the final analysis the question will be how society is best served through the sustained use of the appropriate knowledge and expertise available in order to achieve the maximum safety in the food supply at a reasonable cost. The following pages contain five issue areas that the Task Force considered predominant for immediate consideration. The following recommendations will require a complete recasting of how the veterinarian is viewed inside and outside the Agency and even the individual veterinarian's view of him or her self will change. The suggested changes are not without difficulty and will require great work and diligence by leadership and the workforce. Nevertheless, hard labor produces great results and the Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service of the 21st century will be born.

In 1996, the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) issued the Pathogen Reduction; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems final rule to control and reduce pathogens (harmful bacteria) on meat and poultry. Federal and State meat and poultry plants must adopt HACCP, a system based on hazard prevention, with performance standards set by FSIS. Effective implementation of HACCP by industry will ensure safe food and should alter relationships with FSIS. Astute utilization of veterinary resources will enhance farm-to-table food safety. FSIS employees increasingly make science-based judgments that impact a broad range of entities.

Despite major changes, many still perceive FSIS veterinarians employed in the field as technicians rather than as public health professionals. Their role remains unclear. To meet its mandate for the 21st century, FSIS must better utilize the skills and talents of its current veterinary workforce and enhance efforts to recruit and retain highly qualified and motivated veterinarians in the future.

The Task Force developed recommendations around five major issues, which are discussed in detail later in this report. The issues are:

- I. DEFINING THE ROLE OF THE FSIS VETERINARIAN
- II. EDUCATION, TRAINING, RECOGNITION AND RECRUITMENT
- III. PARTNERSHIPS
- IV. COORDINATED DATABASES AND ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION
- V. VETERINARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL CREDIBILITY OF FSIS

PRODUCTS & REVIEWS

New Win Episcopes 2

From: Revista AquaTIC <aquatic@posta.unizar.es>

A new and extended version of Win Episcopes, the software package for both the design and analysis of veterinary epidemiological surveys and studies, and an aid to teaching veterinary epidemiology, is now available for FREE downloading from the following web sites:

- http://infecepi.unizar.es/pages/ratio/soft_uk.htm

- <http://www.zod.wau.nl/genr/epi.html>
- <http://www.clive.ed.ac.uk/winepiscopes/>

Any comment on this new version will be warmly welcomed by its authors.

Nacho de Blas and Carmelo Ortega

Nacho de Blas; Editor Revista AquaTIC
<http://aquatic.unizar.es>

INTERNET RESOURCES

CSREES Update

CSREES UPDATE is available on the CSREES home page under "News and Information." CSREES home page URL:

<http://www.reeusda.gov>

Food Security Web Site Makes Debut

An announcement was made this week that USDA has established a new web site dedicated specifically to the Secretary of Agriculture's Community Food Security Initiative. CSREES staff created and is hosting the site, which contains graphics created by the Economic Research Service--a true Research, Education, and Economics Mission Area team effort!

The site can be reached at:

www.reeusda.gov/food_security/foodshp.htm

or by pressing "Headline News" on the CSREES home page. After it is removed from the Headline News banner, it can be reached by clicking on the "Recent Additions" bar at the bottom of the CSREES home page. The Community Food Security Initiative home page will be expanded shortly to include more detailed information that can be directly used by nonprofit groups and other grass-roots partners.

CDC's Public Health Image Library (PHIL)

PHIL is an extensive collection of still images, image sets, and multimedia files related to public health, and offers an organized, universal electronic gateway to CDC's pictures. We welcome public health professionals, the media, laboratory scientists, educators, and the worldwide public to use this material for reference, teaching, presentations, and public health messages. <http://phil.cdc.gov/Phil/default.asp>

FDA's Food and Drug Law History Now Available

From the beginnings of civilization people have been concerned about the quality and safety of foods and medicines. In 1202, King John of England proclaimed

the first English food law, the Assize of Bread, which prohibited adulteration of bread with such ingredients as ground peas or beans. Regulation of food in the United States dates from early colonial times. Federal controls over the drug supply began with inspection of imported drugs in 1848. This publication provides a chronology of some milestones in the history of food and drug regulation in the United States.

<http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~lrd/fdahist.html>

FSIS Updates Generic HACCP Models

The Generic HACCP Models have been updated (May 1999) and are now available on the FSIS Web site. All the documents are in PDF format, so Adobe Acrobat Reader is required, and the files should be printed using the Adobe print button (not the browser's print button). The list of available models is found at:

<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/OA/haccp/models.htm>

Zoonotic Diseases Tutorial on the Web

From: Chris Olsen <olsenc@svm.vetmed.wisc.edu>

This tutorial covers over 50 zoonotic pathogens, with information related to the organisms involved, the clinical disease presentations in both animals and people, photographs of clinical and pathologic lesions and up-to-date reference lists. The site is now available at:

<http://www.vetmed.wisc.edu/pbs/zoonoses>.

OIE Diagnostic Manual Available Online

From: "Bruce Akey" <BAkey@vdacs.state.va.us>

The complete text of the OIE Manual of Standards for Diagnostic Testing and Vaccines is now available online at:

http://www.oie.int/norms/mmanual/a_summry.htm

This manual has been established as the international standard for laboratory testing for the international movement of animals and animal products and is the basis for lab testing for the OIE List A and List B diseases for which reporting is being developed in the National Animal Health Reporting System (NAHRS).

NEWS & COMMENTARY

Johne's Disease, Forage, & Economics

National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS) Beef '97 information related to JOHNE'S disease, BLV, FORAGE testing, and ECONOMIC analyses have been posted to the NAHMS web page:

www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/cahm (see Beef Cow-Calf):

- What Do I Need to Know About Johne,s Disease in Beef Cattle?
- Forage Analyses from Cow/Calf Herds in 23 States
- Importance of Income in Cow-Calf Management and Productivity
- Bovine Leukosis Virus (BLV) in U.S. Beef Cattle
- Culling Practices in Beef Cow-Calf Operations

Please note that while the Johne,s Info Sheet had been previously posted, this version contains additional information. For example: - 92.2 percent of beef producers were either unaware of Johne,s disease or recognized the namebut knew little else about it. Lack of familiarity with Johne,s disease was generally present across regions of the country and across sizes of operations.

Blood samples from 10,372 cows in 380 herds from 21 states were submitted for testing. Of these samples, 40 (0.4 percent) were positive for antibodies to the organism that causes Johne,s disease. These 40 positive animals were from 30 (7.9 percent) of the tested herds. The report explains why this percentage should be considered a conservative estimate.

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Feces as Animal Feeds, Official Policy – USA

What are practices in other countries? How extensively is animal waste used in animal feed? What are the effects on human health? In the United States, the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM) at its web page:

<http://www.fda.gov/cvm/fda/infores/consumer/litter.htm>

states the following about the use of recycled animal waste in animal feed: Recycled animal waste is a processed feed product for livestock derived from animal manure or a mixture of manure and litter. Animal wastes contain significant percentages of protein, fiber, and essential minerals and have been deliberately incorporated into animal diets for their nutrient properties for almost 40 years. Incorporation of this product into animal diets is a viable alternative to land application or land fill.

The recycling of animal waste as a feed ingredient is primarily a local practice. The bulk and weight of the product are such that transportation costs for significant shipment across State lines is generally uneconomical. Generally, animal waste is used within the State where it is produced.

Many State feed control agencies have taken the initiative in establishing standards regarding the use of processed animal waste as a feed ingredient. Because it is generally used within the State where it is produced and the States have the capacity to effectively regulate its use, FDA policy is not to take an active surveillance role in regulating the use of processed animal waste as an animal feed ingredient [policy citation omitted]. This policy does not constitute an endorsement of the use of recycled animal waste in animal feed, nor has FDA classified recycled animal waste as Generally Recognized As Safe (GRAS) or as an approved food additive.

FDA may still take regulatory action if shipment of waste across State lines which presents a health hazard is brought to the Agency's attention, and the State(s) involved cannot take appropriate regulatory action. FDA expects the States to require this product to conform to the definitions promulgated by the Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) <<http://www.aafco.org>>, as published in its "Official Publication" and as described in its "Model Regulations for Processed Animal Waste Products as Animal Feed Ingredients."

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ProMED Reorganized

<http://www.healthnet.org/programs/promed.html>

As of October, 1999, ProMED-mail has become an official program of the International Society for Infectious Diseases (ISID), with headquarters located in the Longwood medical complex in Boston, MA, USA. On October 12, ProMED-mail's e-mail services will move to the Harvard School of Public Health. The ProMED-mail website will soon move from <http://www.healthnet.org/programs/promed.html> to a new and enhanced site donated by the Oracle Corporation (to be announced).

The e-mail Program for Monitoring Emerging Diseases (ProMED-mail), founded five years ago by the Federation of American Scientists and nurtured by SatelLife, has grown to include more than 18,000 subscribers in over 150 countries. The present moves will help ProMED meet the growing demand for prompt, comprehensive and accurate reporting of emerging infectious disease outbreaks.

The International Society for Infectious Diseases is a perfect match for ProMED-mail. The ISID's mission is to bring together individuals from around the world interested in infectious diseases, including infectious disease specialists, microbiologists, immunologists, epidemiologists, public health workers, parasitologists, virologists, mycologists, molecular biologists, and others with similar concerns. The main goals of the ISID are to increase the knowledge base of infectious diseases through research and to enhance the professional development of the individual in this discipline; to extend and transfer technical expertise in microbiology and infectious diseases, especially in resource-constrained areas; and to develop, through partnerships, strategies for control and cost-effective management of infectious diseases.

The ProMED-mail program will be managed by Dr. Tim Brewer, ISID Program Director, Susan Krumplitz, ISID Program Coordinator, and an enlarged Policy Committee including Dr. Jack Woodall and other present members. The Moderators and Managing Editor will continue as before. For further information, please contact ISIDbos@aol.com or visit the ISID web site at <http://www.ISID.org>. ProMED-mail and the ISID look forward to a long and mutually beneficial relationship.

ProMED-mail is profoundly grateful to the Board and Officers of ISID, the Dean and staff of the Harvard School of Public Health, the Oracle Corporation, The Rockefeller Foundation and an anonymous donor for making this move possible, and to SatelLife, the Federation of American Scientists, and our early

supporters for their faith and indispensable aid in bringing ProMED-mail to this point.

ProMED-mail's new address will be promed@promed.isid.harvard.edu. All mail sent to the old address will be forwarded.

Predictive Microbiology for the Meat Industry

From: Karen Krist <kkrist@mla.com.au>

Meat & Livestock Australia announces the release of the latest publication from their food safety research program. The book, 'Predictive microbiology for the meat industry' (authored by Dr Tom Ross, University of Tasmania, Australia), is the culmination of a 3 year research project on predictive modelling and its application in risk assessment.

Table of Contents:

- Literature Review of Predictive Microbiology
- Literature Review: Data Collation
- Model Evaluation and Validation
- Model development and In-Plant Evaluation
- Quantifying and Utilising Lag Times in Predictive Microbiology
- Time-Temperature Integration in Exposure Assessment and Relative Hygiene Assessment

MLA has a limited number of copies to give away (order by e-mailing Karen Krist: kkrist@mla.com.au).

FDA Reviews Human Threat from Animal Antibiotics

Dec 9/99; Reuters

By Lisa Richwine

ROCKVILLE, Md. - A study released Thursday at a FDA-sponsored meeting was cited as concluding that an estimated 5,000 people last year may have picked up a drug-resistant strain of food poisoning from handling or eating chicken and were not cured after receiving initial antibiotic treatments. The story also notes that the accuracy and significance of the findings were vigorously debated by scientists, public health advocates and industry representatives at the public meeting to try to determine whether giving antibiotics to animals poses a serious human health threat.

Scientists believe the routine use of antibiotics in farm animals has spurred development of drug-resistant bacteria, or "superbugs," that can be passed to humans if meat from antibiotic-treated animals is not handled or cooked properly.

The FDA is considering placing limits on antibiotic use on the farm, especially for drugs considered last resorts

for stopping some human infections. Dr. Stephen Sundlof, head of the FDA's Centre for Veterinary Medicine, was quoted as saying, "We have gotten away from talking about zero risk."

We're talking about what is an acceptable level of risk." The story notes that makers of animal drugs contend the risk to humans is small, and that antibiotics help keep livestock healthy and the food supply affordable. They say that in addition to treating animal sickness, antibiotics help them grow faster.

The study ordered by the FDA looked at campylobacter, the most common type of food poisoning, that could not be killed with an antibiotic from a class known as fluoroquinolones, usually the first-line treatment for campylobacter infections. David Vose, the independent consultant who conducted the study, was cited as using a complex mathematical model to calculate the risk to humans, which he acknowledged was hard to measure. Vose relied on federal statistics on the number of campylobacter infections confirmed by laboratory tests in the United States in 1998. Assuming those numbers represented only a portion of all campylobacter cases, Vose estimated 2 million people were infected by the bacteria. Then, he factored in the number of people with infections serious enough to seek treatment, and the likelihood that their cases were drug resistant. He concluded about 5,000 people were infected with

resistant types of campylobacter and probably received fluoroquinolones that did not work. Vose was cited as saying that because the patients were delayed in getting successful treatment, they were sick for an average of two days longer than normal.

Vose was further cited as acknowledging that the study relied on several assumptions, adding, "It recognises the uncertainties, but the uncertainties could be eased a great deal if we were able to collect more data."

Dr. Fred Angulo of the federal Centres for Disease Control and Prevention was cited as saying campylobacter can lead to serious infections, especially for children, the elderly or people with weak immune systems, adding, "There may be more severe harm to them than just two more days of diarrhoea."

The story says that officials are using the two-day meeting to hear comments on whether Vose's study should be used as a model for assessing the threat to people. Dr. Richard Carnevale, vice president for scientific, international and regulator affairs for the Animal Health Institute, was cited as saying the agriculture industry recognises the need to use antibiotics wisely and that the study showed "99.9 percent of the U.S. population" was not at risk for that specific type of infection, adding, "There appears to be a very low risk to the U.S. population."

MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS & COURSES

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

March 29-31, 2000 - SVEPM; Edinburgh, Scotland

The 2000 Society for Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine (SVEPM) conference will be held at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, UK, and will run from Wednesday 29 March to Friday 31 March 2000. Contact Andrew Paterson <a.d.paterson@reading.ac.uk> for further information.

June 19-24, 2000; Risk Management in Agriculture - Principles and Applications; The Netherlands

<http://www.wau.nl/phlo>

Further information can be obtained from the International Training Centre (PHLO), Wageningen University, P.O. Box 8130, 6700 EW Wageningen, The Netherlands (phone +31 317 484092/3, telefax +31 317 426547), or from the Department of Economics and

Management, Farm Management Group, Wageningen University (phone +31 317 484065; email: ruud.huirne@alg.abe.wau.nl).

Deadline for registration
March 15, 2000

June 21-23, 2000 - 2nd International Training course on Advanced Methods for Test Validation and Interpretation in Veterinary Medicine; Berlin, Germany

Course Topics:

Test validation from the viewpoint of international veterinary medicine (guest lecture)
Basic concepts of test validation
Diagnostic performance measures
Study design, sample size, validation strategies
Receiver operating characteristic analysis (ROC)
Meta-analysis of diagnostic tests
Predictive values, likelihood ratios

Selection of cut-off values
Multiple tests and effects of test correlation
Test validation and interpretation without gold-standard
Testing at the herd (aggregate) level
Software for the diagnostic test context
Computer-assisted data analysis

For further information please contact:

CTW - Congress Organisation Thomas Wiese GmbH
Gosslerstr. 30
D-12161 Berlin

Tel +49 30 85 99 620
Fax +49 30 85 07 9826
e-mail thomas.wiese@ctw-congress.de

or download registration form from

http://www1.vetmed.fu-berlin.de/~mgreiner/validation_course/announcement.htm

Jul 2-5, 2000 - Third International Conference of Animal Health Information Specialists (3ICAHIS); London

From: Tom Roper <t.roper@rcvs.org.uk>

The Third International Conference of Animal Health Information Specialists (3ICAHIS) will take place in London from 2-5 July 2000, as part of the Eighth International Congress of Medical Librarianship (ICML8) (see <http://www.icml.org>)

Abstracts of papers are invited for 3ICAHIS. Papers should relate to the ICML8 theme of convergence and may develop the ICML8 sub-themes, though contributions on other subjects are very welcome.

The sub themes are:

- Scholarly communication: emerging models for creating and managing the knowledge base
- The animal health-care context: trends and expectations
- Standing on the shoulders of giants: lessons from history for the millennium
- The information centre: planning the architecture of the distributed resources
- The information professional: claiming new horizons preserving professional identity

Abstracts may be submitted electronically in Word, WordPerfect or ASCII format either by e-mail to t.roper@rcvs.org.uk or by post on 3.5 " floppy diskette with two printed copies to: 3ICAHIS Abstracts, c/o RCVS Wellcome Library, Belgravia House, 62-64 Horseferry Road, London, SW1P 2AF. Abstracts

should be submitted by 8/31/99. See the Web site for further information.

Tom Roper, Head of Library & Information Services
Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Wellcome Library
Tel: (44)171 222 2021 Fax: (44)171 222 2004
E-mail: t.roper@rcvs.org.uk
Web site: <http://www.rcvs.org.uk>

July 2-6, 2000 - 10th Congress of the International Society for Animal Hygiene (ISAH); Maastricht, the Netherlands

The International Society for Animal Hygiene (ISAH) is a society for veterinarians and other scientists in the field of animal hygiene with members in 47 countries.

Every three years, ISAH organizes an International Congress on Animal Hygiene with participants from the agricultural and veterinary practice, from universities, research institutes, governmental agencies and from various industries.

The 10th Congress of ISAH will take place in Maastricht, the Netherlands, from the 2nd to 6th of July, 2000. Apart from the entire array of animal hygiene from livestock to companion and zoo animals, the special focus of the 10th Conference is on Integrated Quality Control and Assurance in Livestock and Food Production.

For more information on topics, invited speakers, paper submission, registration etc., please contact Dr. Thomas Blaha at the University of Minnesota, College of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Clinical and Population Sciences, 385 AnSci/Vet Med Bldg., 1988 Fitch Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55112; Tel.: 612.625.8290, Fax: 612.625.1210, E-mail: blaha002@tc.umn.edu.

Thomas Blaha and Stanley Diesch

August 1-5, 2000 - Pre-ISVEE Courses; Fort Collins, Colorado

Organizers of the 9th International Society for Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics (ISVEE) Symposium are pleased to announce several continuing education courses to be conducted prior to the ISVEE Symposium (August 1-5, 2000) at Colorado State University, in Fort Collins, Colorado. These courses are proudly sponsored by the 9th ISVEE Scientific Committee, the Association of Teachers of Veterinary Public Health and Preventive Medicine, and the Teaching Teams for the courses.

Below are the titles, instructors, and dates for Pre-ISVEE courses. For additional information regarding these

courses, please see the ISVEE Web Page at <http://www.cvmb.colostate.edu/cveadss/courses.htm> For additional course information please contact Dr. Paul Morley using the address or numbers shown below.

Title: Spatial and Spatio-temporal Methods in Epidemiological Analysis
Instructors: Dirk Pfeiffer, Mark Stevenson, Joanna McKenzie, Carola Sauter-Louis.
Dates: August 1-4, 2000

Mixed Models for Continuous and Discrete Data in Veterinary Epidemiology
Instructors: Yrjo Grohn, Ian Dohoo, John McDermott, Moez Sanaa, Ynte Schukken, Henrik Stryhn.
Dates: August 1-4, 2000

Title: Population Dynamics of Infectious Diseases.
Instructors: Mart de Jong, Hans Heesterbeek, Aline de Koeijer, Arjan Stegeman.
Dates: August 1-4, 2000

Title: Advanced Methods in Diagnostic Test Evaluation and Interpretation.
Instructors: Ian Gardner, Matthias Greiner, Marios Georgiadis.
Dates: August 2-4, 2000

Title: Conducting On-farm Surveillance and Epidemiological Studies at the National Level.
Instructors: Members of the National Animal Health Monitoring program, Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health, USDA; Coordinator: Eric Bush.
Dates: August 5, 2000

For further information contact:

Paul S. Morley, DVM, PhD, Diplomate ACVIM
Assistant Professor, Epidemiology and Biosecurity
Dept. of Environmental Health
Colorado State University
Ft. Collins, CO 80523

Phone (970)491-7332; Fax (970)491-2940
pmorley@cvmb.colostate.edu

**August 7-11, 2000 - ISVEE 2000;
Breckenridge, Colorado**

<http://www.cvmb.colostate.edu/cveadss/isvee.htm>

**Science, Politics, and Animal Health Policy
Executive Fellowship**

The College of Veterinary Medicine at Michigan State University and the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine offer a unique learning experience in Science, Politics, and Animal Health Policy. This

Executive Fellowship's three modules are designed to be interactive and participatory, engaging the Fellows in current animal health and veterinary issues, and honing skills that apply to a variety of situations in public or private veterinary medicine. If you are a mid-career animal health professional, this program will help to mold you into an animal health leader of the 21st century.

Each four-day module is designed around case studies of current animal health issues that were selected to build competencies that are critical to successful policy development and implementation on the state, national and global level. Modules provide expert instruction that focuses on knowledge and skills that have wide application for veterinarians, public health and animal health professionals. The Fellowship will consist of three modules held at locations that augment the program's state, national, and global agenda (East Lansing, Michigan; College Park, Maryland, and Washington DC; and a site to be chosen in Mexico). The international site will immerse the Fellows in a local case study plus provide an optional opportunity to tour with spouses, family, and friends.

The Fellowship is led by Drs. Lonnie J. King and William D. Hueston. King is the Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Michigan State University and the former Administrator of USDA APHIS. Hueston is the Associate Dean for the Maryland Campus of the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine and the former Program Leader for the US National Animal Health Monitoring System. Both are diplomates in the ACVPM (epidemiology). Their combined experience and leadership in national and international animal health, government relations, trade, and risk assessment are the foundation for the academic program. Modules utilize a wide variety of other instructors and incorporate interactions with congressional offices, government agencies, special interest groups, lobbyists, international organizations, pharmaceutical industries, and other sites that support the learning in specific case studies.

If you are Interested in obtaining an informative flyer about the Science, Politics, and Animal Health Policy Fellowship, contact Dr. Dave Sprecher, Office of Outreach Activities, Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine, A-133 East Fee Hall, East Lansing, Michigan 48824.

Email: outreach@cvm.msu.edu
Telephone: (517) 355-4466
Fax: (517) 432-2391

Dr. Dave Sprecher
A-133 East Fee Hall
Coordinator of Outreach Activities and

Clinical Studies Coordinator, Office of Academic Programs
College of Veterinary Medicine
Michigan State University
(517) 355-4466
Fax (517) 432-2391
SPRECHER@cvm.msu.edu

PhD Graduate Student Position in Epidemiology

From: Ian Gardner <iagardner@ucdavis.edu>

We have a well-funded position for a PhD graduate student in epidemiology that is available July 1, 2000. The successful applicant will primarily assist with instruction of Masters of Preventive Veterinary Medicine students. Details of the position are described below. Please forward the description to anyone who might be interested.

POSITION: Veterinary Graduate Academic Program; Department of Medicine and Epidemiology; School of Veterinary Medicine; University of California, Davis

SALARY RANGE: \$26256 - \$41268 per year, dependent upon qualifications and/or experience (indexed to NIH scale).

BENEFITS: Payment of student health insurance and in-state fees. Out-of-state tuition not covered.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Term of program is for one academic year beginning July 1, 2000 and ending June 30, 2001. If effective date is later than July 1, payments will be prorated for the remainder of the academic year. Possible renewal up to a maximum of four years, with expectation that extramural funding will be sought by faculty mentor/student within first year of study.

FILING DEADLINE: Applications will be accepted through March 15, 2000 or until filled.

QUALIFICATIONS: D.V.M. (or equivalent) degree and acceptance into appropriate UCD graduate group (application may be concurrent). Minimum 3.5 GPA required for appointment and must be maintained. Must demonstrate high potential, promise and desire for an academic career in teaching and research. Demonstrated teaching and research experience or potential in area of epidemiology and information management required. Preference will be given to U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Provide instructional support in area of epidemiology and information management and conduct research under the guidance of one of the departmental faculty members whose research area is best suited to the appropriate field of graduate study.

TO APPLY: Applications must include transcripts of all college and professional course work, three letters of reference, and a narrative outlining future academic and professional goals. Concurrent application for admission to UCD graduate program is also suggested as successful admission is required for employment in this position. Women and ethnic minorities are encouraged to apply. Send applications or direct inquiries to:

Dr. Gary Carlson, Department Chair
Attn: Clarice Martin (cjmartin@ucdavis.edu)
Dept. of Medicine and Epidemiology, School of Veterinary Medicine
University of California, Davis
Davis, California 95616
PHONE: (530) 752-1363
FAX: (530) 752-0414

Interdisciplinary Graduate Training Program in Food Safety

From: Martin Wiedmann <mw16@cornell.edu>

The Cornell University Colleges of Agriculture and Life Sciences and Veterinary Medicine are launching a new interdisciplinary Ph.D. program in food safety at Cornell that will provide outstanding training to qualified students. This training program, which is part of a comprehensive Food and Water Safety program at Cornell (see <http://www.foodsci.cornell.edu/u/fws/fws.htm>) merges basic and applied sciences to provide students with the broad-based skills necessary for successful career development in food and water safety.

Graduate students will have access to a variety of world-class facilities and programs at Cornell ranging from the Cornell Nanofabrication Facility to the Cornell Genomics Initiative. This graduate program will also offer unique internship opportunities outside of the traditional academic environment ranging from training in a biotechnology company to experience with state and federal agencies charged with development of scientifically-based food safety policies and regulations.

Faculty mentors for this training program have expertise in the areas of food safety, food and veterinary microbiology, molecular microbiology, bacterial pathogenesis, microbial ecology and epidemiology.

Specific research areas include: molecular pathogenesis and ecology of foodborne pathogens; development of rapid and novel detection methods for foodborne pathogens; novel strategies to eliminate and control foodborne pathogens; molecular strain typing, and epidemiology of foodborne diseases. Students are encouraged to pursue laboratory rotations to aid in the selection of a dissertation advisor.

Students may apply to one of three graduate fields (Food Science and Technology, Microbiology, Veterinary Medicine). Applicants should have a strong interest in food safety and a BS or MS degree in any biological science; applicants with a DVM or equivalent degree are encouraged to apply. Successful applicants will be supported on teaching and/or research assistantships.

For additional information please contact Dr. Kathryn Boor, Department of Food Science, 412 Stocking Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853; e-mail: kjb4@cornell.edu; phone: 607-255-3111; fax: 607-254-4868.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

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

Faculty Positions in Public Health and Food Safety – Iowa State University

The Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Preventive Medicine at Iowa State University, invites applications for 2 tenure-track (9 month) positions at the Assistant Professor level. One position is in the area of public health and zoonotic diseases, the other is in food safety. Both positions require the development of an independent extramurally funded, basic research program (75% effort). The public health position research program will focus on zoonotic diseases, utilizing molecular microbiological and/or epidemiological approaches. Teaching responsibilities will include participation in courses for DVM and graduate students in public health including zoonotic diseases. This position requires a professional degree (DVM, MD) and doctoral level degree (PhD, DPH). Board certification (or eligibility) in Veterinary Preventive Medicine or related field is preferred. The food safety position research program will focus on molecular microbiological approaches to study of pre or post harvest safety of foods of animal origin. A research focus on mechanisms of antimicrobial resistance of food-borne pathogens is also appropriate. Instruction (20% effort) will include participation in courses for DVM and graduate students on the subject of food safety. This position requires the PhD degree. The DVM degree and postdoctoral experience are preferred. Iowa State University offers a competitive startup package, modern research space, and opportunities to collaborate with scientists at the USDA/ARS National Animal Disease Center, the USDA/APHIS National Veterinary Services Laboratories, the University of Iowa School of Public Health and the multi-university Food Safety Research Consortium.

Proposed start date for both positions is July 1, 2000 and applications will be reviewed beginning March 15,

2000. Candidates should send a letter of application including a statement of research interests, curriculum vitae, and 3 letters of reference (under separate cover) to: Dr. James A. Roth, Chair, Search Committee, Dept of VMPM, 2160 Vet Med, ISU, Ames, Iowa 50011. Iowa State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.

Research Scientist/Epidemiologist at Lincoln Park Zoo

Lincoln Park Zoo announces an immediate opening for a research scientist/epidemiologist who will develop and implement studies of infectious diseases as they relate to conservation programs. Areas of study may include the assessment of the relative impact of diseases in captive populations, evaluation of efficacy of vaccination programs, disease surveillance and determination of risk for reintroduction/translocation programs, examination of disease interaction between domestic and wild animals, study of zoonotic diseases and examination and improvement of diagnostics for infectious disease. A DVM with a Masters in epidemiology, biostatistics or related field is preferred. A PhD with experience in animal disease research will also be considered. Must be self-directed and demonstrate a significant interest in the study of infectious disease. Competitive salary and benefits package.

For more information, contact Dr. Robyn Barbiers, Director of Veterinary Sciences, Lincoln Park Zoo, PO Box 14903, Chicago, IL 60614 or email at rbarbier@condor.depaul.edu. Applications (curriculum vitae, letter of intent and names of 3 references) should be submitted to Human Resources Dept - EPI, Lincoln Park Zoo, PO Box 14903, Chicago, IL 60614 and will be accepted until position is filled.

SUGGESTED READING

Bulletin of the World Health Organization Web Site

The Bulletin of the World Health Organization has a revised homepage available at the URL:

<http://www.who.int/bulletin>

The new homepage includes access to the following:

- Table of Contents for each issue
- Abstracts (HTML) and full-text (PDF) of all articles; News items;
- Details of the Editorial Board;
- Updated Guidelines for Contributors;
- Contact details;
- and Subscription information

This represents the first phase in establishing a presence for the new-look Bulletin on the World Wide Web. We hope the web site will be of use to the tropical diseases research community and welcome suggestions for ways in which we can develop the site further.

Preventing Zoonotic Diseases in Immunocompromised Persons: The Role of Physicians and Veterinarians

Sara Grant and Christopher W. Olsen
University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, USA
Emerging Infectious Diseases. Vol 5, No. 1 (Jan-March, 1999)

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/eid/vol5no1/grant.htm>

Dictionary of Veterinary Epidemiology

Jean-Pierre Vaillancourt and Bernard Toma, editors
Prepared with the support of the Office of International des Epizooties, Paris

This dictionary comprises the first English-language source of definitions of terminology used worldwide in the study and practice of veterinary epidemiology. Based on the translation of the Glossai Dictionary of Veterinary Epidemiology contains:

- Formal, commonly accepted definitions of words and expressions used in reference to epidemiologic principles and methods by veterinarians and other animal health professionals in North America and -- Nomenclature of economics and biostatistics, two disciplines highly relevant to epidemiology and animal health.

- Comments and/or examples, synonyms, and cross-reference(s) to related terms in the book that accompany each definition.
- A list of principle sources used to compile the dictionary, which provides a source of recommended reading for additional information about specific topics.

In addition to the translators, the text has nine editors, two associate editors, and 55 contributors, veterinary medicine experts, from the United States, Canada, Belgium, and the United Kingdom.

Publication date: May 28, 1999; 300 pp., 6 x 9, illus., paperback, ISBN 0-8138-2639-X, \$69.95.

Available through ISU Press, Prices subject to change without notice. Sixty-day examination copies available to U.S. instructors.

In Europe, United Kingdom, Middle East, Africa, and India contact: Blackwell Scient Ltd. Phone: 44-1865-206206 FAX: 44-1865-206096 www.blackwell-science.com

Beverly Fisher
Promotion Coordinator
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FAX 515-292-3348
fisher@isupress.edu

Boge / Veterinary Disaster Team Resource Development Guide, 2nd Edition

Iowa State University Press, 1999, \$19.95. . ISBN: 0813820669.

Management of Animal Health Emergencies

Scientific and Technical Review, Vol. 18 (1), April 1999

From: g.dilmitis@oie.int

This compilation of papers on emergency management offers important information for managing animal and aquatic animal disease emergencies. The information and personal experiences described by contributing authors from Member Countries of the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) will be an invaluable reference publication on this important area of responsibility for veterinary administrators. In this respect, this review is an important, timely and practical reference document.

The scope of this publication is different from many previous editions of the Scientific and Technical Review, in that national Chief Veterinary Officers are the primary authors. This reflects the special role and regulatory responsibility that Chief Veterinary Officers exercise during disease emergencies. Hence, this issue is aimed more at being a practical technical guide than a compilation of scientific papers.

The first part of this publication explores the Generic principles which provide the framework to manage disease emergencies. A generic model for emergency management is presented. Key issues such as legal and international obligations, funding, compensation and involvement of the private sector are described. The aim of the publication is to reflect an international perspective to emergency management. The Prevention and preparedness approaches by countries in different regions, with different disease risks are presented. An overview of the Emergency Prevention System (EMPRES) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations is also given.

The OIE operates and makes progress through the collaboration and experiences of Member Countries. A section entitled Learning from others is therefore dedicated to case studies, with contributions from authors who have managed exotic disease emergencies.

A further section provides a useful approach to Dealing with unexpected or unknown emergencies. The experience gained by one of the OIE Member Countries, namely Australia, in managing such situations of difficulty is highlighted.

The OIE has acknowledged the growing importance of Aquatic animal health emergencies in both food production and international trade. Accordingly, this publication dedicates a section to this sector.

Finally, in the section entitled Emergency management of natural disasters, two contributions illustrate the role of the veterinarian in emergencies and the management of disasters involving livestock in developing countries.

Contents

- J. Blancou - Preface
- G. Murray - Introduction
- G. Murray & S. McCutcheon - Model framework and principles of emergency management
- R. Marabelli, G. Ferri & S. Bellini - Management of animal health emergencies: general principles and legal and international obligations
- H.S. Horst, M.P.M. Meuwissen, J.A. Smak & C.C.J.M. Van der Meijs - The involvement of the agriculture industry and government in animal

disease emergencies and the funding of compensation in Western Europe

- M. Sabirovic & B.D. O'Neil - Managing animal health emergencies through prevention and preparedness in Oceania
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- T. Yagasaki - Preventing and preparing for animal health emergencies in the Far East
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- R. Reichard - Case studies of emergency management of screwworm
- A.K. Mukhopadhyay, W.P. Taylor & P.L. Roeder - Rinderpest: a case study of animal health emergency management
- A.J. Guthrie, K.B. Stevens & P.P. Bosman - The circumstances surrounding the outbreak and spread of equine influenza in South Africa
- B.-J. Chen, W.H.T. Sung & H.K. Shieh - Managing an animal health emergency in Taipei China: foot and mouth disease
- G. Murray & P.M. Thornber - Dealing with unexpected or unknown emergencies: examples of Australian approaches
- T. Håstein, B.J. Hill & J.R. Winton - Successful aquatic animal disease emergency programmes
- E.-M. Bernoth, G. Murray, M.D. Rickard & G. Hurry - Approaches to managing aquatic animal health in Australia
- G. Grandidier - The role of the veterinarian in the management of natural disasters**
- S.E. Heath, S.J. Kenyon & C.A. Zepeda Sein - Emergency management of disasters involving livestock in developing countries
- G. Murray - Conclusion

* 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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Statistical Aspects of BSE and vCJD: Models for Epidemics

C A Donnelly and N M Ferguson, University of Oxford

Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) or "mad cow disease," first diagnosed in late 1986, is transmitted through feed, indirect horizontal transmission, apparently maternally and possibly horizontally, through cattle-to-cattle contact or a contaminated environment. With no ante-mortem test yet developed, the only information available about BSE is from case surveillance and a limited number of experiments. Only through careful and rigorous modeling and analysis can reliable estimates of past infection and predictions of future cases be made. The modeling developed for BSE utilizes a range of techniques from statistics, ecology, and demography that is of interest both as a case study and for providing tools for other modeling projects. *Statistical Aspects of BSE and vCJD: Models for Epidemics* presents the general methodology required for thorough analysis and modeling of novel long incubation diseases with largely unknown etiology.

Audience: Statisticians, Epidemiologists, Mathematical Biologists, Ecologists

Catalog Number: C0386, ISBN: 0849303869
Price: \$69.95, Publication Date: 07/21/99

To view this book, go to:

[http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/
ASIN/0849303869/ref=rm_item](http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/ASIN/0849303869/ref=rm_item)

or directly to the publisher at
<<http://www.crcpress.com/>>, go to Online Catalog and search for BSE

Applied Veterinary Epidemiology and the Control of Disease in Populations

Authors : B. Toma, B. Dufour, M. Sanaa, J.J. BÈnet,
F. Moutou, A. Louza, P. Ellis
576 pages
Price 25 US dollars

This book is intended for all those involved in programmes to control animal disease, whether working within the veterinary services, livestock producers' associations or private practices. The authors' main objective has been to produce a book that is easily understood and also accessible to non-specialists. Set within a framework of the design, organisation, implementation and evaluation of programmes to control the major infectious diseases of animals, this book presents basic epidemiological concepts and methods required to carry out such activities. The economic appraisal and evaluation of such programmes is also covered. Each of the ten chapters starts with a list of objectives and ends with a set of exercises and problems designed to enable the reader to check if these objectives have been achieved. The text is complemented by numerous tables and figures. The eight appendices contain additional material, particularly in the field of statistics.

This book can be ordered to :

NEVA; Europarc; 1 allÈe des Rochers 94045 CrÈteil
Cedex, France; Phone : (33) 141.94.51.51 - Fax : (33)
141.94.51.52; E-mail : neva@neva.fr

Ethical issues in Livestock Farming

Increasingly novel & sophisticated applications of science & technology to animal breeding and production are raising ethical concerns in many countries in an era when public caring and spiritual values are widely rising.

Ethical, political and trade issues in how we treat farm animals have become headline news. To name but a few: quality of life in factory farming systems; cloning; genetic engineering; "Mad Cow" disease (BSE); transplantation of animal organs into humans; bovine & porcine somatotrophin.

Complex cultural, emotional, philosophical and spiritual reactions have emerged to the economic, scientific and technical developments in agriculture. At last an authoritative textbook has emerged to guide us through this tangled and growing web of concern, conflict and debate.

Edited by Dr. John Hodges of FAO and Prof. In Han of Seoul University, this excellent new book "Livestock, Ethics & Quality of Life" from CAB International originated in a special symposium held at last year's World Congress on Animal Production. However, Additional chapters have been specially commissioned to provide a more comprehensive and balanced account.

The book does not seek to thrust answers upon us but to clarify the arguments and issues for us so that we can review and understand the range of approaches available and make our own informed assessments. Our way is then cleared to choose a forward direction that is based on clarity, discernment and wisdom rather than horror fantasies, fear and muddled thinking. More details of the book at: <http://www.pighealth.com/ethics.htm>

Pig Disease Information Centre Ltd (PDIC)
<http://www.PIGHEALTH.COM>

Emerging Infectious Diseases of Wildlife

Fri, 21 Jan 2000

In a paper published in today's issue of the journal Science (21st Jan 2000: P. Daszak, A.A. Cunningham & A.D. Hyatt Vol 287, 443-449) we describe a group of "emerging" infectious diseases of wildlife and discuss the threats these pose to the conservation of biodiversity and to human health. In our review, we applied the criteria originally used to define EID predominantly affecting humans, to focus on wildlife diseases that are newly recognized, newly appeared in the population or rapidly increasing in incidence or geographic range.

The underlying causal factors of the emergence of these wildlife EID show distinct parallels with those underlying emergence of EID in humans. We identify three principal causes of emergence: 1) "spill-over" of pathogens from domestic animals to wildlife; 2) translocation of host and/or pathogens for conservation, agriculture & hunting (termed "pathogen pollution"); 3) emergence without overt human involvement (e.g. climate oscillations).

Two consequences of wildlife disease emergence are highlighted. First, wildlife EID have been implicated in mass mortality events, population declines, local (population) extinctions and global (species) extinctions - therefore they represent a significant threat to conservation of global biodiversity. Second, many wildlife species are reservoir hosts of pathogens that threaten domestic animal and human health. Potential measures to counter these threats are discussed, from basic research into the ecology and biology of wildlife EID, assessment of their role in biodiversity loss and

their potential cost to human health, and implementation of practical measures such as legislating to control "pathogen pollution".

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