State Requirements for Reportability of Toxicoses

Jeffery O. Hall, D.V.M, Ph.D., D.A.B.V.T.
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Case Histories

- Case of arsenic poisoned cattle with samples from outside the state of testing
- Case of OP poisoned sheep with samples from outside the state of testing
- Both cases originated from animal owners
Case Histories

- Both cases would not give me authority to advise their state regulatory bodies of the incidents
- Laboratory SOPs on client confidentiality prevents release of client data, unless authorized by the client or mandated by law or regulatory bodies
How we Proceeded

- Dr. Wilson Rumbeiha and I designed a questionnaire regarding toxic event reporting
- Questionnaire sent to ALL state veterinarians
**Results**

- We received 18 responses
  - 12 had NO reporting requirements
  - 6 had some type of required reporting
- Some mentioned “good relationship with state lab and expectation of notice”
- Even with those requiring reporting, the laws (statutes) apply to state residents
What about Non-resident labs

- Requirements would fall to the resident(s) of the state that received results
- In some states with reporting requirements, it does not follow through to animal owners
- Two states indicated that out-of-state labs would be required to report, but stated that they likely would not know
States with requirements

General Wording

- The Utah List of Reportable Conditions for Animals has the following listed as to be reported to the state’s veterinarian office – “Toxic Substance Contamination – anything that could involve potential danger to humans or other animals”
- Maine: Require reporting of any toxic substance exposure that may threaten animal health, human health or food safety
- Washington: WAC 16-70 - report to the State Veterinarian immediately upon suspicion: Livestock exposed to toxic substances which may threaten public health, Unexplained increase in dead or diseased animals
States with requirements

- Michigan – reportable – Any animal contaminated with a toxic substance……
- California: Any conditions caused by exposure to toxic substances that have or may have the potential to be a public health, animal health, or food safety threat must be reported within 24 hours
- Minnesota- No law, but required by policy??
What Now??

- Come up with logical wording for recommended requirements.
- Do not make it so overbeating as to require reporting of every analysis with positive results.
- Aid laboratories in protecting the public and animal industries.
Questions