Record Attendance for The USAHA 107th Annual Meeting and The AAVLD 46th Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA

It was a record attendance for the 107th annual meeting of the United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) and the 46th annual meeting of the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD) in San Diego, October 9-16. Total registrants attending the meeting was 1,124—best attendance ever. This year there were 42 registrants from seven different foreign countries.

The Annual USAHA-AAVLD President’s Reception and Dinner on Sunday evening was well attended and one of the highlights of the meeting. Deputy Secretary Dan Webb, California Department of Food and Agriculture, welcomed the group to California. William Hawks, Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs; Joseph Jen, Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics; and Bobby Acord, Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, U.S. (Continued on page 14)

BSE Diagnosed

On Tuesday, December 23, 2003, Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman announced that the United States had a presumptive positive case of BSE in an adult Holstein cow in Washington State.

On Thursday December 25, 2003 the USDA received verification of their findings from the world reference laboratory in the United Kingdom.

Scientists at the Veterinary Laboratories Agency in Weybridge, England verified that the United States had a positive case of BSE in a cow in the state of Washington. USDA now considers the presumption positive BSE case to be a confirmed positive case.

The latest information on this case can be found on USDA’s BSE web page at www.usda.gov or the state of Washington’s BSE web page http://agr.wa.gov/foodanimal/animalfeed/bse.htm.

For general information regarding the BSE situation please call 866-487-3226. The APHIS Emergency Operations Center may be contacted at 800-601-9327 or by e-mail at emoe@aphis.usda.gov.
Names in the News

**DR. ELIZABETH LAUTNER**
**NEW PLUM ISLAND DIRECTOR**

An executive with the National Pork Board and member of USAHA has been named director of the Plum Island Animal Disease Center.

Maureen McCarthy, an official of Homeland Security, said Lautner will start on Jan. 1. Lautner will work at Plum Island for four years. After her term of service she will return to the National Pork Board.

**Dr. Lee Myers Receives Award**

Dr. Lee Myers was awarded the American Association of Food Hygiene Veterinarians’s (AAFHV) highest award, “Food Hygiene Veterinarian of the Year,” for her sustained outstanding contributions to food safety. Dr. Myers is the Assistant Commissioner of Agriculture and State Veterinarian for the State of Georgia. She is the outgoing Immediate Past President of AAFHV.

**International Tuberculosis Conference**

As a followup to the 2003 United States Animal Health Association meeting, an international group of scientists was brought to San Diego, California, to look at new strategies for controlling bovine tuberculosis when a wildlife reservoir exits.

The assembled group included experts in both agriculture and wildlife from New Zealand, South Africa, Great Britain, Ireland and the United States. The purpose was to analyze the situation in Michigan and make suggestions for eradication based on experiences in other countries.

This 2½-day meeting brought forward new ideas based on experiences with several wildlife reservoir problems. With the information that was presented at the meeting, the Michigan Departments of Agriculture and Natural Resources, with concurrence from the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, will revise the disease eradication plans for Michigan.

**Wildlife Agency Participation Increase**

Bruce Morrison, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

At the USAHA’s annual meeting in San Diego in 2003, the participation of state wildlife agencies continued to increase. Three years ago in Hershey, Pennsylvania, there were five state wildlife agencies represented. This year, biologists and veterinarians from 14 state wildlife agencies were in attendance. This is indicative of the increasing interest and concern in diseases that impact wildlife population throughout our nation. With CWD being found in new locations, West Nile virus impacting wild birds and tuberculosis in deer in Michigan, the state wildlife agencies have realized that, to properly manage the animal populations in their charge, they must become more involved in the overall animal health community. The short-lived but intense work involved in the outbreak of monkeypox in the United States last spring highlighted the need for these agencies to work closely with the agricultural animal health.

(Continued on page 13)

**ARS Turns Fifty**

November 2, 2003, marked the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Agriculture Research Service (ARS). ARS will be celebrating this milestone throughout 2004 at its more than 100 locations and headquarters offices.

ARS was created by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) as its chief in-house research agency on November 2, 1953.

Today, the agency is the largest agricultural research institution of its type in the world. The agency has contributed to advances in every facet of agriculture. The nature of ARS research has been the same throughout its history—basic research to sustain the knowledge base and applied science.

(Continued on page 10)

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It seems impossible that three months have elapsed since our 107th annual meeting. The meeting was bigger than ever with 1,124 total registrants. On behalf of the United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) I want to thank our California USAHA and American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD) colleagues and the USAHA staff for providing excellent arrangements and an outstanding environment for the meeting.

A special thanks is also extended to the Plenary and Scientific session speakers. Their success was well indicted by the large attendance and excellent comments we received regarding the sessions.

I would especially like to thank Past President Bob Frost for his leadership and untiring efforts. Because of Bob’s work we now have wildlife experts from across the nation at USAHA. We can now more effectively address the wildlife/livestock disease issues.

New members are extremely important to USAHA. We welcome the newly established Department of Homeland Security as an official government agency member. We also welcome the Food and Drug Administration, the National Park Service, the National Wildlife Health Center, and the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory as new official government agency members. New allied organization members include the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges, the National Chicken Council and the U. S. Poultry and Egg Association. These new members bring additional knowledge to USAHA. Collectively their expertise will help to assure that our association continues to effectively address animal health and public health issues in this new era of homeland security.

USAHA strengths are in it’s science-based committees. Two new committees have been established. They are the USAHA/AAVLD Committee on International Standards, chaired by Dr. Joan Arnoldi and the Committee on Scrapie that will be chaired by Dr. Jim Logan.

A task force has been established to work with Veterinary Services (VS) in addressing the implementation of the Exotic Newcastle Disease National Surveillance program. Dr. Lee Myers agreed to serve as chair of this task force.

USAHA has responded to a number of new rules proposed by USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). These comments concern the Cost Sharing for Animal and Plant Health Emergency Programs (Docket No. 02-061-1) and Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Minimal Risk Regions and the Importations of Commodities (Docket No. 3-080-1).

As you know USAHA by-laws require new committee chairs to be appointed after a tenure of five years. I have appointed the committee chairs for 2004, and they are: Committee On Animal Health Information Systems—Bruce L. Akey and Francois C. Elvinger; Committee On Animal Welfare—Steven L. Halstead; Committee On Aquaculture—Thomas J. Baldwin and Scott E. LaPatra; Committee On Biologics and Biotechnology—Robert W. Tully; Committee On Bluetongue And Bovine Retrovirus—James E. Pearson; Committee On Brucellosis—Sam D. Holland; Committee On Captive Wildlife and Alternative Livestock—Robert A. Cook; Committee On Feed Safety—Thomas J. McGinn; Committee On Food Safety—R. David Glauer; Committee On Foreign and Emerging Diseases—Corrie C. Brown; Committee On Government Relations—Bret D. Marsh; Committee On Import-Export—G. Reed Holyoak; Committee On Infectious Diseases Of Cattle, Bison And Lama—James J. England; Committee On Infectious Diseases Of Horses—Peter J. Timoney; Committee On International Standards—Joan M. Arnoldi; Committee On Johne’s Disease—William L. Hartmann; Committee On Livestock Identification—John F. Wortman, Jr.; Committee On Nominations And Resolutions—Bob Frost; Committee On Parasitic Diseases—Joseph L. Corn; Committee On Pharmaceuticals—Joe S. Gloyd; Program Committee—Richard D. Willer; Committee On Pseudorabies—Paul L. Anderson; Committee On Public Health And Rabies—Malcomb G. Fearneyhough; Committee On Public Relations And Information Technology—Lee M. Myers; Committee On Salmonella—David M. Castellan; Committee On Scrapie—Jim Logan; Committee On Sheep And Goats—Cindy B. Wolf; Committee On The Environment—Gavin Meerdink; Committee On Transmissible Diseases Of Poultry And Other Avian Species—John A. Smith; Committee On Transmissible Diseases Of Swine—Thomas J. Burkgren; Committee On Tuberculosis—Charles E. Massengill; Committee On Wildlife Diseases—John R. Fischer.

The Christmas announcement of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) in a Washington state dairy farm certainly changed the daily lives of many of our members. USAHA applauds USDA’s efforts in addressing this emergency situation.

I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming regional meetings. I also would like to encourage committee chairs to attend their regional meeting and be active throughout the year.

Happy New Year to all!!
Highlights of the San Diego Meeting

Great Food and Conversation with Old and New Friends

at the President's Reception
Highlights of the San Diego Meeting

Greeting Old Friends and Making New Ones at the Spouses’ Luncheon

Coming Together to Share Information
Highlights of the San Diego Meeting

Well-Attended Meetings
Highlights of the San Diego Meeting

Well-Attended Meetings

[Images of attendees at meetings]
**Highlights of the San Diego Meeting**

**Well-deserved Recognition**

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**Vaccination of Wild Bison**

Availability of an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact—Animal and Plant Inspection Service (APHIS)

We are advising the public that an environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact have been prepared by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) relative to subcutaneous vaccination of wild, free-ranging bison in the Greater Yellowstone Area with strain RB51 vaccine to help prevent the spread of brucellosis. The environmental assessment documents our review and analysis of environmental impacts associated with the vaccination and provides a basis for our conclusion that vaccination of the bison will not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. We are making the environment assessment and finding of no significant impact available to the public for review and comment.

To obtain copies of the environment assessment and finding of no significant impact, contact the National Center for Animal Health Programs, Veterinary Services, APHIS, 4700 River Rd. Unit 43, Riverdale, MD 20737, (301) 734-4923. The documents are also available on the Internet at www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/es/vsdocs.html.

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**Fatal Drug Reaction**

Excerpt from Nebraska FACE Program

A 38-year-old Nebraska cattleman died as a result of an accidental injection of an animal antibiotic known as Micotil, which has no known antidote. On March 8, 2003, the victim was preparing to vaccinate a heifer inside a barn. He was carrying a 12cc plastic disposable syringe in his right hand when a cow that was in an adjacent pen charged him, striking the fence between the two. The victim was knocked to the ground. Either when struck or from the fall, he was injected with an unknown amount of the antibiotic. He immediately began to feel dizzy and nauseous. He was able to return to the “vet room” inside the barn and call his wife who was nearby in the house. An ambulance was called, and the victim was rushed to a nearby hospital where he died less than an hour later.

Recommendations for Micotil use:
- Veterinarians and animal health distributors prior to releasing Micotil should require the purchaser to sign a product information fact sheet every time they purchase the product, which indicates Micotil can be fatal in humans and there is no antidote for this medication.
- Users of syringe-loaded medications should practice safe handling procedures during all phases of animal treatment.
- Veterinarians/cattlemen, when practical, should consider using another less-hazardous antibiotic.
- All companies/agencies responsible for the manufacture and/or approval of veterinary medicines and supplies should continue to devise new products that will reduce unintentional human exposure to accidental needle sticks/injections.

**ARS**

(Continued from page 4)

(Continued on page 11)
Committees are the backbone of the Association. They fall into one of two categories – standing or science-based. It is in and through all of the committees that some of the most important work products are generated. The Program Committee, one of the 31 specialty committees, is chaired by the President Elect. All committee chairs serve as members of this committee and support the President Elect in planning for and ensuring the success of the annual meeting, the most important function of the Program Committee.

Planning for the annual meeting is a daunting task. Responsibility for the joint annual meeting of USAHA and AA VLD falls to the President Elect from each Association. This year, Gary Osweiler (AA VLD) and I are charged to ensure the 2004 meeting in Greensboro is a success. Given the unqualified success of the 2003 meeting in San Diego, this will be no easy task. We both recognize that the success of the annual meeting depends on the efforts of many individuals, including the chairs from all committees.

In an effort to keep our chairs informed throughout the year, I have committed to sending an e-mail update of Association activities to all committee chairs on a regular basis. I anticipate communicating with the chairs in this fashion at least monthly. In addition, I am encouraging chairs to take an active role in reviewing issues throughout the year, such as proposed rules, and drafting comments for review by the Executive Committee. Teamwork is the key to success and the Association needs to capitalize on the expertise of our chairs in addressing issues between annual meetings.

On another note, APHIS has graciously recognized the need to seek state stakeholder input into the regionalization review process. In support of that, I agreed to act as the coordinator to secure state veterinarian participants on foreign reviews for regionalization requests. Since volunteering for that responsibility, a number of reviews with state participation have occurred. I was pleased to be included in the review of Great Britain for FMD freedom and the review of Argentina for freedom from END. Other veterinarians representing state interests have volunteered their time to participate in this very important process including Jim Watson, Mississippi State Veterinarian who visited Argentina last year to look at the FMD situation; Dick Hull, previous Illinois State Veterinarian, who participated in a review of two countries in Europe for CSF freedom; Andrew Clark, previous Oregon State Veterinarian who assisted with the review of several countries in Africa for FMD freedom; and recently Silvia Kreindel, veterinary epidemiologist from the Massachusetts Bureau of Animal Health who stepped in at the last minute to review the southern part of Argentina for FMD freedom. In addition, I recently compiled a list of potential state volunteers for site reviews being conducted in Mexico to look at their state tuberculosis programs. More reviews are on the horizon and I am pleased that APHIS is making every effort to include state expertise and point of view in their review process. A special thank you goes to those state volunteers who have taken time out of their busy schedules to participate in these past reviews and to those who will be involved in the future.

**Exotic Newcastle Disease Quarantine Lifted**

On September 16, 2003, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman announced the removal of the last remaining quarantines due to the recent outbreak of exotic Newcastle disease (END) in the United States. The presence of END in this outbreak was first confirmed in California on October 1, 2002. END is a contagious and fatal viral disease that affects the respiratory, nervous and digestive system of birds and is one of the most infectious poultry diseases in the world.

During the outbreak, which involved commercial and backyard poultry flocks, California, Nevada and Texas. State and federal quarantines were established in these states and in New Mexico, adjacent to quarantine areas in Texas. During the course of the outbreak, 19,146 premises were quarantined: 18,435 in California, 490 in Texas, 155 in Nevada and 66 in Arizona. A total of 3.21 million birds were depopulated on 2,206 premises. In addition, exports of poultry and poultry products from the infected counties and states were no longer accepted by many countries throughout the world. The outbreak cost more than $160 million to flight.

Eradication of the disease was conducted through the agriculture agencies of the affected states and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA. END continues to be a threat to the United States because the disease is present in birds throughout much of the world. Highlighting the threat is the fact that the recent outbreaks in the United States were a result of two separate END introductions, one into California and one into Texas. Much of the outbreak was due to human-assisted movement of backyard poultry and game fowl. Agriculture agencies are providing educational materials to the public as to what biosecurity measures should be implemented by poultry producers, pet–bird enthusiasts, and backyard-poultry owners to help prevent further introductions of END.
In the 14 years since the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) launched the National Pseudorabies Eradication Program, pseudorabies virus (PRV) has been nearly eliminated from the nation’s domestic swine herd. However, feral swine in 10 states have tested seropositive for PRV, and SCWDS studies have shown that once infected, feral swine populations remain infected indefinitely. Furthermore, distribution and abundance of feral swine appear to be increasing in many areas. In order to better understand the potential risks that feral swine pose for re-infection of domestic herds, SCWDS used Georgia as a model to develop a targeted strategy for conducting PRV surveillance among feral swine populations. With funding from a cooperative agreement with USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services, maps of feral swine distribution, domestic hog production, and previous feral swine PRV surveillance were developed and processed with geographic information systems (GIS) software in order to identify high-priority areas where PRV surveillance should be conducted.

A map of current feral swine distribution was developed in cooperation with the Wildlife Resources Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Surveys were distributed to each of seven DNR regions, where biologists, technicians and law enforcement officers indicated distribution and status of feral swine within the region. The resulting map indicated that feral swine populations are established in portions of 137 of Georgia’s 159 counties. A comparison of the current distribution map with a similar map created in 1988 indicates an increase of approximately 350 percent in feral swine distribution over the 15-year period (see figures).

GIS-Based Pseudorabies Surveillance

A map of domestic hog production was created in cooperation with the Georgia Agricultural Statistics Service using domestic hog data from the 1997 USDA Census of Agriculture. Hog production was calculated for each county as a function of domestic hog inventory and number of hog farms. Counties were then ranked by their hog production value and categorized as high-production, moderate-production, or low-production counties. The majority of high-production counties were located in the southern half of Georgia, although six high-production counties were located in the northern half of the state. A map of previous PRV surveillance was created using data from the SCWDS feral swine PRV database. PRV seropositive feral swine had been previously documented in 10 Georgia counties. Since PRV infection persists in feral swine populations indefinitely, populations in those counties were presumed to be currently infected. All high and moderate hog production counties with established feral swine populations and no previous PRV detections were classified as high-priority and moderate-priority counties for PRV field surveillance.

The targeted surveillance map was used to conduct additional field surveillance in 12 high-priority and two moderate-priority counties from May to August 2003. Feral swine were collected in 10 of 14 counties visited, and PRV was detected in 2 high-priority counties where it previously had been undetected. GIS techniques appeared to provide a logical and efficient means with which to prioritize field surveillance of a disease such as PRV.

SCWDS is developing similar maps for other southeastern states. In addition to their utility with respect to PRV surveillance, such maps would be highly useful in the event of a foreign animal disease outbreak such as foot-and-mouth disease or classical swine fever. (Prepared by Clay George of the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study for the SCWDS BRIEFS, Vol. 19, No. 3, October, 2003).
Zoonotic and Vector-borne Disease: Current and Emerging Issues
March 12, 2004, Seattle

This course will update veterinarians, physicians, extension agents, environmental health professionals, and other health officials on the status, trends, and issues regarding zoonotic and vector-borne diseases. The course focuses on diseases that are of the greatest threat to public health in the Pacific Northwest. Registration: $175 on or before February 20, 2004; $225 after; $95 scholarship/student.

For more information, contact Northwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety at 206-543-1069 or http://depts.washington.edu/ehce. Professional credit available.

National Veterinary Medical Services Act

On Saturday, December 6, President George Bush signed into law the National Veterinary Medical Services Act. This act will provide student loan requirement to veterinary school graduates who agree to work in underserved areas of the county. This act will place veterinarians in underserved areas of the country in need of veterinary health care by offering veterinary grants to assist in repaying educational debts. Eligible students will enter into agreements with the Secretary of Agriculture for a period of time and amount of repayment of educational loans determined by the Secretary in exchange for the veterinarian’s service in a shortage area including rural regions and inner-city areas.

In addition this act will establish a national guard of veterinarians. In exchange for additional debt repayment, eligible students can enter into further agreements with the Secretary to assist USDA in addressing disease outbreaks, agro-terrorist threats or similar emergency situations determined by the Secretary. The Secretary would be able to mobilize these volunteers to investigate suspicious and/or treat suspicious outbreaks, or as otherwise necessary.

Rural veterinarians are the nation’s front line of defense against disease outbreaks such as foot and mouth disease and bovine spongiform encephalopathy and preserving food safety. Inner-city veterinarians are in demand to address public health problems associated with pet overpopulation, parasites, rabies and other zoonotic diseases. There is a critical shortage of veterinarians with special training in strategic disciplines within the profession, including food safety veterinarians. Programs already exist for recent graduates of human health professions, as well as educators, with loan forgiveness in return for work in underserved areas, no such program exists for veterinary school graduates, until this act.

Wildlife Agency
(Continued from page 4)

agencies and others in their jurisdiction. The USAHA provides a forum for these agencies to interact with others involved in livestock, wildlife and human health issues that all interrelate with each other. The various presentations and committee meetings give us an opportunity to learn and to pass on our knowledge on wildlife populations and the impact diseases have on them and their management. When looking over the program, I found over 25 papers and posters directly related to wildlife issues, a significant increase from my first meeting in Hershey. Additionally, the interactions between universities, state agriculture agencies and the wildlife participants were very evident throughout the committee meetings and conservations held in hallways and at breaks. This increased participation by wildlife agencies can only bode well for North American animal health issues. We can learn from our fellow professionals in other animal health fields and provide a wealth of information to others in exchange. Once we acknowledge that we all are working towards the same end and combine resources, talent and efforts, the animal health emergencies that face each of us will be easier to overcome and problems will be solved. I urge each member of USAHA to make a contact with their state wildlife agency, find out who in that agency addresses wildlife health issues and begin to build a relationship that will benefit the citizens of our country. And don’t forget to invite them to the next USAHA meeting in Greensboro, North Carolina, next year.
San Diego Meeting Breaks Records
(Continued from page 3)

Department of Agriculture (USDA) expressed their appreciation to the group for their leadership and dedicated service in working to keep our animal resources as healthy as they are today.

Dr. John Enck, President of the National Assembly of State Animal Health Officials presented the 15th Annual National Assembly Award to Dr. John Huntley, State Veterinarian of New York. Since Dr. Huntley was still on assignment in Iraq protecting our nation, Dr. Bruce Akey accepted the award in his behalf.

Dr. Pat Blanchard, Past President of AAVLD, presented the E. P. Pope Memorial Award to Dr. Terry McElwain, Professor and Executive Director of Washington Disease Diagnostic Laboratory.

The joint plenary session, scientific sessions and committee meetings were all well attended. This year’s meeting agendas brought a number of first time attendees to a USAHA/AAVLD meeting. Dr. Bernard Vallat, Director General of the Office Internationale des Epizooties (OIE), was the keynote speaker for the USAHA/AAVLD plenary session on Monday morning. This was the first time that the OIE Director General has attended a USAHA/AAVLD meeting.

Thirty resolutions were developed by the different USAHA science-based committees. These resolutions were presented to the general membership for approval during the General Membership meeting on Thursday morning, October 16. The membership approved all 30 recommended resolutions. These resolutions have been forwarded to the appropriate agencies. They can be viewed on the Association’s web page at www.usaha.org.

Committee reports and news releases pertaining to the annual meeting can also be accessed on the web page. Proceedings of the meeting are being prepared and when published will be mailed to the membership during early 2004.

During the business sessions, Past President Lea gave the Committee on Nominations report, the Treasurer’s report was given by Jones Bryan, and President Bob Frost updated the membership on the state of the association. President Frost then passed the gavel to President-Elect Don Lein who reviewed his plans for the association during the upcoming year.

Past President Lea presented President Frost with a plaque commemorating his year as president and the gold Past President’s pin.

The other 2003-2004 officers are: President Elect, Rick Willer; First Vice President, Bret Marsh; Second Vice President, Lee Myers; Third Vice President, James Leafstedt; Treasurer, Jones Bryan; and Secretary, J. Lee Alley. The Regional Delegates are: Northeast—Bob Eckroade and Victor LeBranche; South—Wayne Godwin and Bob Good; North Central—Velmar Green and James Lewis; West—Cal Lum and Bill Sauble.

The 108th annual meeting will be held in Greensboro, North Carolina, in the Sheraton Greensboro Hotel on October 21-28, 2004. We look forward to working with you in Greensboro.

ARS
(Continued from page 10)

of outreach. Throughout 2004, each ARS location will host an open house or some other public event to highlight the importance of their customers and partners and the rewarding relationships that they had at the local level.

All Americans can be proud of the unique contributions ARS has made during the past 50 years. ARS has helped improve the quality of life for Americans and people everywhere. ARS has helped relieve hunger and malnutrition, increased food safety and quality and improved the lives of farmers.

USAHA appreciates ARS’s many scientific accomplishments and we look forward to the next 50 years.

Brucellosis
Found in Wyoming

Wyoming was notified of four slaughter tracebacks with high brucellosis titers on November 18, 2003. Identification records showed that the cows had originated in a herd in Sublette County, Wyoming, on a ranch adjacent to one of Wyoming’s elk feedgrounds where there are known brucellosis-infected elk. There have been no purchased additions of female cattle to this herd since 1975.

A whole-herd test of the index herd was done on December 2 and 3, and there were 31 reactors and 20 plus suspects found out of 319 cattle tested.

To date, all eight of the contact herds have been tested with results available on seven herds showing approximately 3,600 head of cattle negative. Four suspects have been identified showing positive on BAPA, but negative on Rivanol tests. Samples have been forwarded to NVSL for further tests.

There are still two small groups of cattle that will be tested since they had possible exposure on summer range to some of the contact cattle. All traceout cattle from the infected herd have been identified, and we are still in the process of ensuring that they do not end up in breeding channels. We expect to remove the reactors from the index herd the first week of January 2004, and the index herd will likely be depopulated also in January. All contact herds will be retested following calving. Further testing will depend upon results of post-calving tests.

Three states (Nebraska, California, and Colorado) have placed restrictions on Wyoming cattle as a result of finding the infected herd.
USAHA Membership

Official State Animal Health Agency (50)
Alabama
Alaska
Arizona
Arkansas
California
Colorado
Connecticut
Delaware
Florida
Georgia
Hawaii
Idaho
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maine
Maryland
Massachusetts
Michigan
Minnesota
Mississippi
Missouri
Montana
Nebraska
Nevada
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New Mexico
New York
North Carolina
North Dakota
Ohio
Oklahoma
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
South Carolina
South Dakota
Tennessee
Texas
Utah
Vermont
Virginia
Washington
West Virginia
Wisconsin
Wyoming

Official Federal Animal Health Agency (1)
USDA, APHIS, Veterinary Services

Official Territory Animal Health Agency (2)
Puerto Rico Virgin Islands

Official Foreign Animal Health Agency (4)
Australia
Canada
Mexico
New Zealand

Other Federal Agency (7)
USDA-Agriculture Research Service
USDA-Cooperative State Research, Education & Extension Service
USDDHS-Food & Drug Administration
US Department of Homeland Security
USDI-National Park Service
USDI,USGS-National Wildlife Health Center
USDOE-Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

National Allied Organization (28)
Alpaca Owners & Breeders Association
American Association Of Avian Pathologists
American Association Of Bovine Practitioners
American Association Of Equine Practitioners
American Association Of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians
American Association Of Wildlife Veterinarians
American Association Of Zoo Veterinarians
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Horse Council
American Sheep Industry Association
American Veterinary Medical Association
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
Exotic Wildlife Association
Holstein Friesian Association
International Association Of Fish & Wildlife Agencies
International Lama Registry
Livestock Exporters Association, U.S.A.
Livestock Marketing Association
National Bison Association
National Cattlemen’s Beef Association
National Chicken Council
National Institute For Animal Agriculture
National Milk Producers Federation
National Pork Board
National Renderers Association
North American Deer Farmers Association
North American Elk Breeders Association
U.S. Poultry and Egg Association

Elected Regional Representative (8)
Northeastern (2) Southern (2)
North Central (2) Western (2)

Individual Member (1,111)

What is the USAHA?
The nation’s animal health forum since 1897

The United States Animal Health Association, the nation’s animal health forum for over a century, is a science-based, voluntary organization of official state and federal animal health agencies, national allied organizations, regional representatives and individual members founded in 1897 to protect animal and public health.

USAHA’s mission is to:
• Serve as a forum for communication and coordination among state and federal governments, universities, industry and other groups on issues of animal health and disease control, animal welfare, food safety and public health.
• Serve as a clearing house for new information and methods that may be incorporated into laws, regulations, policy and programs.
• Act to develop solutions to animal-health related issues based on science, new information and methods and the ability to develop a consensus for changing laws, regulations, policies and programs.
• Serve as a clearing house for new information and methods that may be incorporated into laws, regulations, policy and programs.

The Association’s mission is implemented through deliberations of its science-based committees and the adoption of resolutions and recommendations aimed at solving problems. Committee size varies from 11 to 135 members.

USAHA is administered and its policy determined by the Executive Committee and Board of Directors. The Association maintains an office in Richmond, Virginia (www.usaha.org).

USAHA has met annually since its founding in 1897 and produces a printed proceedings of each meeting. The proceedings represent the most complete history of the nation’s animal health endeavors over the past century.

The 108th Annual Meeting of the USAHA will be held October 21-28, 2004, at the Sheraton Greensboro Hotel, Greensboro, North Carolina.

What is the USAHA?
The nation’s animal health forum since 1897

USAHA Membership

Official State Animal Health Agency (50)
Alabama
Alaska
Arizona
Arkansas
California
Colorado
Connecticut
Delaware
Florida
Georgia
Hawaii
Idaho
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maine
Maryland
Massachusetts
Michigan
Minnesota
Mississippi
Missouri
Montana
Nebraska
Nevada
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New Mexico
New York
North Carolina
North Dakota
Ohio
Oklahoma
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
South Carolina
South Dakota
Tennessee
Texas
Utah
Vermont
Virginia
Washington
West Virginia
Wisconsin
Wyoming

Official Federal Animal Health Agency (1)
USDA, APHIS, Veterinary Services

Official Territory Animal Health Agency (2)
Puerto Rico Virgin Islands

Official Foreign Animal Health Agency (4)
Australia
Canada
Mexico
New Zealand

Other Federal Agency (7)
USDA-Agriculture Research Service
USDA-Cooperative State Research, Education & Extension Service
USDDHS-Food & Drug Administration
US Department of Homeland Security
USDI-National Park Service
USDI,USGS-National Wildlife Health Center
USDOE-Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

National Allied Organization (28)
Alpaca Owners & Breeders Association
American Association Of Avian Pathologists
American Association Of Bovine Practitioners
American Association Of Equine Practitioners
American Association Of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians
American Association Of Wildlife Veterinarians
American Association Of Zoo Veterinarians
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Horse Council
American Sheep Industry Association
American Veterinary Medical Association
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
Exotic Wildlife Association
Holstein Friesian Association
International Association Of Fish & Wildlife Agencies
International Lama Registry
Livestock Exporters Association, U.S.A.
Livestock Marketing Association
National Bison Association
National Cattlemen’s Beef Association
National Chicken Council
National Institute For Animal Agriculture
National Milk Producers Federation
National Pork Board
National Renderers Association
North American Deer Farmers Association
North American Elk Breeders Association
U.S. Poultry and Egg Association

Elected Regional Representative (8)
Northeastern (2) Southern (2)
North Central (2) Western (2)

Individual Member (1,111)