United States Department of Agriculture

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Veterinary Services

FY 2009 Veterinary Services Training Catalog

Offered by the:

- Professional Development Staff (PDS)
- Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO)
- Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health (CEAH)
- National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL)

Last Updated 1/12/09

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United States Department of Agriculture | Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service | Veterinary Services | Professional Development Staff

Training Courses

Provided by the

Professional Development Staff

Fiscal year 2009

NOMINATION/APPLICATION PROCEDURES

(PROCEDURES PERTAIN TO ONLY THOSE COURSES THAT REQUIRE NOMINATIONS. CHECK COURSE DESCRIPTION TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY.)

For employees of the Eastern Region, Western Region, NAHPP, ODA, MSS, NCAHEM, CVB, NVSL, FADDL and CEAH:

1. Log-in to AgLearn at www.aglearn.usda.gov.
2. Click on Catalog. The page that appears is the Browse Subject page of the Catalog.
3. You will find your course in one of the Subject Areas listed in the left hand column. The course will be listed in the right hand column. In the box containing the course description, you will see a button that reads "Register." Click on this button.
4. You will be taken to a screen that tells you this course requires approval. Click on "Yes" to proceed.
5. The next page you are taken to is your Registration Page. In the table, two levels of approvers are listed. Level 1 is your Supervisor, and Level 2 is your Training Coordinator. If you click on "Show All," the name of your Supervisor and Training Coordinator should appear. If the Supervisor does not appear, you have not successfully listed your supervisor in your Profile, and will need to update your Profile. There is a tutorial on how to do this if you click on the "Help" link in the upper right hand of the screen.
6. Once you have made certain both your Supervisor and Training Coordinator have been selected, please click on "Confirm." The approval process will begin automatically. You will be taken to a summary of your registration. Please note, the status of your registration will say "Pending." This means that you are not in the class until you have been approved by both levels of approvers.
7. You will receive an email from AgLearn alerting you that you have submitted your registration for approval. At the same time, your supervisor will receive an email alerting him or her to your request for registration, and instructing him or her to log-in to AgLearn to review and approve your request.
8. When your supervisor approves your registration, you will receive an email alerting you that your request has moved up to the Training Coordinator. The Training Coordinator will then receive an email from AgLearn similar to the one your supervisor received.
9. When the Training Coordinator approves your request, you and your supervisor will be notified by AgLearn that you are registered for the course. The Professional Development Staff course facilitator will also be notified that you have registered.

Special Note:

If you have not received an email, from AgLearn, in a timely manner alerting you that your supervisor has approved your training, you must personally follow up on your request with your supervisor. AgLearn will not remind him or her again.

First priority is given to those individual(s) who are in absolute need of the training. More than one person may be placed in priority one status. The Regional Training Coordinators are:

Mary Fraser – *CEAH*
Mary.E.Fraser@aphis.usda.gov
(970) 494-7166

LaShaun Nelson – *EM*
LaShaun.F.Nelson@aphis.usda.gov
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(515) 663-7300

Richard Snyder – *Western Region*
Richard.W.Snyder@aphis.usda.gov
(970) 494-7382

All training-related correspondence (select, non-select, cancellation, etc.) will be sent directly to the participants by email with copies to the VSMT, Training Coordinators, and supervisors. Hard copies will no longer be issued. Requests for exceptions may be made to the VS Training Coordinators.

Questions regarding nomination procedures may be directed to Alan Huddleston at Alan.R.Huddleston@aphis.usda.gov or Leon White at Leon.White@aphs.usda.gov.

Our mailing address and phone number are as follows:

USDA, APHIS, VS, PDS
4700 River Road, Unit 27
Riverdale, MD 20737
(301) 734-5750

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Each course description gives the course title, dates, purpose, and in some cases, objectives, eligibility, location, and contact person.

The course dates do not include travel dates. Travel dates are normally the day before the start of the course and the afternoon and evening of, or the day after, the end of the course.

CANCELLATION AND SUBSTITUTION POLICY

Based on each particular course, it is important that PDS be notified as soon as possible in the case of a substitution and/or withdrawal of a course participant(s). We will accept substitutions and cancellations up to 1 week before the start of the course. Any changes in the status of nominees or course logistics will be communicated immediately through the Training Coordinators.

USDA

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United States Department of Agriculture

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Veterinary Services

Washington, DC 20250

VETERINARY SERVICES MEMORANDUM NO. 548.4

SUBJECT: Veterinary Services' (VS) Distance Learning (DL) Policy

TO: VS Management Team (VSMT)
Directors, VS

I. PURPOSE

Implementing the President's Management Agenda is a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), mission priority. The President's Management Agenda includes expansion of electronic Government (eGovernment) to simplify and unify government-wide operations, including education. To support the Presidential eGovernment initiative for "etraining," VS is establishing a policy, through this memorandum, to endorse the application and use of various DL technologies for continuing education purposes. This policy includes maximizing the use of the Agriculture Learning (AgLearn) Service for administering and taking online courses. AgLearn is USDA's Department-wide system for managing training records and training activity, including online courses.

This memorandum provides a standard set of guidelines for VS' DL policy. These guidelines will ensure that VS' position on DL is consistent with both APHIS' and VS' missions, which recognize that continual learning and balancing professional, personal, and community responsibilities are critical to success.

II. GENERAL

VS employees should be given adequate or appropriate opportunities to participate in continuing education programs, as well as to complete legislatively mandated courses, such as the USDA-sponsored Incident Command System 100 and 200 online courses. Through DL, VS employees can view and participate in lectures and online courses from various remote locations specifically set up to accommodate them (e.g., satellite seminars or videoconferences broadcast in training rooms or conference rooms). Accommodations can also be made on an individual basis (e.g., using work or personal computers to view CD-ROMs or net conferences).

III. GUIDELINES

A. Definitions

1. Distance Learning

DL allows VS employees to engage in learning opportunities from remote, non-central locations, such as their work site, thereby reducing or eliminating employee travel and time away from work, home, and family. DL includes correspondence courses, courses delivered by CD-ROM, and courses that are technology-dependent (e.g., Internet, intranet, audio- or video-conferencing, and web-based [online] courses). For the purposes of this policy, DL refers exclusively to distance learning events that are applicable and relevant to an employee's job function or career development path and that are consistent with VS' mission.

2. Mandatory Training

For the purposes of this Memorandum, mandatory training refers to learning events that employees are required to complete in compliance with USDA or APHIS policy or other legally enforceable requirement.

Mandatory training falls into two broad categories: non-technical or technical. Non-technical training is typically general in nature and not job specific. Examples of non-technical training include: civil rights training (a USDA policy); supervisory training (an Office of Personnel Management policy); and ethics training (a Federal policy). Technical training typically relates to specific employee job knowledge and/or skills. Examples of technical training include: Basic Epidemiology Training (a VS National Animal Health Policy and Programs requirement); and Export Certification Training (a VS National Center for Import and Export (NCIE) requirement).

B. Eligibility Requirements

All VS employees, full and part time, are eligible to participate in DL events commensurate with their job function, certification requirements, legislative mandates, and learning contracts or equivalent. Accordingly, they should be provided reasonable opportunity to engage in DL events on the job, to the extent that participation in such events is practical, feasible, and consistent with mission priorities. When possible, employee participation in DL events should be permitted during regular work hours, particularly if the DL event is: (1) mandated by legislation through USDA, APHIS, or VS; (2) required to fulfill job qualification requirements (e.g., certification or re-certification of particular skills); and/or (3) authorized by the employee's supervisor.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES AND AUTHORITIES

VS managers and supervisors should ensure fair and equitable enforcement of VS DL policy.

A. VSMT

The VSMT establishes and enforces VS policy regarding the application and use of DL.

B. Supervisors

VS supervisors should provide their employees with reasonable access to DL education opportunities that support VS' mission to safeguard animal health and promote continuing education. In addition, supervisors should ensure that employees complete mandatory training as required. As previously noted, mandatory training can be non-technical or technical. As a general rule, non-technical training (e.g., civil rights training; supervisory training; ethics training) requires about 1-2 hours on average to complete. Due the nature of technical training, estimated time allowances vary widely, ranging from a few hours to 40 hours or more. As an example, the Basic Epidemiology Training Course requires at least 40 hours to complete, whereas the NCIE Export Certification courses require 6-10 hours to complete. For this reason, supervisors should pay close attention to the estimated time durations that are usually provided with training announcements.

Supervisors should be flexible when determining whether employees should be allowed to participate in DL events during regular work hours. In instances where the DL event is mandated by VS or higher authority, employees should be allowed to participate, with due compensation for the time spent in training in accordance with APHIS guidelines, as applicable.

C. Employees

VS employees are encouraged to seek opportunities for continuing their education through reasonable and achievable means and to notify their supervisor when such opportunities arise. With respect to DL, employees may be required to provide periodic reports of progress, as well as documentation certifying successful completion. In all cases, employees are expected to put forth their best effort to derive the maximum benefit from their DL experiences.

D. Information Technology Support (ITS) Services

Various ITS resources are available to provide technical support to VS employees in the application and use of computer-based, telecommunications, and other DL delivery technologies. Among these resources are the VS ITS group, which operates under the VS Chief Information Officer. VS employees should contact their local VS ITS customer service representative, when necessary, for support in such areas as IT security, user account and access control (e.g., eAuthentication), equipment troubleshooting, etc. Additional ITS resources are available, including the AgLearn online help desk, the APHIS

Technical Assistance Center, and telecommunications host organizations (e.g., net conferencing support).

E. Professional Development Staff (PDS)

PDS provides training and system administration support to VS employees engaging in DL events, including training taken on AgLearn. As part of its mission, PDS also establishes, promotes, and implements DL events in accordance with VS policy and other legislative mandates.

V. RELATED DL WEBSITES

The following websites provide additional information on the requirements, application, and use of DL within VS:

A. AgLearn Learning Management System: http://www.aglearn.usda.gov/.

B. APHIS Mandatory Non-Technical Training: Go to http://www.aphis.usda.gov/mrpbs/non_technical_training.html and click on the Mandatory Non-Technical Training for APHIS Employees link.

C. VS Training: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/training/.

VI. POLICY DEVIATIONS AND EXCEPTIONS

The intent of this policy is to encourage and support the application and use of DL as a viable means of facilitating continuing education efforts of VS employees. It is important to recognize, however, that deviations and exceptions to this policy will be necessary from time to time for various reasons, including mission priority, schedule conflicts, staff shortages, equipment difficulties, and access issues. Any employee who is interested in DL but cannot participate for any reason should notify his/her supervisor. If possible, supervisors are encouraged in such instances to employ alternative methods for achieving VS' mission and commitment to continuing education. Supervisors should also notify VS PDS, who will raise these issues with the VSMT for resolution. In general, inquiries, suggestions, or concerns regarding VS DL policy or the application and use of DL in general or in specific instances should be directed to VS PDS.

John R. Clifford
Deputy Administrator
Veterinary Services

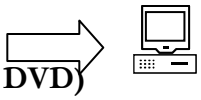
Veterinary Services Careers Program (VSCP)

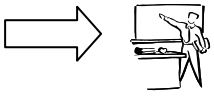
Location	Multiple sites and dates. Please see below for details of curriculum.
Program and Curriculum Description	Veterinary Services Careers Program (VSCP) training provides in-depth orientation and training opportunities to enable new VS employees to smoothly transition to Federal service, accelerate their productivity, and have productive careers in APHIS. The training program curriculum consists of a combination of instructor-led courses and distance learning courses, and participants have 2 years to complete the curriculum requirements. Instructor-led courses are held at various sites throughout the United States. Distance learning courses are self-paced instruction units that are available on the USDA's web-based AgLearn Learning Management System (http://www.aglearn.usda.gov/) or, if necessary, on CD-ROM and/or DVD.

Course Title	Delivery Method	Training Site	Training Dates*	Learning Track(s)
1. VSCP: Orientation, Part A		N/A	Must be completed prior to attending Orientation, Part B	I & II
2. VSCP: Orientation, Part B (1)		Riverdale, MD	October 28-30, 2008	I & II
3. VSCP: Basic Epidemiology for AHTs		Ft. Collins, CO	March 31 – April 3, 2009	II
4. VSCP: Orientation, Part B (2) (ONLY for persons neither accepted for Fall Orientation nor hired by September 30, 2008 – Please contact Amy Kokesh)		Riverdale, MD	April 14-16, 2009	I & II
5. VSCP: Communication & Managing Up		Raleigh, NC	May 12-14, 2009	I & II
6. VSCP: Animal Health 101		Ft. Collins, CO	June 17-18, 2009	I
7. VSCP: Basic Epidemiology for VMOs		Ft. Collins, CO	July 27-31, 2009 Pre-course prep materials are assigned.	II
8. Program Diseases		N/A	N/A	I & II
9. Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) Awareness		N/A	N/A	I & II
10.Introduction to Biosecurity		N/A	N/A	I & II

11. Cleaning and Disinfection Guideline		N/A	N/A	I & II
12. Disposal Guideline		N/A	N/A	I & II
13. Personal Protective Equipment		N/A	N/A	I & II
14. Export Certification of Animal Products I		N/A	N/A	I & II
15. VSCP: Leadership Development for VSCP Graduates		Kansas City, MO	July 14-16, 2009	I & II

Legend

Distance Learning Course (AgLearn and CD-ROM or DVD) 

Instructor-led Course 

*** Training Dates**	All training dates listed are **actual course** dates, and **do not** include travel days.
Purpose	The Veterinary Services Careers Program (VSCP) is designed to meet the need for highly skilled, forward-looking, well-trained veterinarians, and animal health personnel, as well as professional, administrative, and support staff who are ready to meet the challenges of promoting the health and welfare of America's animals. See **Course Descriptions** for detailed course information.
Target Audience	• VMOs and AHTs hired through the VSCP National Recruitment Program (referred to as VSCP Recruits). VSCP Recruits will have the VSCP Curriculum automatically added to their AgLearn account. • VS employees with no more than 2 years experience with VS and who meet nomination requirements. (See Nominations below) (referred to as VSCP Equivalents) For information on the VSCP National Recruitment Program, go to http://www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/pubs/pub_vscareers.html or contact Ms. Eileen Cramer at (301) 734-3826.
Cost	VSCP Recruits: travel and miscellaneous expenses for all VSCP courses, as well as additional approved training/development activities, are covered by the Professional Development Staff (PDS). VSCP Equivalents: only travel expenses for all VSCP courses are covered by PDS.
Contact	Amy Kokesh, VS/PDS, (919) 855-7174; amy.c.kokesh@aphis.usda.gov
Nominations	To be accepted into the VSCP training program, standard nomination/application procedures through AgLearn are required. You will not be officially accepted/enrolled until you receive **an official selection notification from the VSCP Training Coordinator, Amy Kokesh**. Please note that "accepted" in this case means that applicants: 1) are assigned the appropriate VSCP curriculum in their AgLearn account, based on the learning track (Track I or II) correlating with their employment status and job function; 2) are provided professional counseling services for career development (e.g., individual development plan, career coaching, etc.); 3) and, are given priority for attendance at instructor-led courses.

	Participants accepted for VSCP training must complete all training courses as assigned within 2 years of the commencement of their VSCP curriculum cycle to receive full credit for completing VSCP training. Please note that formal nomination is not required to take distance learning courses on AgLearn. However, you must have a USDA eAuthentication account to access AgLearn. For additional information relating to VSCP courses, please go to: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/prof_development/vscp.shtml
Nomination Deadlines	To commence FY2009 VSCP with VSCP: Orientation, Part B (1), October 28-30, 2008 the deadline for applying/registering through AgLearn is **August 31, 2008.** The registration button on AgLearn will be deactivated on this date. To commence FY2009 VSCP with VSCP: Orientation, Part B (2), April 28-30, 2009 the deadline for applying/registering through AgLearn is **February 28, 2009.** The registration button on AgLearn will be deactivated on this date.

Veterinary Services Careers Program (VSCP)

Curriculum & Course Descriptions

1. **Learning Tracks**
With respect to the VSCP, Tracks I and II refer to the two paths of learning, or tracks, that nominees are assigned under VSCP. The learning tracks define the specific courses one must complete to receive full credit for completing VSCP, and are based on job functions within VS.
Track I - employees in administrative and support positions.
Track II - VMOs, AHTs and all other technical/scientific positions.

2. **Instructor-led Courses**
The following classroom-based courses are part of the VSCP core curriculum and are mandatory for a participant to receive full credit for completing the VSCP.

a. ***Orientation, Part B (1)*** **Riverdale, MD** **October 28-30, 2008**
(Tracks I & II)
In this course participants apply the knowledge they gained through the Orientation, Part A, in a series of interactive activities surrounding the VS strategic goals. The course is designed to provide an overview of APHIS, VS through an introduction of the organizational structure of the USDA, APHIS & VS. Presentations and discussions include, but are not limited to, the mission and strategic goals of APHIS, VS, the roles of field and headquarters personnel, employee benefits, and resources available to maximize the participants' developmental opportunities. Participants also have the opportunity to meet and engage in discussions with various members of APHIS and VS management, and thereby gain further insight into the inner-workings of VS and its affiliated units.

b. ***Basic Epidemiology for AHTs*** **Ft. Collins, CO** **March 31 – April 3, 2009**
(Track II)
This course is specifically designed for animal health technicians (AHTs) or equivalents to ensure that newly hired AHTs possess the skill set necessary to assist VMOs in conducting epidemiological investigations and analyses of animal disease outbreaks, including tracking and reporting levels of certain endemic animal diseases, including those with public health and food safety implications. This course uses a problem-based approach to teach and reinforce the fundamentals of epidemiology; computer-based exercises reinforce theory, methodology and analytical skills necessary to conduct or assist with epidemiological investigations of animal diseases. Course participants are also introduced to the Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health (CEAH), Ft. Collins, CO.

c. ***Orientation, Part B*** **(2)** **Riverdale, MD** **April 14-16, 2009**
(Tracks I & II)
(ONLY for those persons neither accepted for Fall Orientation nor hired by September 2008)
In this course participants apply the knowledge they gained through the Orientation, Part A, in a series of interactive activities surrounding the VS strategic goals. The course is designed to provide an overview of APHIS, VS through an introduction of the organizational structure of the USDA, APHIS & VS. Presentations and discussions include, but are not limited to, the mission and strategic goals of APHIS, VS, the roles of field and headquarters personnel, employee benefits, and resources available to maximize the participants' developmental opportunities. Participants also have the opportunity to meet and engage in discussions with various members of APHIS and VS management, and thereby gain further insight into the inner-workings of VS and its affiliated units.

d. ***Communication & Managing Up*** **Raleigh, NC** **May 12-14, 2009**
(Tracks I & II)

This course is designed to enhance interpersonal communication skills; provide critical elements needed to foster teamwork; examine conflict management styles to turn difficult situations into win-win experiences; enable participants to support APHIS leadership and advance their own careers through sound decisions leading to positive results.

e. ***Animal Health 101*** **Ft. Collins, CO** **June 17-18, 2009**
(Track I only)

This course is designed to familiarize administrative and support staff with the fundamental concepts of animal classification, animal husbandry, disease agents and transmission, program and foreign animal diseases, and how these concepts affect economic health and public health.

f. ***Basic Epidemiology for VMOs*** **Ft. Collins, CO** **July 27-31, 2009**
(Track II)

This course is specifically designed for veterinary medical officers (VMOs) or equivalents to ensure newly hired VMOs possess the skill set necessary to conduct epidemiological investigations, analyze animal disease outbreaks, and track and report levels of certain endemic animal diseases, including those with public health and food safety implications. This course uses a problem-based approach to teach and reinforce the fundamentals of epidemiology; computer-based exercises reinforce the theory, methodology and analytical skills necessary to design and conduct epidemiological investigations of animal diseases. Course participants are also introduced to the Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health (CEAH), Ft. Collins, CO.
All participants **must** complete preparatory material, available as either a CD or through AgLearn, **prior** to attending the course.

g. ***VSCP: Leadership Development for VSCP Graduates*** **Kansas City, MO** **July 14-16, 2009**

An interactive course for VSCP Graduates to build upon skill development commenced during VSCP. The course will address career goals and leadership development utilizing the APHIS Leadership Roadmap and the APHIS Leadership Development Toolkit. The course will consist of 4 components: preparatory on-line courses; career coaching sessions; formal mentoring program; and, a face-to-face instructor-led meeting. The preparatory portion is designed to provide and exploration of career options, and yield a clearer understanding of the individuals' career goals, and begin to explore needed leadership skills. This portion of the course will consist of: 1) on-line assessments and 2) AgLearn, CD, and Sametime sessions and will dovetail with the other 3 components of the course: the in-person training, the mentoring and the career coaching sessions. Participants will be matched with mentors and participate in a one-year mentoring program. In the instructor-led training, participants will practice leadership skills such as team-building, conflict management, influencing/negotiating, and oral communications, skills best learned and enhanced in face-to-face settings. Career coaching will reinforce the learning from the other venues and focus on using that information to attain individual leadership development and career goals.

3. Distance Learning Courses

Distance learning (DL) allows VS employees to engage in learning opportunities from remote locations, such as taking online courses on the USDA's Learning Management System, AgLearn (http://www.aglearn.usda.gov/). The following online courses are part of the VSCP core curriculum and are mandatory for a participant to receive full credit for completing the VSCP.

a. ***Orientation, Part A*** **(Tracks I & II) –** This DVD-based course provides basic information about the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and its organizational units and programs, including Veterinary Services (VS). **All** VSCP participants **must** complete this course before attending Orientation, Part B, which is classroom-based.

b. ***Program Diseases*** **(Tracks I & II)** – This online course provides an overview of the major animal disease eradication and control programs, such tuberculosis, brucellosis, pseudorabies, scrapie, and Johne's. Equine and poultry disease initiatives are also addressed. Discussions about the various regulated industries, including their roles and perspectives, are included.

c. ***Foreign Animal Disease Awareness*** **(Tracks I & II) –** This online course addresses major foreign animal disease threats to the U.S., including their history and etiology; effects on animal and human health; economical and political influences and impact; current status; preventive programs; and the critical role of APHIS, the States, Industry, and Public Health Officials.

d. ***Introduction to Biosecurity*** **(Tracks I & II) –** This online course provides an introduction to biosecurity measures for various situations, including those to be followed when responding to a suspected animal health emergency. The course also reviews the responsibilities of biosecurity team personnel, biosecurity risks, and biosecurity planning.

e. ***Cleaning and Disinfection Guideline*** **(Tracks I & II) –** This online course introduces the process of cleaning and disinfection, types of disinfectant agents, the roles & functions of members of a Cleaning & Disinfectant Unit in the Incident Command System, and includes the *Cleaning & Disinfectant Operational Guidelines,* a component of USDA/APHIS' National Animal Health Emergency Management System (NAHEMS). NAHEMS Guidelines, reference materials for VS personnel, are also introduced through this course.

f. ***Disposal Guideline*** **(Tracks I & II) –** This online course provides an overview of procedures for disposing of contaminated animal carcasses and by products, as well as safety issues; *Disposal Operational Guidelines* published by USDA/APHIS that outline varying roles to be played on a Disposal Unit in an Incident Command System; to assist federal, state and local agencies in responding to disease outbreaks and animal emergencies; and, serves as a point of reference, a practical field resource, and not statutory requirements as part of the National Animal Health Emergency Management System (NAHEMS).

g. ***Personal Protective Equipment*** **(Track I & II) –** This online course is an overview of personal protective equipment (PPE) serving to provide a basic understanding of what PPE is available; when PPE is necessary; what type is necessary; how it is to be worn; what its limitations are, as well as its proper care, maintenance, useful life and disposal.

h. ***Export Certification of Animal Products I*** **(Tracks I & II) –** This online course introduces APHIS-VS policies and procedures regarding the certification of animal products for export.

Swine Health Protection Act (SHPA) & Classical Swine Fever Training	
Location and Dates	Raleigh, North Carolina — November 4-6, 2008 Little Rock, Arkansas — February 24-26, 2009
Course Purpose	Upon completion of this course, students will be able to: ▪ Effectively communicate with swine producers that feed garbage the purpose and requirements of the Swine Health Protection Act (SHPA). ▪ Perform a complete inspection on a garbage feeder operation and complete all the required documentation and forms. ▪ Recognize disease agents that can be in garbage that may disease in swine that eat the garbage, and clinical conditions in domestic swine that are indicative of a foreign animal disease. ▪ Train other livestock inspectors in the field on how to do proper garbage feeder inspections and communicate the importance of the SHPA to swine producers who feed garbage to swine. • Understand their role in the CSF Surveillance Program and perform field functions to support this program.
Target Audience	This course has been developed and scheduled to familiarize VMOs and AHTs who are, or will be, involved in SHPA and Classical Swine Fever program activities.
Cost	No tuition fee. Travel and associated costs with travel.
Contact	Ms. Nancy Platter, VS/PDS, (515) 232-5785 X512 Dr. David Pyburn, VS/NAHPP, (515) 284-4122 (Subject Matter Expert)
Nominations	This course requires approval for registration. Please review the PDS FY2009 Training Catalog **PAGE 1** for nomination instructions using AgLearn. All nominations must be sent from the Area Offices to the Regional Offices. The Regional Office will fax the approved prioritized nominations to VS/PDS, at (301) 734-4964.
Nomination Deadline	To the Regional Office: September 8, 2008 To VS/PDS: September 15, 2008
Selection	VS Regional Office
Letters	Participant invite letters will be sent to attendees no later than 4 weeks prior to course date.
Regional Offices	Forward the letters to AVICs and AOs/ASAs

Import/Export Animal Training Course	
Location and Dates	Riverdale, MD December 2 – 4, 2008
Course Purpose	The course is designed to increase and improve effective communications between NCIE and I/E field staff as well as convey the latest subject matter regarding the importation and exportation of live animals. While primarily focused on live animal topics, the course has also devoted several hours to animal product topics. Topics will include facility inspections, pets, aquaculture, export audits, certificates, user fees, EU issues, and product issues among others. A significant amount of time has been scheduled for information sharing between presenters and participants.
Target Audience	Import/Export Endorsing Officials and Document Examiners
Time Requirements	3 days
Cost	Travel costs and Per Diem
Contact	Dr. John Bare, VS/PDS, (515) 232-5785 ex. 510 Dr. Alan Huddleston, VS/PDS, (301) 734-0675
Nominations	**Participation for the course will be invitation only.** A list of participants will need to be compiled by each Region.

Animal Health 101		
Location and Dates	Raleigh, North Carolina Riverdale, Maryland Ames, Iowa Ft. Collins, Colorado	January 14 - 15, 2009 February 24 - 25, 2009 May 5 - 6, 2009 June 16 - 17, 2009
Course Purpose	Upon completion of this course, students will be able to: • Understand how our domestic food animals fit into the scheme of animal classification. • Understand the basic components of animal husbandry. • List the multiple disease agents, such as prions, viruses, and bacteria that cause disease in organisms. • Appreciate how disease is transmitted between animals and from animals to people. • Define a VS Program Disease, and understand the following about each of the Program Diseases o Causative Agent o Transmission o Clinical Signs o Treatment and/or Prevention o The VS Plan for Control or Eradication of the disease. • Define a Foreign Animal Disease, and understand the basic concepts outlined above for select FADs. • Appreciate the economic impacts and potential human health risks associated with select Program and Foreign Animal Diseases.	
Prerequisite	None	
Target Audience	This course has been developed for administrative staff in Veterinary Services. The training will be held at Headquarters in Riverdale, each Regional Office and the NCAH campus in Ames, IA. We are providing this training in multiple sites to avoid travel for employees in Headquarters, the Regional Offices or the NCAH campus. Administrative employees in the Area Offices are invited to attend any of the sessions. Travel expenses will be the responsibility of the Area Office.	
Cost	No tuition fee. Travel and associated costs with travel for Area Offices that send employees to the training.	
Contact	Dr. Alan Huddleston, VS, PDS, (301) 734-0675	
Nominations	**This course requires approval for registration through AgLearn**. Please review instructions on pages X-X for further instructions.	
Nomination Deadline	Raleigh, NC Riverdale, MD Ames, IA Ft. Collins, CO	October 28, 2008 February 10, 2009 March 28, 2009 June 2, 2009
Selection	30 seats are available for each session. If more than 30 nominations are forwarded, the seats will be filled based on the date the nomination was received.	
Letters	Participant invite letters will be sent to attendees two weeks prior to course date.	

Emergency Management Response Systems – Training for VS Management (Riverdale Only)	
Location and Dates	Riverdale, MD February 3 – 4, 2009
Course Purpose	The EMRS is a web based task management system designed to automate many of the tasks associated with animal disease outbreaks and emergencies. It is used for routine reporting of foreign animal disease/emerging disease incident (FAD/EDI) investigations, state specific disease outbreaks and control programs, classic national Animal Health Emergency responses, and natural disasters involving animals. Only authorized personnel in a specific state or with a definite "need to know" are given either "input/edit" or "read-only" access to a specific EMRS database. These personnel can be USDA, APHIS, VS employees, state animal health officials, or temporary hires. Information is managed in the EMRS using views for the field investigator, area office, region, laboratory, emergency management in Riverdale and, for the Incident Command System management personnel during an emergency response. The data entered into EMRS can be exported for use with other applications, reporting and data analysis. This course will provide a brief overview of all aspects of EMRS and will demonstrate the methods used in recent incidents to manage disease tracing and control activities as well as resource management. Participants will receive instruction and be given hands on experience with basic EMRS functionality and will receive instruction and practice in the reporting capabilities of EMRS.
Target Audience	VS Management in Riverdale, MD
Cost	Travel costs and Per Diem
Contact	Dr. Marvirstine Y. Briggs-Fisher, VS/PDS at 919-855-7166
Nominations	**This course is open to all Riverdale VS Management**

Animal Appraisal (AHTs selected by AVICs – Western Region only)	
Location and Dates	VS Western Region Office, Fort Collins, CO - February 24 – 26, 2009
Course Purpose	By the end of this course, participants will be able to: • Define the critical elements of an animal appraisal. • Demonstrate the ability to review and describe the appraisal process to state personnel and producers, including a realistic timeframe for completion of the process. • Demonstrate the ability to assemble the appropriate documentation and data necessary for a valid appraisal. • Determine the validity and value of an appraisal conducted for VS by private appraisers. • Input appropriate data into appraisal/indemnity calculators to determine estimated/projected values for budgetary purposes while final values are being determined. • Serve as the local VS representative to assist in resolving discrepancies between intitial appraisal and producer values through the compilation and verification of appropriate documentation and information. • Demonstrate a basic appraisal skill set during a case study exercise. • Describe the basic appraisal paperwork and flow of information from field to payment of producer. • Recognize and comprehend the role of an appraisal group during an animal health incident, as well as the expectations of Animal Health Technicians (AHTs) as lead appraisers during such an event.
Target Audience	This is a pilot offering of the course, and is thereby limited to AHTs within the Western Region. Animal Health Technicians with an interest in building a basic appraisal skill set, and specifically a skill set related to the poultry industry, should apply.
Cost	No tuition fee. Travel and associated costs are to be borne by the participants' office.
Contact	Amy Kokesh , VS/PDS, 919-855-7174
Nominations	All nominations must be entered through AgLearn. Interested AHTs may initiate the registration process and their respective AVIC will approve or deny their registration.
Selection	Selections will be made by WR AVICs. One AHT from each WR Area Office will be selected to attend.
Nomination Deadline	January 9, 2009

Aquaculture – Ornamental Fish	
Location and Dates	Tampa, FL February 24 – 26, 2009
Course Purpose	The purpose of the Aquaculture conference is to familiarize participants with the physical, biological and epizootiological concepts of aquaculture—particularly with regards to the ornamental fish industry. Topics will include diagnosing aquatic animal diseases, performing necropsies, and overseeing appropriate sample collection and submission. Additionally, participants will learn how to conduct aquaculture facility registrations, and will receive up to date information on VS policies as they pertain to Aquaculture.
Target Audience	Federal Aquaculture Liaisons
Pre-requisite	You must be a veterinarian and an Aquaculture Liaison. Moreover you should meet one of the following criteria: a. You work with or anticipate working with Ornamental Fish b. You did not attend the Aquaculture training in Olympia last year. In other words, you require a general aquaculture refresher. If you are not and Aquaculture Liaison, you must contact Robert Dickens (919) 855-7171 robert.c.dickens@aphis.usda.gov, for permission to enroll.
Cost	No tuition fee (direct costs). Travel costs only.
Contact	Dr. Robert Dickens, VS/ PDS, (919) 855-7171
Nominations	All nominations must be completed through AgLearn. Please review the PDS FY2008 Training Catalog **PAGE 1** for nomination instructions using AgLearn. Please note: you are responsible for ensuring your supervisor has approved your attendance in AgLearn. If you have not received his or her confirmation via email within one week of your enrolling for the course, you must follow up with your AVIC. **Please note, you cannot attend both the this course and the Aquaculture Catfish Course**
Deadline	Self-Registered in AgLearn: November 20, 2009 Approved by AVIC in AgLearn: December 1, 2009 * Enrollment will be limited to 12 liaisons. You must get you nomination in on time to be considered.
Letters	Participant invite letters will be sent to attendees no later than four weeks prior to course date.

Emergency Management Response System – Training for Area Epidemiologists	
Location and Dates	New Orleans, LA March 24 – 26, 2009
Course Purpose	The EMRS is a web based task management system designed to automate many of the tasks associated with animal disease outbreaks and emergencies. It is used for routine reporting of foreign animal disease/emerging disease incident (FAD/EDI) investigations, state specific disease outbreaks and control programs, classic national Animal Health Emergency responses, and natural disasters involving animals. Only authorized personnel in a specific state or with a definite "need to know" are given either "input/edit" or "read-only" access to a specific EMRS database. These personnel can be USDA, APHIS, VS employees, state animal health officials, or temporary hires. Information is managed in the EMRS using views for the field investigator, area office, region, laboratory, emergency management in Riverdale and, for the Incident Command System management personnel during an emergency response. The data entered into EMRS can be exported for use with other applications, reporting and data analysis. This course will concentrate on the high level concepts surrounding the tracing and control of FAD and program diseases. Methodology used in recent TB and Brucellosis incidents will serve as a model for demonstrating the use of EMRS as a fully functional Disease Management tool for Area Epidemiologists. Participants should have a basic command of EMRS and will be expected to learn how to utilize the Investigation Module to document the tracing of disease events and all control activities as well as report on those activities.
Pre-requisite	You must be an Area Epidemiologist
Cost	No tuition fee (direct costs). Travel costs only.
Contact	Dr. Marvirstine Y. Briggs-Fisher VS/PDS, (919) 855-7166
Nominations	All nominations must be completed through AgLearn. Please review the PDS FY2008 Training Catalog **PAGE 1** for nomination instructions using AgLearn.

Animal Identification Coordinator Workshop	
Location and Dates	Saint Louis, MO March 24 – 26, 2009
Course Purpose	This workshop introduces new animal identification concepts and provides current information resources relevant to animal identification initiatives. The training addresses significant new issues, trends, and developments affecting VS programs and the implementation strategies designed to achieve program goals. The training serves as an open forum in which Animal Identification Coordinators can network to share successes and challenges.
Target Audience	Animal Identification Coordinators (AICs).
Time Requirements	3 days
Cost	No tuition fee (direct costs). Travel costs only.
Contact	Dr. Robert Dickens, VS/PDS, (919) 855-7171
Nominations	All nominations must be completed through AgLearn. Please review the PDS FY2008 Training Catalog **PAGE 1** for nomination instructions using AgLearn. Please note: you are responsible for ensuring your supervisor has approved your attendance in AgLearn. If you have not received his or her confirmation via email within one week of your enrolling for the course, you must follow up with your supervisor.
Nomination Deadline	Self-Registered in AgLearn: December 10, 2009 Approved by Supervisor in AgLearn: December 17, 2009
Letters	Participant invite letters will be sent to attendees no later than four weeks prior to course date.

Designated Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy (TSE)	
Location and Dates	National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) Ames, IA - April 20 – 24, 2009
Course Purpose	Participation in this conference on an every other year basis is <u>required</u> for you to maintain your status as a designated scrapie and/or CWD epidemiologist (DSE or DCE). **Participants at this year's course may also include persons being considered to function as a designated epidemiologist in their State, and others actively involved with the scrapie and/or CWD eradication programs.** The seminar will cover established procedures for the scrapie and CWD programs, changes and emerging issues in the scrapie and CWD eradication programs, and the latest research that may aid in eradication. Many of the lectures and small group exercises of this conference are interactive and aimed at involving the participant in the decision-making process revolving around current eradication activities. At the end of the seminar, the participant should have a working knowledge of the science of scrapie and CWD as well as the current diagnostics, epidemiology, herd certification requirements, appraisal and indemnity procedures, depopulation and disposal processes, and the interstate movement restrictions for each disease as detailed in rules, memos and uniform methods and rules guidance (UM&Rs) published or issued by Veterinary Services. Laboratory exercises afford the participant the opportunity to further develop necropsy and live animal sample collection skills.
DSE **DCE**	A Designated Scrapie Epidemiologist (DSE) is a State or Federal veterinarian designated by APHIS and the State to make decisions about the use and interpretation of diagnostic tests and field investigation data and the management of scrapie–affected flocks. DSEs have met the requirements outlined in VS Memorandum 557.3 and have been approved by the State animal health, the VS area veterinarian-in-charge, the VS regional epidemiologist and the VS national scrapie staff. A Designated CWD Epidemiologist (DCE) is a State or Federal epidemiologist who has demonstrated the knowledge and ability to perform the functions required to make decisions regarding the use and interpretation of diagnostic tests and field investigation data and the management of CWD-affected herds. DCEs have met the requirements outlined in VS Memorandum 574.1 and have been approved by the State animal health or wildlife agency official, the VS area veterinarian-in-charge, the VS regional epidemiologist and the VS national CWD staff.
Target Audience	This course has been developed and scheduled primarily to provide the training required for Designated Scrapie Epidemiologists (DSEs) and for Designated CWD Epidemiologists (DCEs) to maintain their approved status.

Emergency Response to Disease at the Livestock/Wildlife Interface	
Location and Dates	Athens, GA May 12 – 14, 2009
Course Purpose	To familiarize participants with wildlife management in the United States and the relationship/implications that this profession has with our livestock economy.
Target Audience	Foreign Animal Disease Diagnosticians (FADDs), Wildlife Biologists, state and Federal Veterinarians
Time Requirements	3 Days
Cost	Travel Costs only.
Contact	VS/PDS, Nancy Platter, (515) 232-5785 X512
Nominations	All nominations must be sent from the Area Offices to the Regional Offices. The Regional Office will fax the approved prioritized nominations to VS/PDS, at (919) 855-7166. Selections will be made by VS/Emergency Programs Staff and the Emergency Leadership Team. State Veterinary nominees should be submitted to the Regional Offices by the AVIC, as well. This course requires approval for registration. Please review the PDS FY2008 Training Catalog **PAGE 1** for nomination instructions using AgLearn.
Deadline	To the Regional Office: February 23, 2009 To VS/PDS: March 2, 2009
Letters	Approximately 5 to 6 weeks before class begins, letters are sent to the participants and speakers, Regional Training Coordinators, and Regional Directors.

Basic Brucellosis / Tuberculosis Epidemiology	
Location and Dates	National Centers for Animal Health (NCAH) May 12 – 15, 2009 Ames, IA
Course Purpose	This year the Basic Tuberculosis and Basic Brucellosis courses will be combined. The Tuberculosis portion of the course will cover the requirements and responsibilities of the program. The course provides information on TB pathology, immunology, testing, epidemiology, and surveillance. Current program status and strategic goals, as well as issues such as TB in wildlife will also be addressed. The participant will gain skills in TB testing (comparative cervical tuberculin), interpretation of herd testing results, epidemiological investigations, and slaughter surveillance. The Brucellosis portion of the course will cover principles of the program, including disease status, the organism, disease characteristics, the epidemiology, the vaccines, testing methods, etc.
Target Audience	Federal and State VMOs who are, or will be, actively involved in the Bovine TB and/or Brucellosis Eradication Programs.
Time Requirement	4 days
Cost	Travel costs and Per Diem.
Contact	Dr. John Bare, VS/PDS, (515) 232-5785 x 510 Ms. Nancy Platter, VS/PDS, (515) 232-5785 x 512
Nominations	All nominations must be sent from the Area Offices to the Regional Offices. The Regional Office will fax the approved prioritized nominations to VS/PDS, at (301) 734-4964. Selections will be made by VS/NAHPP. This course requires approval for registration. Please review the PDS FY2008 Training Catalog **PAGE 1** for nomination instructions using AgLearn.
Deadline	To the Regional Office: March 2, 2009 To VS/PDS: March 9, 2009

Aquaculture – Catfish	
Location and Dates	Little Rock, AR May 19 - 21, 2009
Course Purpose	The purpose of the Aquaculture conference is to familiarize participants with the physical, biological and epizootiological concepts of aquaculture—particularly with regards to the catfish fish industry. Topics will include diagnosing aquatic animal diseases, performing necropsies, and overseeing appropriate sample collection and submission. Additionally, participants will learn how to conduct aquaculture facility registrations, and will receive up to date information on VS policies as they pertain to Aquaculture.
Target Audience	Federal Aquaculture Liaisons
Pre-requisite	You must be a veterinarian and an Aquaculture Liaison. Moreover you should meet one of the following criteria: c. You work with or anticipate working with Catfish d. You did not attend the Aquaculture training in Olympia last year. In other words, you require a general aquaculture refresher. If you are not and Aquaculture Liaison, you must contact Robert Dickens (919) 855-7171 robert.c.dickens@aphis.usda.gov, for permission to enroll.
Cost	No tuition fee (direct costs). Travel costs only.
Contact	Dr. Robert Dickens, VS/ PDS, (919) 855-7171
Nominations	All nominations must be completed through AgLearn. Please review the PDS FY2008 Training Catalog **PAGE 1** for nomination instructions using AgLearn. Please note: you are responsible for ensuring your supervisor has approved your attendance in AgLearn. If you have not received his or her confirmation via email within one week of your enrolling for the course, you must follow up with your AVIC. **Please note, you cannot attend both this course and the Aquaculture Ornamental Fish Course**
Deadline	Self-Registered in AgLearn: Feb 20, 2009 Approved by AVIC in AgLearn: Feb 27, 2009 • Enrollment will be limited to 12 liaisons. You must get you nomination in on time to be considered. •
Letters	Participant invite letters will be sent to attendees no later than four weeks prior to course date.

Import/Export Certification Workshop for Canadian Ports	
Location and Dates	Minneapolis, MN May 19-21, 2009
Course Purpose	This biannual workshop provides an opportunity for VMOs covering Canadian Ports of Entry in the United States, AVICs with Canadian Ports in their venue, and Regional and Headquarters Import/Export staff to share updated information and best practices. Faculty and participants will leave this workshop with a better understanding of the challenges faced by different levels of staff covering movement of live animals and products through Canadian Ports, including field, Area Office, Region, and NCIE/Headquarters. The goal of the session is to bring together these different points of view to develop a strategy for turning challenges into opportunities for improvement.
Prerequisite	None
Target Audience	This course has been developed for Area Office Veterinarians-In-Charge and Area Office VMOs covering the Canadian Ports.
Cost	Travel costs only.
Contact	Dr. Alan Huddleston, VS, PDS, (301) 734-0675
Nominations	**Participants for this course are pre-selected.**
Nomination Deadline	Not applicable.
Selection	The Eastern and Western Regional Management Teams, in partnership with the NCIE and the Eastern and Western Regional Import/Export Coordinators, will send an invitation to each AVIC to attend as a participant. Additionally, the invitation will request that the AVIC identify which Canadian port VMO(s) from his/her Area Office should be invited.
Letters	Approximately 5 to 6 weeks before class begins, letters are sent to the participants and speakers, Regional Training Coordinators, and Regional Directors.

Smith-Kilborne	
Location and Dates	Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, and the Plum Island Animal Disease Center, Plum Island, NY May 26-June 2, 2009
Course Purpose	The Smith-Kilborne Program is designed to acquaint veterinary students with various foreign animal diseases which potentially threaten our domestic animal population. The program includes classroom presentations on diseases and their implications, combined with laboratory experiences.
Target Audience	Second-year veterinary students
Cost	No cost to participants. PDS pays for student travel expenses.
Contact	Dr. Jason Baldwin, VS/PDS, (970) 494-7225
Nominations	The Dean's office of each school announces its own application procedures and determines the selection criteria.
Selection	Each school selects one student and forwards the name to PDS.
Deadline	January 2009
Letters	March 2009

Foreign Animal Disease Practitioner Course (FADP)			
Locations and Dates	Riverdale, MD (NVSL) Ames, IA	June 1-5, 2009 June 1-5, 2009	Amy Kokesh* John Bare*
Course Purpose	The Foreign Animal Disease Practitioner (FADP) training course is a one week classroom and laboratory course, with instructor-led lectures delivered via Videoconference from Plum Island. Afternoon laboratory sessions demonstrate necropsy techniques, sampling, shipping and a foreign animal disease investigation scenario. The FADP course runs simultaneously with the FADD course held at Plum Island. This course provides training for field veterinarians, FSIS veterinarians, individuals needing foreign animal disease training and for previously trained FADDs requesting a refresher course.		
Target Audience	APHIS Field VMOs, state veterinarians who have not been previously trained in FADs, along with previously trained FADDs requesting a refresher course.		
Cost	Travel Costs only		
Contact	Ms. Elizabeth Clark, VS/PDS, (631) 323-3188		
Nominations	This course requires approval for registration. Please review the PDS FY2008 Training Catalog **PAGE 1** for nomination instructions using AgLearn.		
Nomination Deadline	To the Regional Office: To VS/PDS:	March 2, 2008 March 9, 2008	

* Course Facilitator

Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostician Course (FADD)	
Location and Dates	Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (FADDL) Plum Island, NY June 1 -12, 2009
Course Purpose	The FADD training course is a two week classroom and laboratory course, with instructor-led lectures, facilitated discussions, clinical rounds in the animal wing, necropsies, and a simulated Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) Investigation. This course provides foreign animal disease training for state, federal and military veterinarians in the field identification and diagnosis of disease in poultry and livestock not found in the United States.
Target Audience	APHIS Field VMOs, state and military veterinarians
Cost	Travel Costs only
Contact	Ms. Elizabeth Clark, VS/PDS, (631) 323-3188
Nominations	This course requires approval for registration. Please review the PDS FY2008 Training Catalog **PAGE 1** for nomination instructions using AgLearn.
Selection	All nominations must be sent from the Area Offices to the Regional Offices. The Regional Office will fax or email the approved prioritized nominations to VS/PDS, at (301) 734-4964. State Veterinary nominees should be submitted to the Regional Offices by the AVIC, as well.
Nomination Deadline	To the Regional Office: March 2, 2008 To VS/PDS: March 9, 2008

Emergency Management Response Systems – Advanced		
Location and Date	TBD	June 8-12, 2009
More Information to Follow		

Contagious Equine Metritis - East Region	
Location and Date	New Bolton Center, PA July 22, 2009
Course Purpose	The Contagious Equine Metritis (CEM) training program was developed in response to needs identified during APHIS Veterinary Services' 2007 CEM Program Review. This one-day training is designed for both regulatory personnel and accredited veterinarians in clinical practice. The course will enable participants to better understand the history of CEM in the US, current regulations, and the role of regulatory and clinical personnel participating in the CEM program. A half-day laboratory session will familiarize participants with techniques for stallion and mare culture collection and cleaning, and offer tips to ensure that accurate culture results are obtained.
Target Audience	State or Federal VMOs working as the CEM coordinator in their respective state as well as accredited veterinarians in states with CEM import facilities.
Cost	No tuition fee (direct costs). Travel costs only.
Contact	Dr. Robert Dickens, (919) 855-7171 or Ms. Elizabeth Clark (631) 323-3188
Nominations	All nominations must be completed through AgLearn. Please review the PDS FY2008 Training Catalog **PAGE 1** for nomination instructions using AgLearn. Please note: you are responsible for ensuring your supervisor has approved your attendance in AgLearn. If you have not received his or her confirmation via email within one week of your enrolling for the course, you must follow up with your AVIC.
Deadline	Self-Registered in AgLearn: April 20, 2009 Approved by AVIC in AgLearn: April 27, 2009
Letters	Participant invite letters will be sent to attendees no later than four weeks prior to course date.

Contagious Equine Metritis - West Region	
Location and Date	Portland, OR August 5, 2009
Course Purpose	The Contagious Equine Metritis (CEM) training program was developed in response to needs identified during APHIS Veterinary Services's 2007 CEM Program Review. This one-day training is designed for both regulatory personnel and accredited veterinarians in clinical practice. The course will enable participants to better understand the history of CEM in the US, current regulations, and the role of regulatory and clinical personnel participating in the CEM program. A half-day laboratory session will familiarize participants with techniques for stallion and mare culture collection and cleaning, and offer tips to ensure that accurate culture results are obtained.
Target Audience	State or Federal VMOs working as the CEM coordinator in their respective state as well as accredited veterinarians in states with CEM import facilities.
Cost	No tuition fee (direct costs). Travel costs only.
Contact	Dr. Robert Dickens, (919) 855-7171 or Ms. Elizabeth Clark (631) 323-3188
Nominations	All nominations must be completed through AgLearn. Please review the PDS FY2008 Training Catalog **PAGE 1** for nomination instructions using AgLearn. Please note: you are responsible for ensuring your supervisor has approved your attendance in AgLearn. If you have not received his or her confirmation via email within one week of your enrolling for the course, you must follow up with your AVIC.
Deadline	Self-Registered in AgLearn: April 29, 2009 Approved by AVIC in AgLearn: May 5, 2009
Letters	Participant invite letters will be sent to attendees no later than four weeks prior to course date.

Select Agent Inspectors Training	
Location and Dates	Ames, IA August 11-13, 2009
Course Purpose	This training will provide information on proper facility biosafety and security procedures necessary to be in compliance with the Select Agent regulations.
Lab Biosafety Inspector	A Federal VMO or Microbiologist, designated by APHIS, to make laboratory inspections for adherence to Select Agent Program standards.
Target Audience	Federal VMOs, Microbiologists and others who are, or will be, responsible for performing these inspections.
Pre-requisite	▪ Must be a veterinarian or Microbiologist ▪ Must have successfully completed the 3- Part Laboratory Security Inspector training ▪ Must be designated by the AVIC's office or Center for Veterinary Biologics as a prospective Select Agent Program inspector
Cost	No tuition fee. Travel and associated expenses are to be paid by the employee's office.
Contact	Dr. Narda Huyke, VS PDS, (515) 232-5785 x513
Nominations	All nominations must be entered into AgLearn. The Regional Office will make the approved prioritized nominations. Selections will be made by VS NCIE. Participants in this course are pre-selected. This course is not available for open enrollment. Please contact your Training Coordinator if you would like further information.
Selection	Selection will be determined by the Select Agent Program staff in consultation with the Regional Offices.
Nomination Deadline	To the Regional Office: May 14, 2009 To VS PDS: May 28, 2009
Letters	Participant letters for the course will be sent to attendees by July 8, 2009.
Regional Offices	Forward the letters to AVICs and AOs/ASAs.

Live Bird Marketing System (LBMS) Continuing Education Training Course	
Location and Dates	TBD August 18-20, 2009
Course Purpose	1. Understand how to properly evaluate and define LBMS stakeholder activity and compliance with applicable state law, program standards, and licensing requirements through consistent audit and evaluation of paper records from the LBMS. 2. Be able to identify and evaluate biosecurity and disease risks in the auction and flea market segments of the LBMS and subsequently provide education and outreach information on appropriate mitigation techniques e.g., cleaning, disinfection, best practices in biosecurity and transport to retail. 3. Demonstrate the ability to communicate knowledge of biosecurity issues and best practices to various stakeholder groups via a pre-prepared presentation. 4. Understand proper bird restraint, swabbing, and euthanasia techniques and be able to practice them.
Target Audience	Federal and State VMOs and AHT's who are, or will be, actively involved in the Live Bird Marketing System.
Cost	Travel and per diem only.
Contact	Dr. Jason Baldwin, VS/ PDS, (970) 494-7225
Nominations	All nominations must be entered through AgLearn. State or other non-federal employees may seek assistance through their local area office for AgLearn access.
Selection	Selections will be made by VS/ASEP.
Deadline	To the Regional Office: June 1, 2009 To VS/PDS: June 15, 2009
Letters	Approximately 5 to 6 weeks before class begins, letters are sent to the participants and speakers, Regional Training Coordinators, and Regional Directors.

Emergency Management Response System – Training for Incident Management Teams	
Location and Dates	San Antonio, TX September 15 - 17, 2009
Course Purpose	The EMRS is a web based task management system designed to automate many of the tasks associated with animal disease outbreaks and emergencies. It is used for routine reporting of foreign animal disease/emerging disease incident (FAD/EDI) investigations, state specific disease outbreaks and control programs, classic national Animal Health Emergency responses, and natural disasters involving animals. Only authorized personnel in a specific state or with a definite "need to know" are given either "input/edit" or "read-only" access to a specific EMRS database. These personnel can be USDA, APHIS, VS employees, state animal health officials, or temporary hires. Information is managed in the EMRS using views for the field investigator, area office, region, laboratory, emergency management in Riverdale and, for the Incident Command System management personnel during an emergency response. The data entered into EMRS can be exported for use with other applications, reporting and data analysis. The purpose of this class is to train Incident Management Teams to use EMRS during animal disease outbreaks and emergencies. The first day will be devoted to a complete overview of EMRS and practice exercises on data entry and reporting from EMRS. The second and third days will consist of a scenario based exercise using EMRS to manage a new outbreak while practicing ICS principles including the Planning cycle and Situation reporting using data from EMRS. Team building will be encouraged through the exercises.
Target Audience	This EMRS class is designed for Incident Management Teams only.
Cost	Travel and per diem only.
Contact	Dr. Marvirstine Y. Briggs-Fisher, VS/PDS, (919) 855-7166
Nominations	All nominations must be entered through AgLearn. State or other non-federal employees may seek assistance through their local area office for AgLearn access.

Designated Tuberculosis Epidemiology (DTE) Designated Brucellosis Epidemiology (DBE) Combined Training	
Location and Dates	Albuquerque, NM September 16 - 17, 2009
Course Purpose	**DTEs and DBEs are <u>required</u> to take a refresher training every two years to maintain status as a DTE or a DBE**. The course will cover new and emerging trends in the tuberculosis and brucellosis eradication programs, including the latest research that may aid in eradication. It will also discuss revisions and updates in both programs including major changes in the UM&R, VS Memo's, and CFR. This is an interactive course aimed at involving the participants in the decision making process revolving around current eradication activities.
DTE and DBE Defined	DTE: A State or Federal epidemiologist designated in each state, by APHIS, to make decisions concerning the use and interpretation of diagnostic tests for tuberculosis and to manage the TB program. The DTE is selected jointly by the cooperating State animal health official, the Area Veterinarian-in-Charge, and the Regional Tuberculosis Epidemiologist. The DTE has the responsibility to determine the scope of epidemiologic investigations, determine the status of herds, assist in development of individual herd plans, and coordinate disease surveillance and eradication programs within his or her geographic area of responsibility. DBE: A current approved DBE is an individual who has completed the training requirements detailed in VS Memorandum 551.10 and submitted the form which verifies and approves this required training. In addition, in order to maintain current approved DBE status, those individuals functioning as DBEs in each state must attend Designated Brucellosis Epidemiologist refresher training every 2 years. Only those individuals meeting these requirements are to be functioning as current approved DBEs.
Target Audience	This course has been developed and scheduled to provide the training required for approved DTEs and DBEs to maintain their approval status.
Pre-requisite	For the DTE portion of the course, you must be a DTE or a DTE "in-training". If neither, you must contact Robert Dickens (919) 855-7171 robert.c.dickens@aphis.usda.gov, for permission to enroll. (If you are not sure if you are a DTE or a DTE in-training, please contact the Tuberculosis Epidemiologist in your Region.) For the DBE portion of the course, you must be a current officially-approved DBE and have worked as a DBE during the previous 2 years. If neither, you must contact Nancy Platter (515) 232-5785 ext 512 nancy.k.platter@aphis.usda.gov, for permission to enroll. Note: If you are a DTE and not a DBE, or a DBE and not a DTE, you may attend the entire course with your supervisor's approval.
Cost	No tuition fee (direct costs). Travel costs only. These costs must be paid by your area office (Federal Employees) or the State Veterinarian's Office (State employees).

Contact	Dr. Robert Dickens, VS/PDS, (919) 855-7171
Nominations	All nominations must be completed through AgLearn. Please review the PDS FY2008 Training Catalog **PAGE 1** for nomination instructions using AgLearn. Please note: you are responsible for ensuring your supervisor has approved your attendance in AgLearn. If you have not received his or her confirmation via email within one week of your enrolling for the course, you must follow up with your AVIC.
Deadline	Self-Registered in AgLearn: June 10, 2009 Approved by AVIC in AgLearn: June 17, 2009

United States Department of Agriculture | Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service | Veterinary Services | Office of the Chief Information Officer

Training Courses

Provided by the

Office of the Chief Information Officer

Fiscal year 2009

Table of Contents

NOMINATION/APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Each field nominee must submit the enclosed nomination request through the Area Office to the Regional Office. Each headquarters nominee must submit the enclosed nomination request through the Associate Deputy Administrator's Office, National Animal Health Policy Programs (NAHPP). The Regional Office and/or the NAHPP, Associate Deputy Administrator's Office will then submit the prioritized nominations to the nomination address listed in the course description. First priority is given to those individual(s) who are in absolute need of the training. More than one person may be placed in priority one status.

The Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) cannot accept nominations directly unless they come through the Regional Office or the NAHPP, Associate Deputy Administrator's Office. If you have not nominated a participant, or have vacant positions that are to be filled, and want to reserve a space in the course, you may write "to be determined," or, "TBD" on the nomination form. Director approval is required for the named nominations, as well as a commitment to fill or cancel reserved spaces.

All training-related correspondence (select, non-select, cancellation, etc.) will be sent directly to the participants by email with copies to the VSMT, Training Coordinators, and supervisors. Hard copies will no longer be issued. Requests for exceptions may be made to the OCIO Training Coordinator.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Each course description gives the course title, dates, purpose, and in some cases, objectives, eligibility, location, source person, and nomination contact person.

The course dates do not include travel dates. Travel dates are normally the day before the start of the course and the afternoon and evening of, or the day after, the end of the course.

CANCELLATION AND SUBSTITUTION POLICY

Based on each particular course, it is important that the OCIO be notified as soon as possible in the case of a substitution and/or withdrawal of a course participant(s). We will accept substitutions and cancellations up to 1 week before the start of the course. Any changes in the status of nominees or course logistics will be communicated immediately through the Training Coordinators.

Generic Data Base - Data Entry Procedures		
Location and Dates	Fort Collins, CO Raleigh, NC Ft. Collins, CO	November 18-20, 2008 February 10-12, 2009 May 5-7, 2009
Course Purpose	Participants will learn about the Generic Data Base, its structure, and how to use the APHIS Menu System to enter program disease data into the GDB. The primary focus of this course will be how to enter premises records, brucellosis vaccination records, brucellosis and tuberculosis herd test records, brucellosis and pseudorabies market/slaughter test records, status records, tracebacks, and brucellosis ring test records.	
Target Audience	This course is recommended primarily for data entry clerks, but also for epidemiologists, program records supervisors, AVICs, and any other data users. This class is highly recommended, but not required, as a preparation for those interested in the Basic Discoverer Queries for Data Retrieval class.	
Cost	Travel costs only	
Contact	Michael Durham, (970) 494-7295	
Nomination Deadline	Nominations are to be processed through AgLearn **November 18-20: Region – Oct. 3, OCIO – Oct. 17** **February 10-12: Region – Dec. 26, OCIO – Jan. 9** **May 5-7: Region – Mar. 20, OCIO – Apr. 3** ****Please honor the nomination deadlines. Thank you.**	

Generic Data Base – Basic Discoverer Queries for Data Retrieval **This is a two day course**		
Location and Dates	Fort Collins, CO Raleigh, NC Ft. Collins, CO	December 9-10, 2008 March 24-25, 2009 June 2-3, 2009
Course Purpose	Participants will learn basic data retrieval techniques using Discoverer over the Internet to create and execute reports in the Generic Data Base. Topics to be covered include GDB table structure, Discoverer forms usage, basics of logical operators, and standard data retrieval techniques.	
Target Audience	Federal and State Personnel who use, analyze, or report on GDB data	
Prerequisites:	Understands the Generic Data Base's structure (either by performing GDB data-entry work regularly as part of your job or by having attended the CEAH "GDB Data-Entry" workshop). This course is required for those interested in taking the Advanced Discoverer Queries for Data Retrieval course.	
Cost	Participants pay travel and hotel.	
Contact:	Michael Durham at (970) 494-7295	
Nomination Deadlines	Nominations are to be processed through AgLearn **December 9-10: Region – Oct. 24, OCIO – Nov. 7** **March 24-25: Region – Feb. 13, OCIO – Feb. 27** **June 2-3: Region – Apr. 17, OCIO – May 1** **Please honor the nomination deadlines. Thank you.	

Basic Mobile Information Management (MIM)	
Location and Dates	**Dates Cancelled for FY 2009**
Course Purpose	Participants will learn to use MIM applications to conduct field data collection activities. Topics to be covered include the field ID collection process, introduction to MIM, review of hardware, interface pairing for Bluetooth, using MIM Manager software, using MIM PDA software, and troubleshooting.
Target Audience	Federal and State Personnel who are responsible for field data collection, including Veterinarians, Animal Health Technicians, and others.
Prerequisites:	No prerequisites.
Cost	Participants pay travel and hotel.
Contact:	Michael Durham, michael.p.durham@aphis.usda.gov or (970) 494-7295 Dr. Randy Munger, randy.d.munger@aphis.usda.gov or (970) 494-7339
Nomination Deadlines	**Not Applicable**

Understanding GDB Reports		
Location and Dates	Fort Collins, CO Raleigh, NC Fort Collins, CO	February 3 - 5, 2009 April 21-23, 2009 July 7-9, 2009
Course Purpose	This course primarily teaches how program disease reports are derived using the theoretical and functional organization of the data in the GDB, with emphasis on specific disease programs and their management with the GDB. Participants will learn about the APHIS physical network (hardware and software), and how it uses regional, state, and local servers to provide database capabilities to each state in the U.S. They will also learn the terminology and basic concepts of the relational database model, and how the GDB implements this model. Participants will become familiar with the different Veterinary Services animal disease programs and how these programs utilize the GDB as a data repository, as well as the minimal data requirements for disease program reports routinely submitted to the National Animal Health Programs Staff (i.e. monthly reports for Brucellosis, TB, Pseudorabies, etc.). Throughout this course the participants will learn the capabilities of the GDB to provide data for program management and reporting, and the data resources required in order for the GDB to fulfill those capabilities.	
Target Audience	This course is recommended for individuals responsible for utilizing the GDB in managing disease control and eradication programs. Intended audience includes AVICs, Area and Regional Epidemiologists, program records supervisors, data management specialists, and all others who make decisions regarding the need for and management of data.	
Prerequisites	It is highly recommended that participants be familiar with the GDB data entry system, either by completing the Generic Data Base – Data Entry Procedures course, or through routine use of the GDB. This course is required for those interested in the advanced data retrieval course.	
Cost	Travel costs only	
Contact	Michael Durham, (970) 494-7295	
Nomination Deadline	Nominations are to be processed through AgLearn **February 3-5: Region – Dec. 29, OCIO – Jan. 12** **April 21-23: Region – Mar. 6, OCIO – Mar. 20** **July 7-9: Region – May 22, OCIO – June 5** **Please honor the nomination deadlines. Thank you.	

Scrapie Data Entry and Management	
Location and Dates	Fort Collins, CO — February 24-26, 2009 Raleigh, NC — May 19-21, 2009 Fort Collins, CO — August 18-20, 2009
Course Purpose	This course focuses on use of the Scrapie national generic database (SNGD). Emphasis will be on data entry and data management for the Scrapie flock certification and regulatory programs. Participants will learn about the APHIS physical network (hardware and software), and how the Animal Health and Surveillance Management (AHSM) web-based database interface and network provide security data held in a national repository. They will also learn the terminology and basic concepts of the relational database model, and how the GDB implements this model. Participants will become familiar with navigation and data entry for both the Scrapie database as well as the system for submitting laboratory submission forms electronically. Throughout this course the participants will also learn how to access data stored in the database, use worksheets to manage program tasks, and generate reports.
Target Audience	This course is recommended for individuals involved in entering and managing data used to manage the national Scrapie certification and regulatory programs (Scrapie data entry clerks, Epidemiologists, program managers.).
Prerequisites	None.
Cost	Travel costs only
Contact	Michael Durham, (970) 494-7295
Nomination Deadline	Nominations are to be processed through AgLearn **February 24-26: Region – Jan. 9, OCIO – Jan. 23** **May 19-21: Region – Apr. 3, OCIO – Apr. 17** **August 18-20: Region – July 2, OCIO – July 17** ** Please honor the nomination deadlines. Thank you.

Generic Data Base – Advanced Discoverer Queries for Data Retrieval **This is a two day course**	
Location and Dates	Fort Collins, CO March 10-11, 2009 Raleigh, NC June 16-17, 2009 Fort Collins, CO August 4-5, 2009
Course Purpose	Participants will learn advanced query design and data retrieval techniques using Oracle Discoverer. Topics to be covered include using nested logical operators, planning a data retrieval, and using Discoverer as a troubleshooting tool. The troubleshooting portion of the class will make use of students' knowledge of the GDB Headquarters Reports.
Target Audience	Federal and State personnel who are already trained in both basic Discoverer data retrieval techniques and Understanding GDB Reports.
Prerequisites	Basic Discoverer Queries for Data Retrieval and Understanding GDB Reports. This advanced course on Oracle Discoverer requires basic knowledge of how to create and modify queries using Oracle Discoverer. It also requires that participants be familiar with the standard GDB Headquarters Reports which are discussed in detail in the Understanding GDB Reports training.
Cost	Participants pay travel and hotel.
Contact	Michael Durham at (970) 494-7295
Nomination Deadlines	Nominations are to be processed through AgLearn. **March 10-11: Region – Jan. 23, OCIO – Feb. 6** **June 16-17: Region – May 1, OCIO – May 15** **August 4-5: Region – June 19, OCIO – July 2** **Please honor the nomination deadlines. Thank you.

NOMINATION REQUEST

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

COURSE TITLE: _____

DATE OF THE COURSE: _____

1. Participant's name, mailing address, phone and fax number, and e-mail address:

_____

(Dr. Mr. or Ms.) Name

_____

Mailing address (street, city, state, and zip code)

_____

Phone number Fax number E-mail address

2. Job Title: _____

3. Participants Official Duty Station: _____

4. Estimated costs (This information is needed for the preparation for the Quarterly Travel Plan):

   No. of days for per diem _____

   POV (need # of miles round trip): _____

   Miscellaneous expenses (round trip estimates): _____
   {shuttle, parking, taxi, etc.}

   Common carrier fare: _____

   Method of purchase for common carrier (GTR, GVTS, CC, etc.): _____

   GOV (Check if this mode of transportation will be used): _____

   Car Rental: _____

5. Method of Transportation: _____

6. Supervisor's signature for approval: _____

7. Region's approval: _____

PLEASE FAX TO THE REGIONAL OFFICE. THE REGIONAL OFFICE WILL FAX TO THE NOMINATIONS CONTACT PERSON NOTED AT THE END OF EACH COURSE DESCRIPTION.

United States Department of Agriculture | Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service | Veterinary Services | Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health

Training Courses

Provided by the

Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health

Fiscal year 2009

Table of Contents

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All training-related correspondence (select, non-select, cancellation, etc.) will be sent directly to the participants by email with copies to the VSMT, Training Coordinators, and supervisors. Hard copies will no longer be issued. Requests for exceptions may be made to the CEAH Training Coordinator.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Each course description gives the course title, dates, purpose, and in some cases, objectives, eligibility, location, source person, and nomination contact person.

The course dates do not include travel dates. Travel dates are normally the day before the start of the course and the afternoon and evening of, or the day after, the end of the course.

CANCELLATION AND SUBSTITUTION POLICY

Based on each particular course, it is important that CEAH be notified as soon as possible in the case of a substitution and/or withdrawal of a course participant(s). We will accept substitutions and cancellations up to 1 week before the start of the course. Any changes in the status of nominees or course logistics will be communicated immediately through the Training Coordinators.

Introduction to Epidemiologic Simulation Modeling **This is a 4 ½ day course**	
Location and Date	Ft. Collins, CO January 12 – 16, 2009
Course Purpose	Simulation modeling is an increasingly well established and essential tool for many epidemiologic investigations, including studies of population disease dynamics and evaluation of mechanisms of disease control. This course will serve as an introduction to the principles, methods, and applications of simulation models of epidemiological systems. The course will address concepts of disease spread and control from the perspective of the modeler. These epidemiologic principles will be presented and developed in the context of disease models, beginning with simple, deterministic models of disease spread within a population. Several approaches to disease modeling, including chain binomial, Markov chain, and state transition models will be covered. Additional levels of complexity will be incorporated as stochasticity and concepts of spatial and temporal aspects of disease spread modeling are introduced. Participants will also have the opportunity to explore the economic aspects of disease control. The course will culminate in the use of and development of parameters for a detailed stochastic, temporal, spatial simulation model of contagious disease using *NAADSM*, a freely distributed disease spread model developed by the Animal Population Health Institute at Colorado State University, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs, the United States Department of Agriculture – Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health, and the University of Guelph Department of Computing and Information Science. For more information, please visit our web page at http://www.naadsm.org/training
Target Audience	This course is intended for epidemiologists, veterinarians, graduate students, and other workers in the fields of animal health and preparedness planning.
Prerequisites	Previous experience with modeling is not required. Participants should be familiar with basic operations in Microsoft Excel (including the use of formulas, the use of relative and absolute cell references, and production of charts).
Cost	Participants will be responsible for the costs of their own travel, lodging, meals, and related expenses. There is no cost for course tuition or materials. A block of hotel rooms for course participants will be available for those who wish to take advantage of it.
Contact	Registration: Mary Fraser, mary.e.fraser@aphis.usda.gov, (970) 494-7166 Course content: Kimberly Forde-Folle, kim.n.forde-folle@aphis.usda.gov, (970) 494-7264
Registration Deadline	November 17, 2008 - Space is limited to approximately 40 participants. Please note that these courses fill quickly. If we cannot accommodate you, we will ensure that you have high priority the next time the course is offered. This is currently the only time this course will be offered in 2009. Please register early!

Spatial Epidemiology Methods Using ArcGIS – I – NEW!!	
This is a three-day course	
Location and Dates	Fort Collins, Colorado April 21 - 23, 2009
Course Purpose	This course will include specialized training in the use of ArcGIS software for the acquisition, management, and analysis of spatial data for epidemiological investigations. Some prior knowledge and experience with ArcGIS is expected and online courses are available to help meet this prerequisite. Participants will learn how Veterinary Services processes spatial data and applies spatial statistical and spatial modeling approaches to better understand the ecology, distribution, and determinants of disease agents in space and time. Using the spatial analysis tools available in ArcGIS, participants will learn to apply methods of classification, population density mapping, point pattern analysis, neighborhood analysis, regionalization/zonation, and change detection methods. This class is intended to provide participants with hands-on experience in the areas of geospatial processing of data prior to analysis and the application of basic spatial statistical analysis tools and spatial modeling techniques in understanding the ecology of pathogens within animal populations and how this information is applied to surveillance activities. This course also serves as a prerequisite for a more advanced follow-up course on Spatial Epidemiology Methods using ArcGIS – II.
Target Audience	This course is intended for disease program managers, analytical epidemiologists, area epidemiologists, wildlife ecologists, surveillance specialists, program analysts, geospatial specialists; disease spread modelers, incident managers, and others who would like to learn how to apply spatial analysis and modeling approaches to address questions regarding the epidemiology and ecology of diseases in animal populations.
Prerequisites	A working knowledge of ArcGIS software that can be obtained through one or more online training courses that is at no cost for USDA employees.
Cost	Participants pay travel and hotel.
Contact	Registration: Mary Fraser, (970) 494-7166, mary.e.fraser@aphis.usda.gov Course content: Jerry Freier, (970) 494-7275, jerome.e.freier@aphis.usda.gov
Registration Deadline	**March 9, 2009** ****Please honor the registration deadline. Thank you.**

Global Positioning System Methods for Field Investigations – NEW!!	
This is a two-day course	
Location and Dates	Fort Collins, CO May 5 - 6, 2009
Course Purpose	This hands-on course is designed to provide detailed training in the use of global positioning system (GPS) methods to determine to geographic coordinates of point locations, such as premises or livestock facilities. In addition, participants learn how to use GPS methods to map the boundaries of agricultural facilities, or other areas of interest. Training also includes how to create an accuracy check point, how to validate location accuracy and how to transfer coordinate data to a computer. This training course builds skill in using GPS receivers to navigate from one location to another. The Garmin eTrex Legend model GPS receiver will be used for this training course and each student will have a GPS receiver available for their use during the training course. Besides GPS training, this course incorporates the use of digital atlases, such as Delorme Street Atlas, in data validation, navigation, and route planning.
Target Audience	This course is intended for animal health technicians, field veterinary medical officers, disease program managers, area epidemiologists, wildlife specialists, surveillance specialists, program analysts, geospatial specialists, incident managers, and others who would like to learn how to use GPS methods for reporting geographic coordinates and navigating to specific geographic locations.
Prerequisites	None
Cost	Participants pay travel and hotel.
Contact	Registration: Mary Fraser, (970) 494-7166, mary.e.fraser@aphis.usda.gov Course content: Jerry Freier, (970) 494-7275, jerry.e.freier@aphis.usda.gov
Registration Deadline	**March 23, 2009** ****Please honor the registration deadline. Thank you.**

Workshop on the Fundamentals of Risk Analysis for Decision Makers and Technical Risk Analysts	
Location and Dates	Fort Collins, Colorado August 4 – 6, 2009
Course Purpose	This 3-day workshop will introduce the fundamentals of risk analysis from the perspectives of both decision makers and technical risk analysts. The course is a mix of lectures/presentations, discussion, and exercises. Participants will learn about the fundamentals of risk analysis, how it is conducted, and how it can be used to assist in decision-making. The workshop consists of two parts: (1) A non-technical overview of the risk analysis process; and, (2) A technical discussion of quantitative and qualitative risk analysis methods, probability, and probability distributions. The technical part covers: a. How to conduct a quantitative or qualitative risk analysis and evaluate it critically; b. The probability laws and concepts on which risk analysis is based; and, c. How to use probability distributions to model data and expert opinions in a risk analysis model. Real-life examples will be presented and discussed throughout the course. The examples will discuss: • Formulating the question; • Selecting and designing an approach; • Running models using @Risk software; • Interpreting results; and, • Risk communication techniques.
Target Audience	Decision makers and intermediate to technical risk analysts.
Prerequisites **Costs**	None. Some familiarity with Excel and probability/statistics is useful, but not required. Students are encouraged to bring problems, questions, or issues related to risk analysis for classroom discussion. Travel, lodging, meals. A notebook computer with Excel and @Risk installed would be useful for exercises, but computers and software will be provided. For questions on software, please contact Tim Clouse.
Contact	Registration: Mary Fraser-- mary.e.fraser@aphis.usda.gov (970) 494-7166 Course content: Tim Clouse-- Timothy.L.Clouse@aphis.usda.gov (970) 494-7292 Katie Portacci-- Katie.A.Portacci@aphis.usda.gov (970) 494-7189
Registration Deadline	**June 22, 2009** **** Please honor the registration deadline. Thank you.**

Spatial Epidemiology Methods using ArcGIS – II – NEW!!	
This is a three-day course	
Location and Dates	Fort Collins, CO September 15 – 17, 2009
Course Purpose	As a follow-up to Spatial Epidemiology Methods – I, this course continues with specialized training in the use of ArcGIS software for the management, analysis, and modeling of spatial data for epidemiological studies. Using the spatial analysis and modeling tools available in ArcGIS, participants will learn to apply methods of measuring geographic distributions, identifying patterns within populations, creating spatial weights, identifying clusters, and determining biological and ecological relationships to spatial variation in animal populations. This class is intended to provide participants with hands-on experience in using more specialized spatial statistical analysis tools in understanding the ecology of pathogens within animal populations. This course also emphasizes and how spatial analysis and modeling results may be applied to surveillance planning and in the development of disease management strategies.
Target Audience	This course is intended for disease program managers, analytical epidemiologists, area epidemiologists, wildlife ecologists, surveillance specialists, program analysts, geospatial specialists, disease spread modelers, incident managers, and others who would like to learn how to apply spatial analysis and modeling approaches to address questions regarding the epidemiology and ecology of diseases in animal populations.
Prerequisites	Spatial Epidemiology Methods and Applications using ArcGIS – I course
Cost	Participants pay travel and hotel.
Contact	Registration: Mary Fraser, (970) 494-7166, mary.e.fraser@aphis.usda.gov Course content: Jerry Freier, (970) 494-7275, jerome.e.freier@aphis.usda.gov
Registration Deadline	**August 3, 2009** ****Please honor the registration deadline. Thank you.**

NOMINATION REQUEST

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

COURSE TITLE: _____

DATE OF THE COURSE: _____

1. Participant's name , mailing address, phone and fax number, and e-mail address:

_____

(Dr. Mr. or Ms.) Name

_____

Mailing address (street, city, state, and zip code)

_____

Phone number Fax number E-mail address

2. Job Title: _____

3. Participants Official Duty Station: _____

4. Estimated costs (This information is needed for the preparation for the Quarterly Travel Plan):

   No. of days for per diem _____

   POV (need # of miles round trip): _____

   Miscellaneous expenses (round trip estimates): _____
   {shuttle, parking, taxi, etc.}

   Common carrier fare: _____

   Method of purchase for common carrier (GTR, GVTS, CC, etc.): _____

   GOV (Check if this mode of transportation will be used): _____

   Car Rental: _____

5. Method of Transportation: _____

6. Supervisor's signature for approval: _____

7. Region's approval: _____

PLEASE FAX TO THE REGIONAL OFFICE. THE REGIONAL OFFICE WILL FAX TO THE NOMINATIONS CONTACT PERSON NOTED AT THE END OF EACH COURSE DESCRIPTION.

United States Department of Agriculture

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Veterinary Services

National Veterinary Services Laboratories

Training Courses

Provided by the

National Veterinary Services Laboratories

Fiscal year 2009

TRAINING COURSES AT THE NATIONAL VETERINARY SERVICES LABORATORIES

(For FISCAL YEAR 2009 – October 1, 2008 – September 30, 2009)

(For courses offered more than once, all dates are listed)

Some courses may require additional fees for special supplies and equipment. ***Fees are subject to change.**

COURSE TITLE	LENGTH	DATES	COST – FY 2009 Prices	PAGE NO.
Anaplasmosis Complement-Fixation Test	4 ½ days	January 5-9, 2009	$1,525.50	8
Brucella abortus Complement-Fixation Test	4 ½ days	January 5-9, 2009	$1,525.50	8
Avian Influenza (AI) Virus Isolation, Subtyping, and Agar Gel Immunodiffusion	5 days	March 30-April 3, 2009	$1,695	16
Bluetongue (BT) and Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) Virus Isolation	5 days	January 26-30, 2009 Or As Scheduled	$1,695	18
Bovine/Porcine Virus Isolation Techniques	2 days or 5 days	February 5-6, 2009 September 14-18, 2009	$678 or $1,695	19
Brucella Isolation and Identification	5 days	January 12-16, 2009	$1,695	5
Brucella Reagent Production	5 days	January 26-30, 2009	$1,695	7
Complement-Fixation Test	4 ½ days	January 5-9, 2009	$1,525.50	8
Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) Agar Gel Immunodiffusion (AGID) and Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) Laboratory Methods	1 ½ days	As Scheduled	$508.50	20
Equine Viral Arteritis (EVA) Virus Neutralization (VN)	2 days 2 days	April 17 & 20, 2009 Or As Scheduled	$678 $678	21
Fluorescent Antibody (FA) Conjugate Production	5 days	March 30-April 3, 2009	$1,695	22
Foreign Animal Diseases	Varies	As scheduled	$450/day*	35
Hemagglutinating Encephalomyelitis Hemagglutination-Inhibition (HI) Test	1 day	April 1, 2009	$339	23
Johne's Complement-Fixation Test	4 ½ days	January 5-9, 2009	$1,525.50	8
Johne's Isolation and Identification	4 days	April 6-9, 2009	$1,356	9
Leptospira Microscopic Agglutination	2 days	As scheduled	$678	11
Mycobacteria Isolation and Identification	10 days	March 23 - April 3, 2009	$3,390	12
Newcastle Disease (ND) Virus Isolation and Serology	5 days	October 20-24, 2008	$1,695	24
Paratuberculosis (Johne's) Complement-Fixation Test	4 ½ days	January 5-9, 2009	$1,525.50	8
Porcine Parvovirus (PPV) Hemagglutination-Inhibition (HI) Test	2 days	April 30-May 1, 2009	$678	26
Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS) Indirect Fluorescent Antibody (IFA) Test	2 day	April 16-17, 2009	$678	27
Pseudorabies (PR) Virus Neutralization Test	3 days	On Request	Non-Billable	28
Pseudorabies (PR) Virus Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) and Latex Agglutination Test	2 days	On Request	Non-Billable	29
Swine Influenza (SI) Hemagglutination-Inhibition (HI) Test	2 days	March 5-6, 2009	$678	30
Vesicular Stomatitis (VS) Virus (New Jersey and Indiana Serotypes) Complement-Fixation Test	2 days	April 20-21, 2009	$678	31
Vesicular Stomatitis (VS) Virus (New Jersey and Indiana Serotypes) Virus Neutralization Test	3 days	April 22-24, 2009	$1,017	32

- **An application for training should be submitted as soon as possible, but no later than 2 months before the course.**
- **For specialized training or training not listed, contact the Training Office**

Email: Daniel.J.Grause@aphis.usda.gov
Phone: (515) 663-7300/7475 FAX: (515) 663-7332

In response to requests from our customers for more specific information on diagnostic training to protect the health of animals, the National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) is pleased to provide you with this catalog which outlines some of the training courses provided by the NVSL. We hope this catalog will be helpful to you in identifying your training needs and in determining how the NVSL can assist you in meeting those needs.

While a number of courses are listed, this catalog is not all inclusive as we do provide training in other diseases. Feel free to contact us regarding your training requirements, and the NVSL will be glad to customize training to meet your specific needs. For information on the daily rate for training in Ames, Iowa and Greenport, New York, contact the NVSL training office below.

Requests for training or for more information on training should be sent to:

TRAINING OFFICE
NATIONAL VETERINARY SERVICES LABORATORIES
P.O. BOX 844
AMES, IA 50010

The NVSL Training Office can be reached by e-mail at NVSL Training@aphis.usda.gov, by phone at (515) 663-7300/7475, or by fax at (515) 663-7332.

Information can also be accessed through the Internet at www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/lab_info_services/training.shtml.

Let us know how we can meet your training needs.

CONTENTS

Mission and History of the National Veterinary Services Laboratories

MISSION: TO PROTECT THE HEALTH OF ANIMALS AND CONTRIBUTE TO PUBLIC HEALTH BY PROVIDING TIMELY, ACCURATE, AND RELIABLE LABORATORY SUPPORT TO OUR CUSTOMERS.

The National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) performs animal disease testing for Veterinary Services(VS) and is the only laboratory system in the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) dedicated to the testing of diagnostic specimens for diagnosis of domestic and foreign animal diseases. The NVSL provides analytical services, disseminates scientific information, conducts developmental activities, and provides training for APHIS programs. It also works closely with APHIS' International Services to provide consultation, reagents, and training for foreign governments. Laboratory support services are provided for many APHIS programs. [Specific responsibilities of the individual laboratories are listed on pages 11, 25, 55, and 57.] The NVSL works closely with VS specialists in program development and program monitoring, and personnel are active on many animal health organization committees. NVSL clients and stakeholders include private, state, Federal, university and various diagnostic laboratories, and other groups, both domestic and international.

HISTORY: The origin of the NVSL can be traced to the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI). Some of the significant events include:

1961 – Opening of the National Animal Disease Laboratory (NADL) at Ames, Iowa. The original organizational structure provided for a Director and Assistant Director for Research and an Assistant Director for Regulatory Laboratories. The Regulatory Laboratories were assigned 20 percent of the space and were to provide diagnostic services for the Animal Disease Eradication Division. Within a few years, reorganization resulted in three independent units for research, biologics, and diagnostics.

1971 – The Animal Health Division laboratory facilities in Beltsville, Maryland, were assigned to the Diagnostic Services group.

1972 – The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) was formed as an Agency of the USDA. Diagnostic Services was a part of this Agency.

1973 – The Diagnostic Services Laboratory and the Biologics Laboratory were combined into one and named the Veterinary Services Laboratories.

1977 – The name of the laboratory was changed to NVSL. Growth and planning for construction of a new facility continued.

1978 – Phase I of the NVSL central facility was completed. The biologics laboratory personnel along with administrative services and support personnel moved into the new facility. Personnel from Beltsville along with their testing responsibilities moved to Ames.

1984 – Diagnostic activities at the Plum Island Animal Disease Center, Plum Island, New York, were transferred to APHIS and made a part of the NVSL. The diagnostic laboratory was named Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (FADDL).

1996 – The NVSL's focus is exclusively on diagnostic activities due to the transfer of biologics testing responsibility to the Center for Veterinary Biologics. The eventual goal is to house all diagnostic personnel at the NVSL Central.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Nomination Procedure
Refer to the course outlines as some training requires the approval of the Federal and/or State Veterinarian in your state. All requests for training should be sent to:

Director's Office
USDA, APHIS, VS
National Veterinary Services
Laboratories (NVSL)
P.O. Box 844
Ames, IA 50010

Register Early
Mail or fax your registration early but no later than 2 months prior to the course to assure availability.

Telephone Registration
Registration will not be accepted by telephone; however, registrations sent by fax to
(515) 663-7332 will be accepted if authorizing signature is included.

Confirmation Notification by the NVSL
A letter confirming receipt of the nomination will be sent to the individual submitting the request. Approximately 1 month before the course, an informational packet containing specific materials on the course will be sent directly to the trainee. The packet will contain an agenda, specifics on the course, an invoice, logistical details on motels and transportation to Ames, etc., a form to be returned to the NVSL to confirm attendance, and any other appropriate information.

Confirmation and Payment by the Trainee
The informational packet will contain a confirmation form that should be returned by the trainee as soon as possible but no later than the date indicated on the form. The full tuition payment is due at this time. Payment can be made by VISA, MasterCard, check, or money order (U.S. dollars payable to the USDA, APHIS). Instructions for paying the tuition will be included in the informational packet.

Substitutions
We encourage substitutions if you cannot attend a course. Employers may substitute another participant until the beginning of the course.

Withdrawals
You may withdraw from the class up to 2 weeks before the course begins with a full refund of tuition. After that date, refunds will be reduced by 1 day's tuition. Substitutions will be accepted up until the beginning of the course with no change to the tuition.

Accessibility
Participants needing special arrangements due to visual, hearing, or mobility impairment should contact the NVSL Training Office at least 4 weeks before the course to discuss specific needs and accommodations.

Interpreters
All courses are taught in English. The trainee must provide his/her own interpreter if one is needed.

Transportation/Housing
Participants are responsible for making their own travel arrangements and paying for their own costs for transportation, housing and food. The NVSL will provide appropriate information on motels and transportation along with the course information prior to the course.

Purchasing Reagents
Unless otherwise indicated by the course outline, reagents for use during the course will be provided. For information on purchasing reagents, call (515) 663-7571, or fax (515) 663-7402.

Equal Opportunity
Training will be provided without discrimination for any nonmerit reason such as race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical or mental handicap, or membership or nonmembership in an employee organization.

To contact the NVSL Training office

by email: Daniel.J.Grause@aphis.usda.gov
by phone: (515) 663-7300/7475
by fax: (515) 663-7332

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
VETERINARY SERVICES
NATIONAL VETERINARY SERVICES LABORATORIES
1800 DAYTON AVENUE
P.O. BOX 844
AMES, IA 50010
Phone (515) 663-7300/7475
FAX: (515) 663-7332
Email: Daniel.J.Grause@aphis.usda.gov

NVSL APPLICATION FOR LABORATORY TRAINING

1. Name and Address of Applicant (Please type or print)

(Dr., Mr., Mrs., Ms.) (Last) (First) (M.I.)

Office Address

City State Zip Code | Country

Telephone: Office: ( ) | FAX: ( )

E-Mail Address:

2. Training Desired

Course Name	Date (If known)	Cost

3. Employer

Organization

Division/Unit

Local Address

	City	State	Zip Code

4. Professional Status

Occupation	Position Title	Specialty

Brief description of your previous experience or training in conducting the requested test(s)

5. Signatures

Applicant's Signature	Date
Authorizing Official's Signature	Date
Name/Title of Authorizing Official (Print or Type)	Phone Number

OVERVIEW OF THE DIAGNOSTIC BACTERIOLOGY LABORATORY (DBL)

The DBL provides assistance to state, Federal, university, and foreign laboratories through the isolation and identification of pathogenic bacteria from animal tissues and fluids and through serologic examination for evidence of exposure to diseases caused by bacteria, fungi, and protozoa. Laboratory support is provided for brucellosis, tuberculosis, *Salmonella enteritidis*, horse importation, and other programs such as the National Animal Health Monitoring System and the National Poultry Improvement Plan by the following sections:

Bacterial Identification Section

- Zoonotic Agent Isolation and Identification
- *Salmonella spp.* Isolation and Serotyping
- Leptospira and Poultry *Mycoplasma* Reagents
- *Salmonella* and *Taylorella* Reference Laboratories
- Pasturella Multocida Typing and Reagents

Brucella & Mycobacterium Reagents Team

- *Brucella & Mycobacterium* Reagent Production
- *B. abortus* Strain 19 World Health Organization Reference (Seed)
- Proficiency Testing Reagents and Panels

Mycobacteria and Brucella Section

- *Brucella* and *Mycobacteria* Isolation & Identification
- Proficiency Testing of State Laboratories for Johnes Disease and Brucellosis
- Johne's Disease Isolation and Identification

Serology Section

- Brucellosis Program Testing
- Import/Export Program Testing
- Proficiency Test of State Laboratories
- Tuberculosis and *Brucella spp*. Serum Banks

Technical Support Section

- Prepares/sterilizes all bacterial, viral, and other media, buffers, and solutions
- Maintains 900 computerized formulations for media and solutions
- Cleans and provides special treatment to glassware and other laboratory instruments

COURSES OFFERED

BRUCELLA ISOLATION AND IDENTIFICATION ***January 12-16, 2009***

♦ Description

This training will provide practical hands-on experience enabling participants to process tissue specimens for the isolation and identification of *Brucella spp.*

♦ Objectives

At the conclusion of this training, participants will be able to perform the following skills:

- Process tissue, milk, and blood specimens for the isolation of *Brucella spp.*
- Identify the colonial morphology of *Brucella* on various media
- Obtain pure cultures of *Brucella* and perform various biochemical tests required for identification
- Interpret the biochemical results and identify the species and biovars of the genus *Brucella*
- Obtain a basic understanding of the procedures used in a Biosafety Level III laboratory

♦ Topics to be Covered

The following laboratory sessions will be provided:

Demonstrations and hands-on laboratory activities including:

- Processing various animal specimens including tissue, milk, blood, and swabs
- Sample preparation
- Biochemical tests required for the isolation of *Brucella*
- Observing bacterial growth characteristics
- Cellular morphology
- Biotyping various species of *Brucella*
- Media used
- Identifying unknowns

Lectures and/or discussions will include:

- Clinical and epidemiological aspects of bovine brucellosis
- Interpretation of atypical biochemical results
- Laboratory safety
- Trouble shooting
- Emerging technologies
- Animal inoculations
- Quality assurance

(continued on next page)

Demonstrations and tours (optional):

- NVSL/DBL – Media preparation laboratory
- NVSL/PL – Pathobiology Laboratory
- NADC – Brucellosis Laboratory
- ISU – Pathology and Microbiology

♦ Target Audience

Technicians, technologists, microbiologists, laboratory supervisors, laboratory trainers other scientists who desire current knowledge of the brucellosis diagnostic procedures. Class is limited to 2 trainees.

♦ Time Requirements

5 days

♦ Restrictions

The training is conducted in a Biosafety Level III laboratory that requires a brucellosis blood test before admittance. Laboratory clothing will be provided for use during this course. Persons who are immunocompromised or immunosuppressed may be at risk of acquiring infections.

♦ Contact Person

For technical information: Head, Mycobacteria and Brucella Section
Diagnostic Bacteriology Laboratory
(515) 663-7676

For logistical information: NVSL Training Office (515) 663-7300/7475

BRUCELLA REAGENT PRODUCTION ***January 26 – 30, 2009***

- ♦ Description

  This training will provide information and experience necessary for participants to propagate, process, standardize, and evaluate *Brucella abortus* cells and antigens

- ♦ Objectives

  - To produce and evaluate antigens for the detection of antibodies to *B. abortus*

- ♦ Topics to be Covered

  Overview of antigen production and evaluation including:
  - Background information on the various antigens produced and their applications in laboratory and field settings
  - Preparation of seed stock
  - Propogation of cells on solid and in liquid media
  - Purity and dissociation of cells repairing dyes and straining cells
  - Standardization of cell concentration
  - Sterility testing
  - Serologic evaluation of antigens

- ♦ Target Audience

  Technicians, technologists, microbiologists, laboratory supervisors, laboratory trainers other scientists who desire current knowledge of the *brucella* reagent production. Class size limited to 2.

- ♦ Time Requirements

  5 days

- ♦ Contact Person

  For technical information: Leader, Brucella & Mycobacterium Reagents Team
  Diagnostic Bacteriology Laboratory
  (515) 663-7981

  For logistical information: Training Office (515) 663-7300/7475

COMPLEMENT-FIXATION TEST [ANAPLASMOSIS, BRUCELLA ABORTUS, AND/OR PARATUBERCULOSIS (JOHNE'S)] ***January 5-9, 2009***

♦ Description	This is a hands-on training course that provides the opportunity for participants to learn the complement-fixation technique for the detection of antibodies against anaplasmosis, brucellosis, and/or paratuberculosis (Johne's).
♦ Objective	Participants will review and update their knowledge of the complement-fixation test by observing and practicing specific techniques for the detection of antibodies against anaplasmosis, brucellosis, and/or paratuberculosis (Johne's)
♦ Topics to be Covered	Testing procedures including: • Complement-fixation principles • Hemolysin titrations • Complement titrations • Complement-fixation tests for anaplasmosis, brucellosis, and/or paratuberculosis (Johne's)
♦ Target Audience	Diagnostic laboratory technicians, supervisors, and epidemiologists. Class size is limited to 6.
♦ Time Requirements	4½ days
♦ Contact Person	For technical information: Head, Serology Section Diagnostic Bacteriology Laboratory (515) 663-7565 For logistical information: Training Office (515) 663-7300/7475

JOHNE'S ISOLATION AND IDENTIFICATION ***April 6-9, 2009***

♦ Description

This training will provide practical hands-on experience enabling participants to process fecal or tissue specimens for the isolation and identification of *Mycobacterium paratuberculosis.*

♦ Objective

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Indicate the current significant epidemiological trends of paratuberculosis in the United States
- Demonstrate laboratory practices for safely working with *mycobacteria*
- Discuss important aspects of quality assurance
- Discuss specimen collection and transport
- Perform acid-fast microscopy
- Perform specimen processing
- Discuss effective communication with clinicians
- Discuss reporting laboratory results
- Perform the IDEXX *M. paratuberculosis* DNA test kit
- Describe new testing methods giving applications and limitations

♦ Topics to be Covered

Laboratory sessions include the following demonstrations and hands-on laboratory activities:

- Processing fecal and tissue specimens
- Sample preparation
- Ziehl-Neelsen stain procedures
- Observing bacteriological growth characteristics
- Media used
- Using DNA probes
- Identifying unknowns

Lectures/Discussions Include:

- Clinical and epidemiological aspects of paratuberculosis
- Test interpretations
- Laboratory safety
- Quality assurance
- Trouble shooting
- Emerging technologies

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Demonstration and tours (optional)

- NVSL-DBL media laboratory
- NADC paratuberculosis laboratory and library
- NVSL-DBL serology laboratory
- ISU paratuberculosis laboratory and library

♦ Target Audience

Technicians, technologists, microbiologists, laboratory supervisors, laboratory trainers and/or other scientists who desire current knowledge of the Johne's diagnostic procedures. Class is limited to 4 trainees.

♦ Time Requirements

4 days

♦ Contact Person

For technical information: Head, Mycobacteria and Brucella Section
Diagnostic Bacteriology Laboratory
(515) 663-7676

For logistical information: Training Office (515) 663-7300/7475

LEPTOSPIRA MICROSCOPIC AGGLUTINATION TEST ***As Scheduled***

- Description: This is a hands-on training course that provides the opportunity for participants to learn the *Leptospira* microscopic agglutination test (MAT) for the detection of antibodies against *Leptospira*
- Objective: Participants will review and update their knowledge of the test by observing and practicing specific techniques.
- Topics to be Covered: Topics will include:
  - *Leptospira* culture maintenance
  - Dealing with contaminated cultures
  - Impact of different dark field microscopes
  - Quality control of *Leptospira* medium
- Target Audience: Diagnostic laboratory technicians, supervisors, and epidemiologists. Class size is limited to 6.
- Time Requirements: 2 days
- Contact Person: For technical information: Head, Bacteriological Identification Section
  Diagnostic Bacteriology Laboratory
  (515) 663-7565

  For logistical information: Training Office (515) 663-7300/7475

MYCOBACTERIA ISOLATION AND IDENTIFICATION ***March 23 – April 3, 2009***

♦ Description

This training will provide practical hands-on experience enabling participants to process tissue specimens for the isolation and identification of *Mycobacterium bovis*

♦ Objective

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Indicate the current significant epidemiological trends of bovine tuberculosis in the United States
- Demonstrate laboratory practices for safely working with *mycobacteria*
- Discuss important aspects of quality assurance
- Discuss specimen collection and transport
- Perform acid-fast microscopy
- Perform specimen processing
- Discuss effective communication with clinician
- Discuss reporting laboratory results
- Perform Gen Probe *M. tuberculosis* complex DNA test kit
- Describe new testing methods giving applications and limitations

♦ Topics to be Covered

Laboratory sessions include the following demonstrations and hands-on laboratory activities:

- Processing tissue specimens
- Sample preparations
- Ziehl-Neelsen stain procedures
- Observing bacteriological growth characteristics
- Media used
- Using DNA probes
- Identifying unknowns
- Using Bactec media
- Gas chromatography for identifying *mycobacteria*
- Drug susceptibility testing
- Biochemical tests required for identifying *mycobacterial* species
- Colonial morphology
- Cellular morphology

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Lectures/Discussions include:

- Clinical and epidemiological aspects of bovine tuberculosis
- Test interpretations
- Laboratory safety
- Quality assurance
- Trouble shooting
- Emerging technologies
- Guinea pig inoculation

Demonstrations and tours (optional)

- NVSL-DBL media laboratory
- NADC tuberculosis laboratory and library
- NVSL-PL laboratory

♦ Target Audience

Technicians, technologists, microbiologists, laboratory supervisors, laboratory trainers or other scientists who desire current knowledge of the bovine tuberculosis diagnostic procedures. Class is limited to 4 trainees.

♦ Time Requirements

10 days: 5 days – Processing Portion
5 days – Identification Portion

♦ Restrictions

A tuberculin skin test will be administered to trainees on the first day of the class unless they have previously been vaccinated for tuberculosis with BCG vaccine. Trainees will be provided with laboratory clothing which will be worn during the training.

♦ Contact Person

For technical information: Head, Mycobacteria & Brucella Section
Diagnostic Bacteriology Laboratory
(515) 663-7676

For logistical information: Training Office (515) 663-7300/7475

OVERVIEW OF THE DIAGNOSTIC VIROLOGY LABORATORY (DVL)

The DVL provides diagnostic support for APHIS programs and foreign animal diseases (FAD) as well as diagnosis of domestic diseases by virus isolation and identification, serologic tests, and electron microscopy. The DVL conducts surveillance, import/export testing, and reference and reagent production. They provide diagnostic assistance in domestic diseases for private, state, Federal, and university laboratories, and train scientists from national and international laboratories.

The DVL is a national reference laboratory for bluetongue (BT), equine infectious anemia (EIA), highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), Newcastle disease (ND), pseudorabies (PR), and vesicular stomatitis (VS) viruses. The DVL is also an Office International des Epizooties reference laboratory for BT, EIA, HPAI, exotic ND, PR, Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis and VS viruses.

Avian Viruses Section

- Isolation and Identification of Avian Virus Pathogens
- Reference Laboratory for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza and Exotic Newcastle Disease

Bovine and Porcine Viruses Section

- Isolation and Identification of Bovine and Porcine Viruses, and viruses from aquatic organisms such as fish and shrimp
- Reference Laboratory for Pseudorabies Virus and Vesicular Stomatitis Virus.

Equine and Ovine Viruses Section

- Isolation of Equine and Small Ruminant Viruses, Equine Encephalomyelitis, and West Nile Virus
- Reference Laboratory for Equine Infectious Anemia, Bluetongue, and Epizootic Hemorrhagic Diseases Viruses

COURSES OFFERED

(continued on next page)

AVIAN INFLUENZA (AI) VIRUS ISOLATION, SUBTYPING, AND AGAR GEL IMMUNODIFFUSION ***March 30 - April 3, 2009***

♦ Description

This training will provide the participant(s) hands-on experience in the isolation, identification, and characterization of an avian influenza virus and in the detection of antibodies by the agar gel immunodiffusion test.

♦ Objective

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Demonstrate laboratory safety practices in handling avian influenza virus
- Discuss important aspects of quality assurance related to the procedures used
- Perform virus isolation using chicken embryos
- Perform the hemagglutination test
- Perform the hemagglutination-inhibition test
- Perform the agar gel immunodiffusion test
- Discuss pathogenicity criteria
- Discuss and understand subtyping methods including hemagglutination-inhibition and neuraminidase-inhibition tests

♦ Topics to be Covered

Laboratory sessions will include the following demonstrations and hands-on training:

- Tissue selection and preparation for virus isolation
- Antibiotic and media formulations
- Embryo inoculation via allantoic sac route
- Embryo candling and collection of allantoic fluid
- Hemagglutination test
- Hemagglutination-inhibition test for virus identification
- Agar gel immunodiffusion test
- Subtype (hemagglutination-inhibition and neuraminidase-inhibition tests) determination by determination

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Discussions will include:

- Epidemiology of avian influenza
- Good laboratory practices
- Techniques to prevent laboratory contamination
- Quality assurance
- Trouble shooting
- Test interpretations
- Pathogenicity tests and interpretations
- Reagent preparation
- Subtyping procedure

♦ Target Audience

Technicians, microbiologists, and veterinarians who wish to improve current laboratory skills or who will actually perform the test in the laboratory. Class size is limited to 2.

♦ Time Requirements

Training will be provided Monday through Friday. Trainee should be prepared to be in the laboratory for 5 full days.

♦ Restrictions

The training will be conducted in a high security laboratory. Trainees will be required to change clothing to enter and shower to leave. Participants must sign an agreement not to go near or handle livestock or poultry during the training and for 5 days after completion of the training.

♦ Contact Person

For technical information: Head, Avian Viruses Section
Diagnostic Virology Laboratory
(515) 663-7551

For logistical information: Training Office (515) 663-730/7475

BLUETONGUE (BT) AND EPIZOOTIC HEMORRHAGIC DISEASE (EHD) VIRUS ISOLATION

January 26 – 30, 2009
Or As Scheduled

- Description: This hands-on training allows the participants an opportunity to isolate and identify BT and EHD viruses from field specimens.
- Objective: To enable participants to follow and perform procedures to isolate and identify BT and EHD.
- Topics to be Covered: Overview of virus isolation techniques including:
  - Processing of specimens
  - Preparation and inoculation of cell cultures
  - Preparation and inoculation of embryonating chicken eggs
  - Fluorescent antibody procedures
  - Serotyping procedures
- Target Audience: Laboratory personnel familiar with virus isolation techniques. Class size is limited to 2.
- Time Requirements: 5 days
- Restrictions: The training will be conducted in a high-security laboratory. Trainees will be required to change clothing to enter and shower to leave. Participants must sign an agreement not to go near or handle livestock or poultry during the training and for 5 days after completion of the training.
- Contact Person:
  - For technical information: Head, Equine and Ovine Viruses Section, Diagnostic Virology Laboratory, (515) 663-7551
  - For logistical information: Training Office: (515) 663-7300/7475

BOVINE/PORCINE VIRUS ISOLATION TECHNIQUES ***February 5-6, 2009***
September 14-18, 2009

- Description: This training will provide practical, hands-on experience in techniques used to isolate common bovine and/or porcine viral agents from tissues, swabs, and other diagnostic specimens.

- Objective: To learn procedures for the isolation of bovine and/or porcine viruses

- Topics to be Covered: An overview of techniques including:
  - Tissue selection, preparation, and homogenization techniques
  - Cell culture preparation and inoculation
  - Observation of cultures for cytopathic effects
  - Procedures for blind passage
  - Identification strategies, including direct and indirect immunofluorescence assays, serum-virus neutralization, and electron microscopy

- Target Audience: Technicians, microbiologists, and veterinarians who are performing or who wish to perform virus isolation in cell culture from bovine and/or porcine diagnostic specimens. Class size is limited to 2.

- Time Requirements: 2 days or 5 days*

  *Note: The general overview of basic virus isolation techniques for bovine or porcine viruses requires 5 days. Training for isolation techniques for one type of virus, e.g., porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS) virus isolation techniques, can be completed in 2 days.

- Restrictions: The training will be conducted in a high-security laboratory. Trainees will be required to change clothing to enter and shower to leave. Participants must sign an agreement not to go near or handle livestock or poultry during the training and for 5 days after completion of the training.

- Contact Person:
  For technical information: Head, Bovine & Porcine Viruses Section
  Diagnostic Virology Laboratory
  (515) 663-7551

  For logistical information: Training Office (515) 663-7300/7475

EQUINE INFECTIOUS ANEMIA (EIA) AGAR GEL IMMUNODIFFUSION (AGID) AND ENZYME-LINKED IMMUNOSORBENT ASSAY (ELISA) LABORATORY METHODS ***As Scheduled***

- ♦ Description: This is a hands-on course that gives participants complete training in EIA AGID setup and interpretation as well as the opportunity to set up demonstrations on the currently approved ELISA systems.
- ♦ Objective: To provide trainees with the information and skills to set up and interpret EIA AGID reactions and earn certification to do USDA-approved testing.
- ♦ Topics to be Covered: Topics include:
  - EIA testing and regulatory concerns
  - Status reports
  - Pouring, cutting, and inoculating immunodiffusion (ID) plates
  - Reading and interpretation of ID plates
  - Agar preparation
  - Setup and interpretation of EIA ELISA tests
- ♦ Target Audience: Technicians, microbiologists, and/or veterinarians who want EIA testing certification. Class size is limited to 12.
- ♦ Time Requirements: 1 ½ days
- ♦ Nomination Procedure: Requests for training must be co-signed by the applicant's State Veterinarian and Federal Veterinarian before sending to the Director's Office, National Veterinary Services Laboratories.
- ♦ Contact Person: For technical information: Head, Equine & Ovine Viruses Section
  Diagnostic Virology Laboratory
  (515) 663-7551

  For logistical information: Training Office (515) 663-7300/7475

EQUINE VIRAL ARTERITIS (EVA) VIRUS NEUTRALIZATION (VN) ***April 17 & 20, 2009***
Or As Scheduled

- ♦ Description: A hands-on training course designed to give students an opportunity to learn microtiter VN techniques and successfully complete an EVA check test set.
- ♦ Objective: To enable trainees to successfully perform the EVA VN test
- ♦ Topics to be Covered: Topics include:
  - Overview of microtiter VN testing
  - Overview of tissue culture techniques
  - Specific procedures and requirements for EVA VN testing
- ♦ Target Audience: Technicians, microbiologists, and veterinarians who will actually perform the test in the laboratory. Class size limited to 2.
- ♦ Time Requirements: The test requires 2 days – 1 day for overview and setup and 1 day to read results. Results are read 72 hours later. Training will be provided on Friday, with results read the following Monday.
- ♦ Restrictions: The training will be conducted in a high-security laboratory. Trainees will be required to change clothing to enter and shower to leave. Participants must sign an agreement not to go near or handle livestock or poultry during the training and for 5 days after completion of the training.
- ♦ Contact Person:
  - For technical information: Head, Equine & Ovine Viruses Section, Diagnostic Virology Laboratory, (515) 663-7551
  - For logistical information: Training Office (515) 663-7300/7475

FLOURESCENT ANTIBODY (FA) CONJUGATE PRODUCTION ***March 30- April 3, 2009***

- Description: Hands-on training to prepare an FA conjugate using flourescein isothiocyanate (FITC) dye. Serum antibody used in this course was produced against a viral agent, but the FA-labeling technique can also be applied to antiserum produced against other agents.
- Objective: To enable participants to conjugate and evaluate FITC-labeled antibody.
- Topics to be Covered: The production and evaluation of conjugate including:
  - Discussion of antiserum production
  - Preparation of reagents used in procedure
  - SAS fraction of serum
  - Dialysis
  - Protein determination
  - Gel filtration with Sephadex
  - Evaluation of FA conjugates
- Target Audience: Technicians, microbiologists, and/or veterinarians who want training in FA conjugate production. Restricted to 2 trainees.
- Time Requirements: 5 days
- Restrictions: The training will be conducted in a high-security laboratory. Trainees will be required to change clothing to enter and shower to leave. Participants must sign an agreement not to go near or handle livestock or poultry during the training and for 5 days after completion of the training.
- Contact Person:
  - For technical information: Reagent Production Unit, Diagnostic Virology Laboratory, (515) 663-7551
  - For logistical information: Training Office (515) 663-7300/7475

HEMAGGLUTINATING ENCEPHALOMYELITIS HEMAGGLUTINATION-INHIBITION (HI) TEST ***April 1, 2009***

- **Description**

  Explanation of the complete procedure and hands-on practical experience will enable the trainee to perform the HI test for detection of antibodies against hemagglutinating encephalomyelitis virus (HEV).

- **Objective**

  At the conclusion of the training, course participants will be able to perform the HI for detection of antibodies against HEV.

- **Topics to be Covered**

  Overview of test procedures including:
  - Propagation of virus stocks
  - Virus titration to determine virus concentration
  - Sample preparation and titration for determination of endpoint titer
  - Challenge virus dilution and preparation of back titrations
  - Reading and evaluation of test plates
  - Use of controls to monitor performance of the test
  - Reporting of test results

- **Target Audience**

  Laboratory personnel who wish to conduct testing. Class size is limited to 2.

- **Time Requirements**

  1 day

- **Restrictions**

  The training will be conducted in a high-security laboratory. Trainees will be required to change clothing to enter and shower to leave. Participants must sign an agreement not to go near or handle livestock or poultry during the training and for 5 days after completion of the training.

- **Contact Person**

  For technical information: Head, Bovine & Porcine Viruses Section
  Diagnostic Virology Laboratory
  (515) 663-7551

  For logistical information: Training Office (515) 663-7300/7475

NEWCASTLE DISEASE (ND) ***October 20-24, 2008***
VIRUS ISOLATION AND SEROLOGY

♦ Description

This training will provide hands-on experience enabling participants to process samples for isolation, identification, and characterization of the ND virus.

♦ Objective

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:
- Demonstrate laboratory safety practices in handling the ND virus
- Discuss important aspects of quality assurance related to the procedures used
- Perform virus isolation using chicken embryos
- Perform the hemagglutination test
- Perform the hemagglutination-inhibition test
- Determine the mean death time(MDT) in embryos as a measure of pathogenicity
- Discuss pathogenicity criteria

♦ Topics to be Covered

Laboratory sessions include the following demonstrations and hands-on training:
- Selection and processing of tissue specimens
- Antibiotic and media formulations
- Embryo inoculation via allantoic sac route
- Egg candling and collection of allantoic fluid
- Hemagglutination test
- Hemagglutination-inhibition test for virus identification
- Hemagglutination-inhibition test for detection of antibodies
- Determination of MDT

Discussions include:
- Epidemiology of ND
- Laboratory Safety Practices
- Techniques to prevent laboratory contamination
- Quality assurance
- Trouble shooting
- Test interpretations
- Pathogenicity tests and interpretations
- Reagent production and preparation

(continued on next page)

- **Target Audience**: Technicians, microbiologists, and veterinarians who wish to improve current laboratory skills or who will actually perform the test in the laboratory. Class size limited to 2.

- **Time Requirements**: Training will be provided Monday through Friday. Trainees should be prepared to be in the laboratory for 5 full days.

- **Restrictions**: The training will be conducted in a high-security laboratory. Trainees will be required to change clothing to enter and shower to leave. Participants must sign an agreement not to go near or handle livestock or poultry during the training and for 5 days after completion of the training.

- **Contact Person**

For technical information:	Head, Avian Viruses Section Diagnostic Virology Laboratory (515) 663-7551
For logistical information:	Training Office (515) 663-7300/7475

PORCINE PARVOVIRUS (PPV) ***April 30 - May 1, 2009***
HEMAGGLUTINATION-INHIBITION (HI) TEST

- Description: Explanation of the complete procedure and hands-on practical experience will provide trainee the opportunity to perform the HI test for detection of antibodies against PPV
- Objective: At the conclusion of the training, course participants will be able to perform the HI test for detection of antibodies against PPV.
- Topics to be Covered: An overview of the HI test including:
  - Propagation of virus stocks
  - Virus titrations to determine virus concentration
  - Sample preparation and titration for determination of endpoint titer
  - Challenge virus dilution and preparation of back titrations
  - Reading and evaluation of test plates
  - Use controls to monitor performance of the test
  - Reporting of test results
- Target Audience: Laboratory personnel desiring to learn and implement the HI test. Class size is limited to 2.
- Time Requirements: 2 days
- Restrictions: The training will be conducted in a high-security laboratory. Trainees will be required to change clothing to enter and shower to leave. Participants must sign an agreement not to go near or handle livestock or poultry during the training and for 5 days after completion of the training.
- Contact Person:
  - For technical information: Head, Bovine & Porcine Viruses Section, Diagnostic Virology Laboratory, (515) 663-7551
  - For logistical information: Training Office (515) 663-7300/7475

PORCINE REPRODUCTIVE AND RESPIRATORY SYNDROME (PRRS) INDIRECT FLOURESCENT ANTIBODY (IFA) TEST ***April 16-17, 2009***

- ♦ Description: This training will provide an explanation of the testing procedure and provide practical hands-on experience which will enable participants to conduct the IFA test for detection of antibodies against PRRS virus.
- ♦ Objective: To perform the IFA test for detection of antibodies against PRRS.
- ♦ Topics to be Covered: Overview of testing procedures including:
  - Propagation of virus stocks
  - Virus titrations to determine virus concentration
  - Preparation of IFA slides
  - Sample preparation and titration for determination of endpoint titer
  - Reading and evaluation of slides
  - Use of controls to monitor performance of the test
  - Reporting of test results
- ♦ Target Audience: Laboratory personnel who wish to conduct testing. Class size is limited to 2.
- ♦ Time Requirements: 1 days
- ♦ Restrictions: The training will be conducted in a high-security laboratory. Trainees will be required to change clothing to enter and shower to leave. Participants must sign an agreement not to go near or handle livestock or poultry during the training and for 5 days after completion of the training.
- ♦ Contact Person:
  - For technical information: Head, Bovine & Porcine Viruses Section, Diagnostic Virology Laboratory, (515) 663-7551
  - For logistical information: Training Office (515) 663-7300/7475

PSEUDORABIES (PR) VIRUS NEUTRALIZATION TEST ***On Request***

- Description: This training will provide an explanation of the complete testing procedure and provide practical hands-on experience to enable the participants to conduct the virus neutralization test for detection of antibodies against PR virus.
- Objective: To perform the virus neutralization test for detection of antibodies against PR virus.
- Topics to be Covered: Overview of virus neutralization testing procedures including
  - Propagation of virus stocks
  - Virus preparation and titration for determination of endpoint titer
  - Challenge virus dilution and preparation of back titrations
  - Cell culture methods
  - Reading and evaluation of test plates
  - Use of controls to monitor performance of the test
  - Reporting of the test results
- Target Audience: Laboratory personnel who wish to conduct testing. Class size is limited to 2.
- Time Requirements: 3 days
- Restrictions: The training will be conducted in a high-security laboratory. Trainees will be required to change clothing to enter and shower to leave. Participants must sign an agreement not to go near or handle livestock or poultry during the training and for 5 days after completion of the training.
- Contact Person:
  - For technical information: Head, Bovine & Porcine Viruses Section, Diagnostic Virology Laboratory, (515) 663-7551
  - For logistical information: Training Office (515) 663-7300/7475

PSEUDORABIES (PR) VIRUS ENZYME-LINKED IMMUNOSORBENT ASSAY (ELISA) AND LATEX AGGLUTINATION (LA) TEST ***On Request***

- Description: This training will provide an explanation of the complete testing procedure and provide practical hands-on experience to enable the participants to conduct the latex agglutination test and enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay for detection of antibodies against PR virus.
- Objective: To perform the PR ELISA and LA test for detection of antibodies against PR virus.
- Topics to be Covered: Overview of ELISA and LA testing procedures.
- Target Audience: Laboratory personnel who wish to conduct testing. Class size is limited to 2.
- Time Requirements: 2 days If training only on 1 test, only 1day reqired.
- Restrictions: The training will be conducted in a high-security laboratory. Trainees will be required to change clothing to enter and shower to leave. Participants must sign an agreement not to go near or handle livestock or poultry during the training and for 5 days after completion of the training.
- Contact Person:
  - For technical information: Head, Bovine & Porcine Viruses Section, Diagnostic Virology Laboratory, (515) 663-7551
  - For logistical information: Training Office (515) 663-7300/7475

SWINE INFLUENZA (SI) HEMAGGLUTINATION-INHIBITION (HI) TEST ***March 5-6, 2009***

- Description: This training will provide an explanation of the testing procedure and provide practical hands-on experience which will enable participants to conduct the HI test for detection of antibodies against SI virus (H1N1, H3N2).
- Objective: To perform the HI test for detection of antibodies against SI virus.
- Topics to be Covered: Overview of HI testing procedures including:
  - Propagation of virus stocks
  - Virus titrations to determine virus concentration
  - Sample preparation and titration for determination of endpoint titer
  - Challenge virus dilution and preparation of back titrations
  - Reading and evaluation of test plates
  - Use of controls to monitor performance of the test
  - Reporting of test results
  - Public health issues involved with these viruses
- Target Audience: Laboratory personnel who wish to conduct testing. Class size is limited to 2.
- Time Requirements: 2 days
- Restrictions: The training will be conducted in a high-security laboratory. Trainees will be required to change clothing to enter and shower to leave. Participants must sign an agreement not to go near or handle livestock or poultry during the training and for 5 days after completion of the training.
- Contact Person:
  - For technical information: Head, Bovine & Porcine Viruses Section, Diagnostic Virology Laboratory, (515) 663-7551
  - For logistical information: Training Office (515) 663-7300/7475

VESICULAR STOMATITIS (VS) VIRUS ***April 20-21, 2009***
(NEW JERSEY AND INDIANA SEROTYPES)
COMPLEMENT-FIXATION TEST

- Description: This training will provide an explanation of the testing procedure and provide practical hands-on experience which will enable participants to conduct the complement-fixation test for detection of antibodies against VS virus (New Jersey and Indiana serotypes).
- Objective: To perform the complement-fixation test for detection of antibodies against VS virus (New Jersey and Indiana serotypes).
- Topics to be Covered: Overview of complement-fixation testing procedures including:
  - Preparation and titration of test results
  - Sample preparation and test procedures
  - Reading and evaluation of test plates
  - Use of controls to monitor performance of the test
  - Reporting of the test results
  - Public health issues involved with this virus
- Target Audience: Technicians, microbiologists, and/or veterinarians who wish to conduct testing to qualify animals for export or interstate shipment. Class size limited to 2.
- Time Requirements: 3 days
- Restrictions: The training will be conducted in a high-security laboratory. Trainees will be required to change clothing to enter and shower to leave. Participants must sign an agreement not to go near or handle livestock or poultry during the training and for 5 days after completion of the training.
- Contact Person:
  - For technical information: Head, Bovine & Porcine Viruses Section, Diagnostic Virology Laboratory, (515) 663-7551
  - For logistical information: Training Office (515) 663-7300/7475

VESICULAR STOMATITIS (VS) VIRUS ***April 22-24, 2009***
(NEW JERSEY AND INDIANA SEROTYPES)
VIRUS NEUTRALIZATION TEST

- ♦ Description

  This training will provide an explanation of the testing procedure and provide practical hands-on experience which will enable participants to conduct the virus neutralization test for detection of antibodies against VS virus (New Jersey and Indiana serotypes).

- ♦ Objective

  To perform the virus neutralization test for detection of antibodies against VS virus (New Jersey and Indiana serotypes).

- ♦ Topics to be Covered

  Overview of virus neutralization testing procedures including:
  - Propagation of virus stock
  - Virus titrations to determine virus concentration
  - Sample preparation and titration for determination of endpoint titer
  - Challenge virus dilution and preparation of back titration
  - Cell culture methods
  - Reading and evaluation of test plates
  - Use of controls to monitor performance of the test
  - Reporting of the test results
  - Public health issues involved with this virus

- ♦ Target Audience

  Technicians, microbiologists, and/or veterinarians who wish to conduct testing to qualify animals for export or interstate shipment. Class size limited to 2.

- ♦ Time Requirements

  2 days

- ♦ Restrictions

  The training will be conducted in a high-security laboratory. Trainees will be required to change clothing to enter and shower to leave. Participants must sign an agreement not to go near or handle livestock or poultry during the training and for 5 days after completion of the training.

- ♦ Contact Person

  For technical information: Head, Bovine & Porcine Viruses Section
  Diagnostic Virology Laboratory
  (515) 663-7551

  For logistical information: Training Office (515) 663-7300/7475

OVERVIEW OF THE PATHOLOGY LABORATORY (PL)

The PL provides differential diagnostic studies of Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) and domestic animal diseases. The laboratory's clients and stakeholders include several Federal programs, various diagnostic laboratories, and other groups, both domestic and international.

This laboratory is the national reference center for confirmation and/or diagnosis of various VS program diseases (e.g., transmissible spongiform encephalopathies, bovine tuberculosis, screwworm myiasis, and cattle fever ticks). It is an international center for analytical services and provides pathology, clinical pathology, parasitology, entomology, and chemistry services.

General Pathology and Pathology Investigations Section

- Histopathology Support for the Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication/Control Program
- Gross Pathology/Histopathology Support for Diagnosis of Foreign Animal Diseases and Enzootic Diseases
- Histopathology/Immunohistochemistry for Scrapie and Chronic Wasting Disease Diagnosis
- Surveillance Histopathology IHC for Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
- Gross Pathology/Histopathology Reference Support for State Diagnostic Laboratories
- Histological and Immunohistochemical Preparations

Chemistry and Analytical Services (CAS) Section

- Chemical Identification and Quantitation of Program-related Agents
- Analysis of Pesticide Concentrations for APHIS Programs
- Chemical Analysis of Veterinary Biologics Products
- Standardization of Analytical Methologies
- Coordination of Veterinary Services Disinfectant Issues
- Coordination of Comprehensive Diagnostic Cases

Parasitology and Clinical Pathology Team

- Exotic and Domestic Parasite Identification (e.g., Ticks, Myiasis Flies, Mites, Hemoparasites)
- Center for National Tick Surveillance Program
- Hematology and Clinical Chemistry
- Fraudulent Blood Screening

Animal Resources Section

- Animal Care, Handling, and Management
- Staff Members Have American Association for Laboratory Animal Science Certification
- Operation of Biosafety Level II and III Animal Housing Facilities
- Accredited by the American Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care since 1994

COURSES OFFERED

- Specialized training available upon request. Contact the Training Office, telephone (515) 663-7300/7475 or email: NVSL Training@aphis.usda.gov

OVERVIEW OF THE FOREIGN ANIMAL DISEASE DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY (FADDL)

The FADDL is responsible for the diagnosis of animal diseases foreign to the United States by testing samples submitted from within and outside the United States. Tests are also conducted on imported animals and animal products for the presence of exotic animal disease agents.

Diagnostic Services Section

- Diagnosis of Foreign Animal Diseases (FAD)
- Testing of Imported Animals for FAD
- Safety Testing of Imported Biological Materials
- Gamma Irradiation Sterilization of Biomaterials
- Histologic Studies on Diagnostic Cases
- Electron Microscopic Examination of Pathogen

Reagents and Vaccine Services Section

- New Methods Evaluation and Implementation
- Production, Maintenance, and Distribution of Diagnostic Reagents
- Maintenance of North American Foot-and-Mouth (FMD) Vaccine Bank

TRAINING OFFERED

FOREIGN ANIMAL DISEASES ***As Scheduled***

Training in the diagnosis and recognition of diseases not present in the United States is offered at the Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (FADDL) on a request basis. The primary areas of interest in the past have included:

1. Vesicular Disease Diagnosis	Detection of antibodies to foot-and-mouth disease virus (FMDV), vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV), vesicular exanthema of swine (VES), and swine vesicular disease virus (SVDV) by agarose gel immunodiffusion, virus neutralization, and/or ELISA. Detection of viral antigens of FMDV, VSV, VES, and SVDV by ELISA, complement-fixation, polymerase chain reaction (PCR), virus isolation (using tissue culture and/or live animal systems), and electron microscopy (EM).
2. Swine Disease Diagnosis	Detection of classical swine fever (CSF) (hog cholera) and African swine fever (ASF) virus by indirect florescent antibody (IFA) staining of cut tissue sections and/or virus isolation in tissue culture or live animals. Detection of CSF virus and ASF virus by avidin-biotin complex (ABC) staining and IFA staining of cut tissue sections and/or virus isolation in tissue culture or live animals.
3. African Horse Sickness	Detection of antibodies to African horse sickness (AHS) virus by ELISA, complement-fixation, virus neutralization, and IFA.
4. Rinderprest and Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR)	Detection of antibodies to Rinderpest virus and PPR virus by virus neutralization and detection of virus by virus isolation in tissue culture.
5. Histopathology	Training in the recognition of important microscopic lesions present in tissues from animals infected with agents exotic to the United States.
6. Others	Training in the diagnosis of other foreign animal diseases can be arranged.