

issues

Message from the State Veterinarian

Want to know when Silver Alerts are issued? The Indiana State Police can tell you.

Interested in the bid results for state contracts? Just ask Indiana's Department of Administration.

Are you interested in following the projects of Indiana's highway system? The Indiana Department of Transportation will keep you informed.

Would you like to be one of the first to know when an animal health emergency occurs in Indiana? Then subscribe to e-mail updates from the Indiana State Board of Animal Health.

The state of Indiana is now offering a free service for all consumers to receive e-mail messages when information has been updated on Web sites, and specific Web pages, on topics of your interest. BOAH is one of the state agencies participating in this service.

A red exclamation point inside of a red circle indicates where consumers can click to sign up for the e-mail notification. The links cannot be found everywhere on the BOAH site, they are only located on the pages that are available for e-mail notifications.

The pages, and the topics they cover, include: Board Actions, Calendar of Events, Career Opportunities, Commercial Dog Breeders and Brokers, Dairy and Milk: Regulations, Hot Topics, Newsletters and finally the Newsroom. Subscribers also have the ability to receive notifications from all categories by simply selecting "Board of Animal Health".

After submitting your e-mail, then the option to subscribe to additional Indiana state agencies will be available. An online catalog shows the dozens of options—about everything from silver alerts to road construction—available.

Once you subscribe to the e-mail updates, you will begin receiving messages when information has been changed in ONLY the sections you select. You will not be bombarded with informational updates from agencies you do not select. Another option for updates includes wireless alerts to your cell phone. Several other state agencies currently offer this preference.

While this quarterly newsletter provides an overview of the happenings of BOAH, the information is not always timely. Staying timely can be very important, for example when animal drugs are recalled. Such information will be posted to our Web site, and when you subscribe to our updates you will be one of the first to know.

Visit www.boah.in.gov to begin receiving up-to-date information from BOAH.

Bret D. Marsh, DVM
Indiana State Veterinarian

BOAH Board Actions

DURING THEIR regular April 15 meeting, Board members:

- conducted the final hearing and voted on the final adoption about registration and fees for the Commercial Dog Breeder and Broker program,
- voted and approved the first reading to change the bacteria count and somatic cell count standards for manufacturing grade raw milk, and
- approved the first reading to make changes to the slaughter and processing of livestock and poultry.

Board Members:

John E. Baker, DVM, Chair
Kay Boyd, DVM
Ted Harpold, DVM
Jay Houchin
Merrill Kelsay
Brent W. Harnish
Pearce McKinney
Clark Sennett
Larry Stauffer, DVM
Sandra Amass, DVM

Bret D. Marsh, DVM
State Veterinarian

Companion Animal

REMINDER TO all veterinarians, the National Veterinary Accreditation Program has changed. As of February 1, 2010, veterinarians can now be accredited into two different categories, instead of one, based on the species veterinarians will work with. Anyone accredited before February 1, and who has not renewed accreditation since, must do so immediately. Veterinarians cannot give a rabies vaccine in Indiana without USDA accreditation. Information about the accreditation program can be found at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/nvap/>. The deadline for registering is August 2, 2010.

SINCE JANUARY 1, 2010, a total of 95 commercial dog breeders and brokers have registered for a license with BOAH. Only two of the 95 registered as brokers. BOAH continues to accept applications and fees. Anyone keeping more than 20 intact females older than 12 months must register as a breeder. Potential breeders and brokers can also visit the BOAH Web site to see if they qualify.

Premise ID

THE TOTAL number of premises registered with Indiana continues to rise, especially with fair season quickly approaching. As a reminder, all livestock in Indiana must have a premise ID number to be bought, sold or exhibited. The current number of premises registered are as follows: avian: 6489; bovine: 25,741; camelid: 475; caprine: 6647; cervids: 542; equine: 6861; fish: 788; ovine: 4806; and porcine: 11,453. The total number registered in the state is 50,574.

Equine

INDIANA USDA-APHIS-Veterinary Services staff are requesting veterinarians be more thorough when filling out 17-140s and 17-145s (U.S. Origin Health Certificates) for horse shipments to Canada. Listing the breed, age, color and gender of the horse are no longer sufficient; veterinarians must be sure to include the animal's markings. Indiana's USDA-APHIS office suggests keeping the description simple. If no white markings are visible try to find some distinguishing characteristic about the horse. These suggestions apply to horses being shipped for slaughter. Questions can be directed to the USDA-APHIS-VS Indiana office at 317/347-3100.

FOUR HORSES in Cochise County, Ariz. are under quarantine after they tested positive for vesicular stomatitis. The horses are located on two separate premises within the county. Officials believe the horses have been infected with the New Jersey strain.

MICHIGAN EXTENDED the import requirements for equine piroplasmiasis (EP) testing on horses entering the state. Horses entering Michigan from a state where EP has been confirmed must have a negative EP test within 12 months before entering. More information can be found on Michigan's Web site www.michigan.gov/mda.

Avian

THE UNITED States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has proposed new performance standards to reduce the levels of salmonella and campylobacter in poultry. The standards will hold slaughterhouses more accountable by reducing the set percentage of sampled young chickens and turkeys that can test positive for a specific pathogen. USDA claims, after two years under the proposed standards, 39,000 campylobacter illnesses and 26,000 salmonella illnesses will be avoided each year.

Cattle/Ruminants

TWO BEEF cattle, in Fleming County, Ky., tested positive for bovine tuberculosis (TB) in late May. The disease was discovered at slaughter in Pennsylvania. The index herd has all tested negative, but remains under quarantine. Kentucky animal health officials plan on testing cattle on farms adjacent to the index premise, as well as three other associated herds and the farms adjacent to those.

AFTER A dairy cow was found positive with bovine tuberculosis (TB) at a slaughter facility in southern Colorado, tracing and testing turned up three additional cows positive for TB in the index herd. The discovery was made last March. Meat from the infected animals was not allowed to enter the food chain.

A NEW brochure is available for dairy cattle producers providing three different ways to calculate the potential cost of Johne's disease within a herd. Also included in the pamphlet are facts about Johne's disease and an explanation of the "iceberg phenomenon". The pamphlet is free to dairy producers, veterinarians and others within the dairy industry, and available from the BOAH office.

Meat & Poultry

ADJUSTMENTS TO the Meat and Poultry Inspection staff numbers and territories are complete. Thanks to the cooperation of plant owners across the state, the slimmer staff is adapting well to the inspection modifications. In all, twelve employees were released from their duties. Although most of the modifications are done, the continued cooperation of plant owners and the public will help MPIP make it through the upcoming fair season, which typically sees a rise in slaughter.

Dairy

THE NATIONAL Council on Interstate Milk Shippers will be holding their biannual conference in Indianapolis in 2013. The Indianapolis Marriott Downtown was selected to house the conference from April 17-25, 2013. During that week state dairy officials from across the United States will travel to Indianapolis to discuss changes to the Pasteurized Milk Ordinance.

A PROPOSED rule at BOAH would change the bacteria count standard and the somatic cell count standard for manufactured grade raw milk in Indiana. The bacteria count standards would adjust from 1 million bacteria per milliliter to 500,000 per milliliter, and somatic cell counts would decrease from 1 million bacteria per milliliter to 750,000 per milliliter for all milk other than goat milk, which will be changed to 1.5 million. A final reading and vote will be conducted at the next regularly scheduled board meeting, July 14, 2010.

Cervids

AFTER DISCOVERING chronic wasting disease (CWD) in a captive white-tailed deer last February, Missouri has not identified any more animals positive for the disease. Free-roaming deer within a five-mile radius, for a total of 153 deer, were sampled and all results were negative. Elk and red deer from the index farm, but on a different pasture, have also all tested negative for CWD. State officials have two more pastures of animals remaining to test.

SLAUGHTER PLANTS in Indiana will no longer accept deer and elk heads for chronic wasting disease (CWD) sampling beginning August 1, 2010. Since MPIP is providing meat and poultry inspection with fewer employees, BOAH inspectors do not have time to complete the sampling. Deer and elk heads can still be sampled through Purdue's diagnostic laboratory, by sending the head to another diagnostic laboratory, or sampling through a private practitioner. Cervids taken to slaughter facilities for processing will still be sampled. Veterinarians who would like to be trained for CWD sampling should contact Paula Livers at 1-877-747-3038.

Food Safety

TWO EMPLOYEES from BOAH recently completed training to become Food Defense Coordinators. Meat and Poultry Inspection Program Assistant Director David Bough, DVM and Dairy Director Terry Philibeck participated in the training which examined issues and challenges that might arise at a food facility. Topics included intentional tampering, terrorism or sabotage, and how to assess a facility's vulnerability to outside threats. Approximately 50 others from USDA-FSIS Compliance, the Indiana State Department of Health, and various agricultural industries around the state also attended. Upon completion of the online verification test, both Bough and Philibeck will become Certified Food Defense Coordinators.

Wildlife

INDIANA DEPARTMENT of Natural Resources, like many other states across the eastern United States has closed all caves, sinkholes, tunnels and abandoned mines to the public until further notice. This closure is due to concern about spreading the bat disease white-nosed syndrome. Not much is known about the disease, or how it is spread, but the deadly fungus has killed 90 percent or more of the bats in infected caves. Twin Caves at Spring Mill State Park will remain open. More information about the closures and the fungus can be found at www.dnr.in.gov/batdisease.

BIRDS WILL not be accepted for West Nile virus testing this year by the Indiana State Department of Health laboratory. However, the laboratory will continue to test mosquitoes for mosquito-borne viruses. Dead birds should be disposed of properly; picking up the bird with gloves or a shovel, double-bagging it and placing it in the garbage.

Animal Health

WITH THE discovery of vesicular stomatitis in Arizona, states are beginning to change their livestock importation requirements. South Dakota and Virginia are the first to take additional steps to prevent disease movement. As always, producers and veterinarians should contact the state of destination to verify requirements before moving animals.

GRIFFIN INDUSTRIES will no longer collect and render cattle, but will continue to provide pork and equine services to Hoosiers from its Columbus, Ind. location. The service was discontinued because the new feed rule, put in place by FDA, made removal cost prohibitive.

IMPORT REQUIREMENTS for animals entering Florida have recently been changed. Most significant are the changes to cattle and horse imports. Dairy cattle older than 6 months of age must now be tested for bovine tuberculosis within 30 days of entering Florida, unless they come from an Accredited TB Free herd in an Accredited Free state. Rodeo bulls and roping steers older than 6 months of age must test negative for TB within 12 months of entering the state. Even though post-entry quarantine and piroplasmiasis testing for horses entering Florida from Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are no longer required, quarantine, inspection, testing and treatment requirements prior to entry will continue. Also, horses entering from an equine piroplasmiasis area must undergo inspection, treatment, and testing prior to entering the state. So far, only Texas is endemic with piroplasmiasis.

FOOT-AND-MOUTH disease has spread from the eastern region of Japan to Miyakonojo city, Japan's largest producer of pork and beef. The highly contagious disease is threatening the city's \$247 million pork industry and \$165 million cattle industry. Already 158,600 animals have been culled, mostly swine, including uninfected animals, to prevent spread of the disease. The outbreak, which was first discovered April 20, was the first case of foot-and-mouth disease in Japan since 2000.

Scrapie

FREE GENETIC blood tests are now available for scrapie-resistance in sheep. Program details and an application for the test can be acquired from Dr. Cheryl Miller or Dr. Elizabeth Meek. Dr. Miller can be reached at 317/402-1527 and Dr. Meek can be contacted at 317/347-3105.