



# Trichomoniasis Certification Oct. 5, 2009

The Wyoming Livestock Board will be hosting a Trichomoniasis video conference training course on Monday evening, October 5, 2009 from 7:30 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.

Veterinarians and Brand Inspectors are encouraged to attend. This will be the last Trichomoniasis certification course held this year by the Wyoming Livestock Board.

Video sites for this training are:

**Hosting**

**WLSB Cheyenne**

1934 Wyott Drive  
Cheyenne, WY

**Rawlins**

Employment Services  
Office (Work Force  
Services)  
1703 Edinburgh  
Rawlins, WY

**Torrington**

Workforce Center  
1610-18 East M. Street  
Torrington, WY

**Riverton**

Workforce Center  
422 E. Fremont  
Riverton, WY

**Sheridan**

Workforce Center  
61 South Gould  
Sheridan, WY

**Worland**

Community Complex/Ag Extension  
1200 Culbertson, Suite G  
Worland, WY

**Gillette**

Workforce Center 1901  
Energy Court, Suite 230  
Gillette, WY

**Evanston**

Employment Services  
98 independence  
Evanston, WY

If you would like to attend please notify us. We will email the hand-outs to you.

Credit hours will be awarded to all veterinarians in attendance at video site.

For more information contact Dr. Jim Logan, State Veterinarian at 307-856-4140 or Dr. Cook, Assistant State Veterinarian at 307-777-6440 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

## Veterinary Advisory Calls

The Wyoming State Veterinarian's office holds monthly conference calls with veterinarians across the state to discuss disease and regulatory issues. All veterinarians licensed in Wyoming are invited to participate. Calls typically include updates from state and federal agencies and offer an opportunity for private veterinarians to ask questions or discuss issues of concern in the field.

Calls are generally held the first Friday of the month at 8:00 am and last an hour or less. Veterinarians may participate in all of some of the call as their

schedules allow. The next call will be Friday October 2 at 8:00 am and the November call will be Friday November 6 at 8:00am. To participate in the calls, please call our office at 777-6443 to get the call-in number and PIN.

Reminders about the calls are sent to all Wyoming veterinarians for whom we have email addresses. If you would like to be included on the reminder list please send your email address to [dleina@state.wy.us](mailto:dleina@state.wy.us)

By: Walter Cook, DVM

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### Reportable Disease List

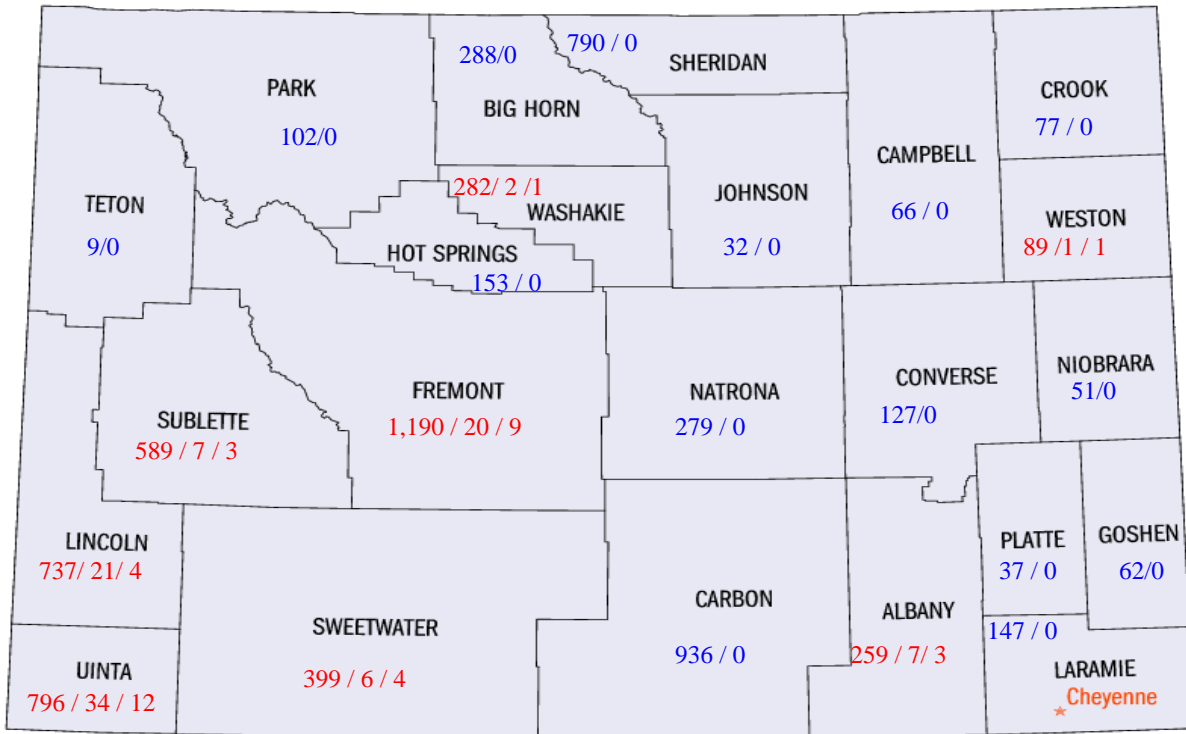
The Wyoming Livestock Board has Reportable Disease Books available to veterinarians. If interested please contact us, and we will arrange to have a book delivered to you.

Thank You ,

Wyoming Livestock Board

Animal Health Unit (307) 777-7515

# Trichomoniasis by the Numbers



September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2009

First number in counties on map indicates total number bulls tested in the county, second number indicates the number Positive out of that total and third number indicates number of Premises with Trich in that county.

Positive Trich Cases are in Albany, Fremont, Lincoln, Sublette, Sweetwater, Uinta, Washakie and Weston counties.

Total number bulls tested in State of Wyoming: 7,597 Head  
 Number bulls tested negative: 7,499 Head  
 Number bulls tested positive: 98 Head  
 Number bulls certified clean after 3 tests: 546 Head

Subsequent positive bulls after initially tested neg:  
 Positive on 2<sup>nd</sup> test, after negative on 1<sup>st</sup> 15 Head  
 Positive on 3<sup>rd</sup> test, after negative on 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> 7 Head

Positive case in Weston County was actually sampled from an aborted fetus. That producer's bulls tested negative three times.

Positive bulls in Washakie County were in a V-Lot and came from a positive herd in Albany County.

By: Douglas Leinart

## New Brand of Trich Testing Tags

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Starting September 1, 2009 we changed over to a new color of tag for use in identifying bulls when testing for Trichomoniasis. The color to use now will be yellow. If veterinarians have any yellow tags on hand from the last time we used yellow (five years ago) please go ahead and use them up before ordering new tags.

This year, before buying new Trich Tags, we were compelled by state purchasing rules to go out for bid. We had to submit a Request for Bid form through Dept. of A&I, Purchasing Section. Ultimately, the winning low bid went to DuFlex tags, made by Destron Fearing, a subsidiary of National Band & Tag Co. Aside from surplus tags, we will no longer be using

Y-Text brand tags.

The DuFlex tags appear to be a well made tag and we should see good tag retention. The button and post ear piercing system is very similar to the Y-Text system; however the stem is slightly shorter on the DuFlex button. The Y-Text applicator might work in a pinch but you will likely need to order an applicator from Destron if you don't already have one. We tried using a Y-Text applicator on a DuFlex tag/button. The two pieces snapped together okay however, the steel tip popped off due to the pin on the applicator being too long for the short DuFlex post. When trying this on a bull's ear, I expect that eventually the pin will break.

Destron has said they will exchange a

new applicator for any Y-Text applicator turned in to them. You can do this if you like, but you might need it to use with surplus Y-Text tags. Contact Briley Miller at (208) 569-5269 to order a new Destron applicator. Their applicator is called the DuFlex ProGrip Universal Applicator, part # 909. Various tag supplier web sites list them at \$22.00 to \$23.00. We will not be supplying the applicator tool.

By Douglas Leinart

## Cattle Tagging and Retagging

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It has come to our attention that some veterinarians have been applying orange vaccination tags to cattle that have lost their vaccination tag. Accredited veterinarians need to be aware that Brucellosis vaccination tags that are lost from vaccinated heifers should not be replaced except through permission of the USDA/APHIS Area Veterinarian in Charge (AVIC).

If permission to retag is granted by the AVIC, the veterinarian must verify that the animal/s are official vaccinates, and a new vaccination certificate must be completed, showing the actual date of vaccination and explaining that

the animal/s had been retagged on the date the new tag is applied. This is very important to maintain traceability in the Brucellosis program.

It is preferred that in situations involving lost vaccination tags, that a silver USDA official identification tag be applied, and that information regarding the ownership of the animal tagged be recorded on a certificate or a test chart and forwarded to the Wyoming Livestock Board. On the vaccination form there is a box "Certification for Re-establishing Vaccination Status" that should be completed

(checked), signed and dated.

Additionally, if cattle are tested for Brucellosis and they are already tagged with either an orange vaccination tag, or a USDA silver tag, or a green Wyoming tag, please **DO NOT** apply another official tag. Traceability is severely impaired when existing official identification is not recorded and a new tag is added. We need the already present identification recorded in order to maintain efficiency for disease traceability.

By: Jim Logan, DVM

## Wisconsin Health Certificate Reminder

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Just a note to remind all veterinarians in Wyoming that before shipping livestock to Wisconsin, we would ask that you make sure you have met the requirements of that state prior to filling out your Certificate of Veterinary Inspections (CVI). We are receiving information from Dr. Robert Ehlenfeldt, State Veterinarian of Wisconsin on a regular basis concerning illegal CVI's from this state. Wisconsin's telephone number concerning im-

port regulations and information is: 608-224-5012 or 608-224-4879. They also have a website [www.datcp.state.wi.us](http://www.datcp.state.wi.us) for regulations, etc. It is illegal to ship livestock to any state without the proper information on your health certificates so please, make it a point to double check regulations from other states prior to shipping. It is better to be safe than sorry.

By: Paula Bivens

## Veteran Wyoming AVIC Retires

Dr. Bret Combs, long-time USDA/APHIS/AVIC, is retiring October 2, 2009 after serving as Wyoming AVIC since July of 2000, and with APHIS for 30 years.

A 1977 graduate of Purdue, Dr. Combs worked in a large animal practice in Kentucky before joining APHIS as a field veterinary medical officer, working primarily on Brucellosis infected herds. He was promoted to a Brucellosis staff veterinarian position in Ft. Collins, CO, and worked there for five years developing the first animal health computer database for the country, designed primarily to deal with Brucellosis.

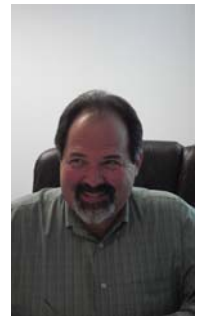
Dr. Combs served as AVIC in Utah, Idaho,

and Arizona before coming to Wyoming. During his service with APHIS, he was sent on numerous details and emergency responses serving as Depopulation Leader, Field Operations Leader, and Operations Chief. Dr. Combs stated, "I actually started working with Brucellosis in the diagnostic lab at Purdue in 1973, washing blood tubes and repackaging them to go out to practitioners, and so have been at this game for a long time."

Dr. Combs and his wife, Gayle, will be moving to Baker City, Oregon, and carving out a home from the wilderness. He has served Wyoming well and has been a good man to work with as we have dealt with our Brucellosis issues in the GYA. He has also

been an asset in helping us work on emergency management, Scrapie, Tuberculosis, and other issues of mutual concern. It will not be easy to replace Dr. Combs, and we will miss him.

Thanks, Bret, and happy retirement!



By: Jim Logan, DVM

## Scrapie Cooperative Agreement

A cooperative agreement between the Wyoming Livestock Board (WLSB) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has been developed in order to control and eradicate scrapie from Wyoming. The WLSB is the state regulatory agency charged with regulating animal health in the state and ensuring animals imported into the state are free of disease.

Scrapie is a disease of sheep and goats characterized by neurological deterioration, behavioral changes, tremors, wool loss and death. Scrapie is a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy related to, but distinct from, Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy of cattle and Chronic Wasting Disease of cervids; like these diseases, it is invariably fatal. Certain genes can render sheep susceptible to, or resistant against scrapie. It has been shown that the use of genetic information is valuable in preventing and eradicating the disease. Genetic testing for susceptibility/resistance is as simple as having a veterinarian take a blood sample and send it to the appropriate laboratory. To test for the actual disease, a sample can be taken from the third eyelid and sent to an appropriate laboratory.

Over the years, the WLSB has worked cooperatively with USDA personnel to diagnose, control and prevent Scrapie in the state's sheep and goat populations. Together we have been quite successful. Our Black-faced sheep testing requirement on imports successfully prevented scrapie introduction. The 2009 Scrapie Cooperative Agreement is a disease control program that will occur state-wide and will include sheep on rangelands and farms under a variety of terrain and field conditions. There are funds available to help sheep producers prevent this disease. Inter-

ested sheep producers should contact the WLSB at (307) 777-7515.

### Project objectives include:

- 1- **Genetic and Disease Testing of Black-faced Sheep Entering Wyoming-** The Wyoming Livestock Board has adopted rules requiring that all black-faced sheep entering the state for reproductive purposes be genetically tested for susceptibility to scrapie. Sheep that test QQ (susceptible) at codon 171 will be:
  - a. refused import, or
  - b. be tested using the third eyelid (or other ante-mortem test when approved) for scrapie (sheep not yet 14 months of age are quarantined until reaching 14 months and subsequently tested).

The cooperative agreement has funding available to offset some of the costs associated with the genetic testing for black-faced sheep imported into Wyoming.

- 2- **Genetic and Ante-mortem Testing for Surveillance Purposes-** State and Federal animal health and regulatory personnel are working in conjunction with sheep producers, the University of Wyoming and County Extension Agents to improve genetic resistance and scrapie surveillance in Wyoming's flock through education, the use of ram genetics and lid testing. Using these funds, the Wyoming Livestock Board will reimburse veterinarians up to \$15/ blood sample that they take and send to an approved laboratory for codon 171 testing. Under certain conditions, up to 75 ewes or rams can be

tested under this program, this is in addition to ram testing offered below.

- 3- **Cost Recovery for Exchanging Susceptible with Resistant Sires-** This project will provide a limited monetary cost recovery to producers that cull, for slaughter only, QQ breeding stock sires and replace them with scrapie resistant RR/QR breeding stock sires. The purpose is to encourage and augment the use of scrapie resistant genetics in flocks not presently using resistance genetics. The amount available depends on the age of the QQ ram being replaced and the genetic composition of the ram replacing it (more funding is available for young rams and those that are RR).

- 4- **Genetic Testing for Producers and Ram Sales/Tests-** Agreement would unconditionally reimburse expenses up to \$15.00/ sample, for codon 171 genetic testing of up to 40 breeding stock sires per operation based on one (1) ram per 50 breeding ewes.

This program is very important to the Wyoming sheep industry. The WLSB and USDA are eager to help eradicate scrapie from Wyoming. Each objective has been budgeted from a total of \$30,000. This includes field and lab supplies, veterinary expenses, sire exchange, travel costs, etc. To learn more about this project or to apply for funding please contact the Wyoming Livestock Board at (307) 777-7515. Additionally, instructions for participating in this program as well as producer agreements are available on the Wyoming Livestock Board website (<http://wlsb.state.wy.us/>) under Animal Health; Scrapie.By:

By: Walter Cook, DVM

# Summary of the Veterinary Loan Repayment Program for Years 2008/2009

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In the legislative session of 2008 house bill 74 provided for the repayment of loan indebtedness for veterinarians practicing food animal medicine in Wyoming. The bill became effective July 1, 2008. The total funding for the biennium was \$270,000.00 from the general fund to the livestock board. A request for the appropriation amount was to be included in the 2011-2012 exception budgets. Food animals were described as cattle, swine, sheep or goats. The bill, sponsored by Rep. Dan Zwonitzer, was to assist Food Animal veterinarians in underserved areas of the state, up to but not exceeding \$30,000.00 per year for 3 years. No State monies can be expended unless 25% of the money is matched yearly with other funds from county, city, veterinary clinic, university, laboratory or veterinary asso-

ciation. The percentage of Food animal work was determined along AVMA guidelines as to 25, 50, 75 and 100 percent. Most applications were expected to be for 50% or \$15,000.00 as most Food Animal work in Wyoming is cyclic to reproduction.

Appropriate rules, contracts, application forms, invoices and other necessary paperwork were developed and applications were accepted until Sept 1, 2008. There was considerable interest the first year with 8 applicants. 4 grants were awarded by the Wyoming Livestock Board at the 50% level or \$15,000.00 per year for 3 years.

The second year of the program (2009) there were 13 qualified applicants. Again the board selected 4 veterinarians to re-

ceive 50% grants or \$15,000.00 per year for 3 years.

As of today, Sept 2, 2009, the entire \$270,000.00 has been expended or committed. Interest in the program has exceeded my wildest dreams. We have brought in or kept 8 Food Animal veterinarians who will help service production agriculture in Wyoming. I would hope the legislature will continue to fund the program at or above the existing level for years to come. The program has been a resounding success.

Fred Emerich DVM, Wyoming Livestock Board, Field Veterinarian 9/2/2009

## Fair Diseases Booklet

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Dr. Logan is looking for suggestions from Veterinarians, extension agents, fair managers, and exhibitors for an upcoming project. Dr. Logan would like to create a color page booklet that could be distributed to veterinarians and county fairs this spring showing diseases commonly looked for during fair animal health check-in across Wyoming. This booklet will contain disease information as well as color pictures of the disease effects on animals. Several requests have

been made to this agency from exhibitors and Fair Board members in order to assist them in disease identification and awareness during fair time. This booklet will look at specific diseases that have been known to show up in show animals across the county. We need to keep the booklet practical, concise, and cost effective. This could be a crucial educational tool for future fairs and livestock events. Please contact Dr. Logan if you have suggestions or

would like to participate in the development of this booklet. Your assistance would be very much appreciated in compiling information to help educate and inform Wyoming exhibitors. We would also like to appeal to any county extension agents who would like to participate in this project.



## Chapter Two Clarification

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Since Wyoming is Brucellosis Free most state may not require a Brucellosis Test. However, if Test Eligible cattle/bison are coming out of the Designated Surveillance Area (DSA) they will be required to have a negative test. Please be sure to double check our Chapter Two Rules or contact us with further questions.

Thank You,

Animal Health Unit 307-777-7515

## Reportable Disease List Clarification

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In our Reportable Disease List Sarcoptic Mange under Scabes a domestic category A disease is listed as a reportable disease. Sarcoptic Mange is NOT reportable. On the other hand, Psoroptic mange in cattle and sheep is a reportable disease.

Thank You,

Animal Health Unit

The WLSB has a  
Field Veterinarian  
position available.  
Please see next  
page for job  
announcement!

## Practice Act Progress

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In June of this year a committee was appointed by Dr. Fillerup, President of the Wyoming Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, to revise the Wyoming State Veterinary Practice Act. This group developed a rough draft patterned after the AVMA model practice act. After each of the members had made revisions, we all met with Nanette on a Saturday in July and put it all together to submit for further comments.

The Wyoming veterinarians were then emailed a copy of the proposed Veterinary Practice Act and asked to comment on it and/or make revisions they thought were important during a two week period in the middle of August. On the 27<sup>th</sup> of August some of the committee members met in Casper to go over the comments that were received and combine them with the draft. The number of responses from the veteri-

narians was minimal, less than a dozen of our total membership replied.

During this time Senator Eli Bebout was informed of our intent and indicated his interest in it. He suggested we have it ready to put on the agenda at the Ag Committee meeting in Hulett on September 21. At this point everything came to a slowdown. Senator Geis, Chairman of the Committee, did not want to include it on the agenda for this meeting and going into a budget session. The WLSB did have some time on the agenda and when their initial business was completed, Dr. Logan informed the Committee about our intent to have it ready to introduce for the 2011 session. The overall outcome of the meeting was educational. The Committee learned of our intent to have a bill ready for the 2011 session and we learned that we need to have a lot more of the Wyoming veterinarians

versed on the Act and contacting their Senators and Representatives.

At present the draft is in the LSO office where it will be put into legislative form. When the committee receives a copy of it we will again make it available to all veterinarians to examine and comment on. It is hoped we will be able to have it at our winter meeting in Casper. If there are any questions or comments please call either myself at 307-332-2228 or Fred Emerich at 307-631-7883.

By: Jim Summers, DVM



## **STATE OF WYOMING**

Wyoming Livestock Board  
1934 Wyatt Drive  
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Phone: 307-777-7515  
Fax: 307-777-6561

## **Brand Unit Update**

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The brand unit is staying busy with brand applications, brand transfers and brand histories. We will also be presenting at the Ag Expo, October 6, 7, & 8<sup>th</sup> at LCCC. The Ag Expo is put on every year by the Laramie County CowBelles for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders from school districts 1 and 2. It's a lot of fun and the kids really enjoy it.

The 2009 brand books are available to the public. The cost is \$35 per book, which includes shipping and handling.

Thank you,

Connie

Brand Recording Unit

**The 2009  
brand books  
are available!**

## **Brand Inspector Certificates**

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Brand Inspectors will be receiving revised Brand Inspection Certificates (BIC) in the near future. This form consolidates the A form, D form and H form into one. The new changes will include an area to indicate whether the inspected animals are coming from the Designated Surveillance Area, we have added a column for brand location as well as an area that must be signed by the producers indicating that all animals being shipped on this inspection form are not under quarantine at the time the inspection is done. Other minor changes have been made to the form in order to make it flow better for the inspector.

By: Paula Bivens