

Wyoming Livestock Board

Diseases of Interest

Avian Influenza (AI)

Brucella ovis (ram epididymitis)

Brucellosis

Equine Herpes Virus (Rhino, EHV-1, EHM)

Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA, Swamp Fever, Coggins Test)

Johne's (YO-NEES)

Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea (PED)

Trichomoniasis (Trich)

Tuberculosis (TB)

Rabies

Reportable Disease List

Scrapie

Vesicular Stomatitis (VS)

West Nile Virus (WNV)

Brucellosis

Bovine brucellosis is a serious disease of livestock that has significant animal health, public health, and international trade consequences. As a result of the combined eradication effort by states and the USDA, beginning in 1934, the United States is considered free of Brucellosis in livestock with the only remaining reservoir for the disease being wildlife in the Greater Yellowstone Area (GYA). As GYA states, Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho have Brucellosis Designated Surveillance Areas (DSAs). Because the disease can be spread from wildlife to cattle, special mitigation efforts and enhanced surveillance, both voluntary and regulated, are in place in the DSAs. As a result, Brucellosis has been held at bay despite several unique challenges which continue to impede total eradication.

Chapter 2 Rules – Vaccination Against & Surveillance for Brucellosis

Chapter 6 Rules – Brucellosis Risk Mitigation Activities & Reimbursement

Designated Surveillance Area (DSA)

Map of Designated Surveillance Area (DSA) Boundaries

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Trichomoniasis (Trich)

Trich is a problem in many areas of Wyoming and the western U.S. Trich is a venereal disease of cattle characterized by early abortion and uterine infection, and is transmitted during breeding. It can be introduced to a herd either by an infected cow or bull. While the cow may recover, bulls are infected for life. The Wyoming Livestock Board has regulations requiring Trich test-positive bulls to be identified with a “V” brand on the left tail-head and restricted to slaughter channels. Testing veterinarians are required to report positive bulls to the Wyoming Livestock Board immediately.

Chapter 15 – Trichomoniasis Rules

Trichomoniasis Special Focus Area 1 Board Order

Trichomoniasis Special Focus Area 1 Map

Trichomoniasis Brochure

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Equine Herpes Virus (Rhino, EHV-1, EHM)

Equine herpes virus has been circulating through our national horse population for decades, and causes respiratory disease, abortions, and neurologic disease termed Equine Herpes Meyeloencephalopathy (EHM). EHM is rare but much more severe with nearly one in three horses not surviving. In recent years we have seen more frequent outbreaks which are managed through strict quarantine and testing. There is currently no effective vaccine available, and good biosecurity to minimize exposure is the best prevention.

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Tuberculosis (TB)

Bovine tuberculosis (TB) is a disease affecting both livestock (cattle, bison, goats, sheep, and swine), wildlife (deer and elk), and humans. With an infection rate of nearly one out of every twenty animals, the USDA partnered with states in 1917 to eradicate the disease. The present day prevalence of TB is approximately one in ten thousand animals. Its existence in wildlife in a few Midwestern states and in Mexico, along with increased program costs and decreased funding, low sensitivity tests and increased animal movement, has stood in the way of total eradication, with new cases occurring almost randomly. TB has an economic impact at the ranch and international level, and is a human health concern. Although the disease has not been found in Wyoming, we remain vigilant and have import requirements to minimize the risk of importing TB.

USDA Tuberculosis UM&R

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Scrapie

Scrapie is in a recently-discovered class of diseases known as Spongiform Transmissible Encephalopathies. A cooperative agreement between the Wyoming Livestock Board (WLSB) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has been developed to control and eradicate scrapie from Wyoming, and there have been no known cases in Wyoming for the past five years, The WLSB has regulations targeted at scrapie surveillance and prevention. It is predicted that the disease will be eradicated from the United States by 2017.

Chapter 13 Scrapie Prevention and Management
USDA Scrapie Eradication UM&R

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Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea (PED)

PED is a newly emerging disease of swine that has rapidly spread to most of the United States, including isolated cases in Wyoming. Caused by a virus, it is one of the most contagious and persistent diseases of livestock known. While it may cause mild disease in all classes of swine, it is most devastating in nursing pigs, with death losses approaching 100%. Industry and animal health officials are collaborating to better understand and control the disease including development of effective vaccines, disinfectants, and rapid and reliable testing.

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Avian Influenza (AI)

Avian Influenza is a very important disease, not only from a public health standpoint, but for international marketing of poultry and poultry products as well. Wyoming is not a large poultry state, but producers and breeders could be at risk and are subject to interstate health requirements when shipping and receiving birds and eggs. The National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP), endorsed by the USDA, offers flock certification for several diseases including AI. For certification requirements and more information, including free testing for qualifying flocks, contact the Wyoming Livestock Board (WLSB) office.

Everyone, especially children and the elderly, should use wash their hands before and after handling poultry (and other animals), and refrain from bringing food and drink into areas where animals are housed.

Avian Influenza Testing Brochure
National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP)

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West Nile Virus (WNV)

West Nile Virus is a viral disease spread by mosquitoes that can affect horses, humans, and other species. Horses are most susceptible. Signs of West Nile Virus infection include initial flulike symptoms where the horse becomes lethargic and depressed, followed by weakness, incoordination and seizures. Of those that become ill, about 30 percent die or need to be euthanized. Prevention includes mosquito control, but the most effective prevention is vaccination, which is more than 95% protective. While outbreaks tend to occur in waves, it is best to vaccinate yearly in Wyoming so the vaccine will take effect before the insect vectors emerge.

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Johne's (YO-NEES)

Few cattle owners test for Johne's disease, but if you plan to buy expensive breeding stock you should investigate the Johne's disease status of the herd you're buying from. Johne's is an incurable bacterial disease passed from infected cattle to others through ingestion of feces. Cattle typically get infected at a very young age but do not show signs until about two years old, developing continuous diarrhea and extreme weight loss, despite a good appetite. Testing can be beneficial, but because Johne's is a disease of management, it is just as important knowing the status of the herd of origin - risk analysis testing should show "low risk".

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Brucella ovis (ram epididymitis)

Brucella ovis is a contagious bacterial disease of sheep causing infertility (epididymitis) in rams, infrequent abortions in ewes, and poor survivability in lambs. It can be diagnosed presumptively by palpation of the testicles and confirmed with blood testing. WLSB regulations require that all test-positive rams be restricted to slaughter channels.

Chapter 12 – Brucella Ovis Certification

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Vesicular Stomatitis (VS)

Vesicular Stomatitis is a viral infection spread by midges that can affect horses and other livestock. It causes blistering and sores in and around the mouth. VS is treated as a foreign animal disease, and any suspicion of it should be reported immediately to the Livestock Board.

Vesicular Stomatitis Brochure

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Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA, Swamp Fever, Coggins Test)

Equine Infectious Anemia is a viral disease of horses spread primarily by blood-carrying insects, but can also be transmitted by the shared use of objects such as metal curry combs and even bits. The disease is untreatable and there is no vaccine. Positive horses are determined by the Coggins' test which is required for movement of horses between states. The USDA has developed a set of Uniform Methods and Rules as guidelines for states in the control and potential eradication of the disease.

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Rabies

Rabies is a viral disease of warm-blooded animals that is spread typically through the saliva of infected animals. The disease can be transmitted to humans. Wyoming has a wildlife reservoir and rabies has been reported in many areas of the state over the past several years. Cases of rabies in domestic animals have resulted from transmission from skunks and bats. Pets should be vaccinated against rabies per the American Association of Public Health Veterinarians Rabies Compendium and county/municipal requirements. Livestock should be vaccinated against rabies at a veterinarian's discretion. The Wyoming state veterinarian and the Wyoming Department of Health coordinate on rabies exposure cases to determine the disposition of animals involved in bite incidents.

Wyoming State Veterinarians Rules:
Chapter 1 – Rabies Prevention and Post Exposure Management

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Reportable Disease List

The Wyoming Livestock Board (WLSB) maintains a list of animal diseases called the Reportable Disease List. These diseases must be reported to the state veterinarian when they are identified, per state statute (WS 11-19-102). These diseases are important for their impact on herd health, public health and the economics and marketability of the Wyoming livestock industry.

If any person or government entity knows or suspects that there is a contagious or infectious disease among animals under their jurisdiction, or any veterinarian knows of or suspects a reportable disease, he/she must report it to the State Veterinarian's office within 24 hours. All information collected in response to the reportable disease list shall remain confidential.

To Report a disease call 307-777-7515

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