

# Illinois Department of Agriculture Animal Disease Laboratory

## Laboratory Notes

May 3, 2016

### Meet the Staff

Randy Johnson has been working at the Animal Disease Laboratory since June, 2013. He received a Bachelor's degree in Biomedical Sciences from the University of South Florida and worked previously as a quality control chemist. He is currently assigned to the bacteriology section of the laboratory, working principally in our meat safety testing area. Randy has completed all the proficiency requirements for meat testing and has attended specialized training in that field. Randy is a native of Altona, Illinois and graduated from ROWVA high school. When not testing food, he enjoys spending time with his fiancée, Gina, taking weekend getaways, watching movies and sports, and spending time with family.



### Serology Testing for Exhibition

A recent change in state regulations has removed the requirement for pseudorabies testing for Illinois swine going to Illinois fairs and other Illinois exhibitions. The requirement for brucellosis testing was removed several years ago. This regulatory change applies only to Illinois animals going to Illinois exhibitions. Illinois animals going out-of-state must follow the requirements of the state in which they are to be exhibited. Animals coming to Illinois exhibitions from other states must be accompanied by entry permits and valid certificates of veterinary inspection. Swine originating from pseudorabies stage IV or V states are exempt from the pseudorabies serum testing requirement. Animals intended to be sold as breeding stock will generally need to be

tested for PRV prior to going to the exhibition to assure compliance with receiving state import requirements after the sale.

### Anaplasmosis

Anaplasmosis is increasing in incidence in Illinois. Transmission is mainly by ticks, but biting flies and contaminated needles and surgical equipment are capable of transmission. Calves infected with Anaplasma rarely develop clinical disease; naïve animals older than 2 years commonly become clinical with high mortality. Infection is persistent and believed to be life-long; thus infected animals remain serologically positive. For diagnostic purposes, the ELISA test for antibody is useful if negative, but cannot differentiate between clinical and carrier animals. PCR can detect the agent in blood and is useful for confirmation when clinical signs (anemia and jaundice) are detected. The OIE recommends use of PCR or examination of blood smears, but not serology, to confirm clinical cases. A negative PCR test indicates the animal is not infected clinically or as a carrier.

### Federal SECD Subsidy

The federal subsidy for swine enteric coronaviral diseases is expiring at the end of April. More information can be found here: [https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/animal\\_dis\\_spec/swine/downloads/secd\\_reimbursementdeadline.pdf](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/animal_dis_spec/swine/downloads/secd_reimbursementdeadline.pdf)

### Laboratory Calendar

Please be aware that, along with all other state agencies, the diagnostic laboratory is closed on the following days:  
New Year's Day  
Martin Luther King Day

Lincoln's Birthday  
President's Day  
Memorial Day  
Independence Day  
Labor Day  
Columbus Day  
General Election Day  
Veteran's Day  
Thanksgiving and the Friday after  
Christmas Day  
As always, submissions can be left in the night depository on the northeast side of the building anytime after hours or on weekends or holidays.

### Forms on Website

If you haven't visited the updated IDOA website lately, please do so. The Department of Agriculture website has been overhauled and updated with lots of helpful information. Our web page, found under the "Animals" section of the website, has also been revised. The forms for serology submissions, commodity requests, and our standard laboratory submission form are all present on our web page in fillable formats. Also on the website is our Animal Disease Laboratory Tests and Fees schedule which will give you an idea of turn-around time, sample(s) to submit, and cost per test.

Go to <http://www.agr.state.il.us/laboratory-services/>

Remember that numbered commodity items (tags or certificates) and tuberculin must be assigned to an individual licensed accredited veterinarian rather than just to a practice.

### Questions and Guidance

Laboratory personnel are always happy to provide guidance on sample collection, preparation, and submission. Don't hesitate to call (309 344-2451) for information or advice.