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Animal Health MATTERS Newsletter

Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences

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Animal Health MATTERS

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Vol. 14, Issue 2

Animal Health MATTERS

July 2011



ADRDL Hosts North Central Conference of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians

Veterinary diagnostic laboratory personnel converged on Brookings from June 1-3, 2011, for the annual meeting of the North Central Conference of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians. Sixty-five attendees from institutions across the north central United States, including Arkansas, Illinois, Iowa State, Kansas State, Missouri, North Dakota State, and Wisconsin, as well as from NVSL, Newport Labs, and Pfizer Animal Health, were in attendance.

Participants listened to scientific sessions that encompassed pathology, molecular diagnostics, and microbiology. In all, 26 different presentations were given on a wide range of subjects. Talks given by SDSU ADRDL personnel included: "Changes in the Wire-type Associated with Hardware disease in Cattle" (David Zeman); "Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome Virus (PRRSV) Diagnostics: Past, Present, Future" (Jane Christopher-Hennings); "Overview: ADRDL Quality System" (Rajesh Parmar); "Aquaculture and Fish Disease Diagnostics in South Dakota" (Regg Neiger); and "Serologic Surveys of Wild Elk in Custer State Park (2009 -2011)" (David Knudsen).

Kevin O'Neill and Michelle Hemann, both from Iowa State University, tied for the honor of best graduate student

NCCVLD (Continued on page 2)



Dr. Tanya Graham, SDSU ADRDL, addresses attendees during the pathology and general diagnostics section of the North Central Conference of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians, held at SDSU June 1-3. (Photo: Rita Miller)

Director's Message: Floods, Feasts, and Famines

David H. Zeman, DVM, PhD, DACVP — Director ADRDL



As I write this message there are South Dakotans across the state struggling to protect their homes, businesses and properties from serious flood threats along the Missouri river.

Our hearts go out to them and we all hope for the best. The floods forced the SDVMA to cancel their

spring convention in Pierre, but Dr. Daly and the SDVMA are confident that the annual continuing education meeting in Sioux Falls this August will go on as planned. Dr. Daly, in his role as Extension Veterinarian, and the SDVMA have worked closely together over the years to bring meaningful continuing education to our regional veterinary practitioners, with all animal owners being the ultimate beneficiary of their hard work.

Financially for the department, it has been a year of feasts and famines. The department has been fortunate to land

several animal health related grants to support our mission; however, the state legislators were forced to deal with a serious budget situation and both the diagnostic laboratory and our research program were significantly impacted. Most notably, the downsizing of the Agricultural Experiment Station will mean the closure of the Olson Agricultural & Analytical Services Laboratory this coming October. That unit has provided veterinary toxicology services to the ADRDL

Director's Message (Continued on page 7)

SDSU Extension Veterinarian Designated as State Public Health Veterinarian

Russ Daly, Extension veterinarian based at South Dakota State University, also will serve as South Dakota's state public health veterinarian.

Daly's new role will complement his efforts in his Extension position, while adding his expertise as a resource for health care providers, the state's Department of Health and other state agencies, and the public when it comes to dealing with diseases that can pass between animals and humans. SDSU Department of Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences head David Zeman said Daly would benefit South Dakota greatly by bolstering public health services, especially at the urban-rural interface in this agriculture-intensive region.

"Having a state public health veteri-

narian means that South Dakota will be able to more readily collaborate between other states on public health investigations and projects," Zeman said. "In recent years, the link between animal and human health has been illustrated by the 'One Health' initiative, in which both medical and veterinary expertise can combine to control and possibly eradicate disease conditions that are important to both human and animal health. Russ will play a crucial role in that effort."

Common issues that public health veterinarians deal with include zoonotic diseases such as rabies and influenza, foodborne illnesses, vector or insect-borne disease, antibiotic resistance, and animal contact in public settings such as fairs and petting zoos. South Dakota De-

partment of Health State Epidemiologist Lon Kightlinger said Daly's new post would add strength to an already positive relationship between human and veterinary professionals.

"South Dakota is a rural state where many people have occupational, recreational or random contact with animals or insects that transmit diseases to humans, and every year we have many cases of animal-origin diseases, including E. coli O157:H7, West Nile, tularemia, and hantavirus, to name a few," Kightlinger said. "We also have an ever-present threat from rabies, anthrax, and plague. That's why a public health veterinarian will help the Department of Health better understand, prevent, and control animal disease transmission to humans." ■

NCCVLD

(Continued from page 1)

presentation at the meeting. O'Neill's presentation was entitled, "Observations from Serological Monitoring of PRRSV 'Negative' Herds: Getting to the Final Answer", while Hemann's topic was "Comparison of Serological Assays for *Actinobacillus Pleuropneumoniae* (APP) (Serotypes 1-9) on Serum From Pigs Experimentally Infected With APP or Vaccinated With APP Bacterins". Both students received a \$100 award from the conference.

In addition to the scientific sessions, participants were treated to a wine and cheese opening reception held at the South Dakota Agricultural Heritage Museum, an evening picnic at Oakwood Lakes State Park, and tours of the SDSU Animal Disease Research and Diagnostic Laboratory. ■



NCCVLD attendees were treated to an opening wine and cheese reception at the South Dakota Agricultural Heritage Museum on Wednesday, June 1. (Photo: Rita Miller)

ADRDL Virology Section Recognized by SD Game, Fish and Parks



The South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks aquatic staff, at their February meeting in Brookings, took the opportunity to publicly recognize the "invaluable contribution of the Diagnostic Virology Section of the SDSU ADRDL". Four ADRDL staff members were presented certificates of recognition for their "quality work in monitoring our fisheries for diseases. Their efforts are greatly appreciated by everyone who enjoys our great fisheries resources."

Pictured are (L-R): Mike Barnes, McNenny State Fish Hatchery, Spearfish; Dr. Regg Neiger, ADRDL Pathologist; Liz Brown, Stacey Wessels, and Pam Leslie-Steen, ADRDL virologists; and John Lott, Fisheries Chief, SD Game Fish and Parks. (Photo and Source: SD Game Fish and Parks, Division of Wildlife newsletter, February 2011.)

Summary of BVDV-PI Testing at SDSU ADRDL, FY 2010

Russ Daly, DVM, Extension Veterinarian

Cattle persistently infected with Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus (BVDV) are considered the reservoir for BVDV within the cattle population. Within individual herds, identifying these persistently infected (BVDV-PI) animals through individual animal testing has allowed for the removal of these animals or for the prevention of BVDV-PI animals from entering the herd, making testing a valuable procedure for maintaining cattle health.

Several different methods are available for BVDV testing at the SDSU ADRDL, the most popular of which are the individual ear notch ELISA and the pooled PCR test. For ELISA testing, the individual ear notch is suspended in saline solution at the lab, agitated, and an antigen-capture ELISA procedure performed on the fluid. The pooled PCR procedure also utilizes individual ear notches, which are also suspended in saline solution and agitated. Aliquots of fluid from each sample are then pooled and subjected to

PCR for BVDV. If positive pools are identified, then individual antigen-capture ELISAs are performed on the samples that comprised the pool.

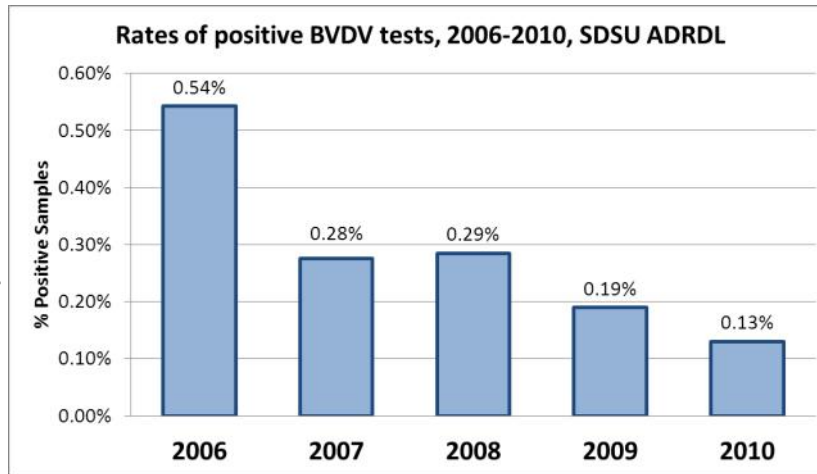
To confirm true BVDV-PI status, a follow-up sample from the positive ani-

The results below reflect testing performed on cases submitted to the SDSU ADRDL. Almost assuredly they do not represent infection rates in the cattle population in general, as submissions reflect many different scenarios: testing within known-BVDV-positive herds, screening incoming purchased animals, etc.

Total numbers of tests performed have decreased over the past few years. On the positive side, this could be due to more herds being “cleaned up” and moving from disease diagnosis to biosecurity/surveillance with BVDV testing. On the other hand, it’s also possible that producers and veterinarians may be becoming more complacent about the disease. Regardless, BVDV infections continue to affect

cow-calf, feedlot, and dairy operations in South Dakota and the region, and BVDV-PI testing remains an essential part of control.

For more information on BVDV testing at SDSU, go to www.sdstate.edu/ys/extension and click on “Beef Cattle Issues” or “Dairy Animal Issues.” ■



mal is recommended to be collected roughly 4-6 weeks later. If ear notches were used in the initial diagnosis, a blood sample is recommended for follow-up confirmation, for either virus isolation or PCR, to differentiate animals that are transiently infected from BVDV-PI animals.

FY 2010 BVD Summary							
Test	No. samples	No. cases	No. positive samples	No. positive cases	Pos. sample rate	Pos. case rate	
Ear Notch ELISA	7108	343	16	7	0.23%	2.04%	
Pooled PCR with ELISA to ID indiv's*	14823	175	11	8	0.07%	4.57%	
Immunohistochemistry	453	81	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	
Serum ACE	1425	88	4	3	0.28%	3.41%	
TOTALS 2010	23809	687	31	18	0.13%	2.62%	

* Pooled PCR with ELISA to ID indiv's. This row represents all the samples tested under the pooled PCR procedure, plus the ELISA tests necessary to identify individual BVDV-positive animals within the pool.

Reminder from Serology Section:
 Due to a nationwide shortage of Bovine Leukosis Virus (BLV) test kits, please contact the serology section (605-688-5171) if you anticipate sending in large numbers of samples for BLV testing, e.g., export testing. A call at or before the time of submission will ensure that the lab is prepared with the proper materials in order to complete your testing in a quick manner.
 (Linda Fawcett, ADRDL serology section).

The Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences Clerical Team: The Support Behind Department Missions

Whether it's finding the latest case information for a veterinarian needing important diagnostic results, processing incoming diagnostic submissions so they get to the right sections, or helping faculty and staff make travel arrangements to an important meeting, a group of dedicated individuals within the Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences Department comes to work each day with the goal of making sure all the functions of the department and ADRDL work smoothly.

The seven members of the staff bring a combined total of 162 years of experience within the Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences Department and ADRDL. The clerical staff is located in two offices: the front office, located in the front of the building off the front doors; and the specimen receiving office, located in the receiving area adjacent to the diagnostic laboratory.

Within the functions of the ADRDL proper, clerical staff is involved from the very beginning of a case all the way through reporting and filing results. Staff in the receiving office assist clients who bring in specimens, enter case information into the laboratory information management system and assign specimens and cases to the proper lab sections and case coordinators. They assist pathologists in necropsy, and coordinate shipments from the laboratory through UPS and Federal Express. In addition to those duties, Margaret, Evonne, and Kim also handle phone questions and help veterinarians with results and general inquiries as well.

Clerical staff members in the front office are involved with a great variety of duties every day. They answer and direct phone inquiries, not just regarding diagnostic results, but also about the many other activities of the department as well. They prepare and transcribe case reports and manage their copying, mailing, faxing, e-mailing and filing, too. A substantial number of diagnostic cases are reported to agencies such as the South Dakota Animal Industry Board, USDA, and other regulatory offices; these requirements are all managed by clerical staff



SDSU ADRDL and Veterinary & Biomedical Sciences Department Clerical Staff: Back Row, L-R: Gerri Murphy, Kim Hyland, Janice Kampmann, Nan Nesbit, Evonne Freyberg. Front Row, L-R: Margaret Janssen, Rita Miller. (Photo: Russ Daly)

members at SDSU. Invoicing and receiving payments and other correspondence are also critical functions of the clerical staff.

In addition to all the support necessary for the diagnostic functions of the department, there is also a long list of clerical responsibilities that go along with being an academic department at SDSU. Clerical staff helps faculty on the academic side by assisting with testing and course evaluations, scheduling classes and advisee appointments, and managing visits for prospective students to the department. Scheduling meetings on and off campus, making travel arrangements, and managing safety training and security requirements for new employees are

among the other duties the clerical staff performs that help faculty and staff members stay productive.

Over the past years, technology has been the largest positive change over the years for the clerical section. What used to be done completely through the mail and over the phone has evolved to fax machines and the internet, and more recently to e-mail and cell phones. These changes have all resulted in the clerical staff evolving and adapting to these new tools, along with greatly improved communications and timely results for clients.

SDSU Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences Department Clerical Staff include:

Rita Miller grew up raising sheep on a farm by White, SD. She began her career at SDSU in the Plant Science Department, then joined the Veterinary Science Department in 1976. Rita is currently the Office Supervisor. In that role, she provides administrative assistance to the Department Head/Director, and manages a dedicated clerical team of six.

Gerri Murphy grew up on a farm by Arlington, SD, where her family raised Holstein and Hereford/Angus cattle. After graduating from Arlington High School, she attended the National College of Business in Rapid City. She worked for a chiropractor in Arlington and also at Central Duplicating at the Department of Purchasing and Printing in Pierre before joining the Veterinary Science Department in 1977. Gerri

currently works in the front office as a Word Processor.

Janice Kampmann grew up on a farm by Elkton, SD. She has been a secretary in the front office at the ADRDL since 1995. Prior to that, she worked as a typesetter for local weekly newspapers, and then part-time in the office of the Dean of the College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences for five years. Her duties include administrative assistance to the South Dakota Veterinary Medical Association, the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee at SDSU, the extension veterinarian, and the diagnostic lab.

Nan Nesbit was born in Ames, IA. She attended Viterbo College in La-Crosse, WI. Nan joined our department in 1995 and is currently a secretary working in the front office. Nan says the best thing that ever happened to her was com-

ing to South Dakota and working at the lab!

Margaret Janssen grew up on a small dairy farm by Elkton, SD. After graduating from Elkton High School, she joined the department in 1979. Margaret is currently a secretary and works in the specimen receiving office.

Evonne Freyberg grew up on a farm east of Brookings, SD. After high school, she attended the Stenotype Institute of South Dakota for legal and executive secretary programs. Evonne came to SDSU in 1987 and is currently a secretary in the specimen receiving office.

Kim Hyland spent her childhood in the state of Washington and the Black Hills. Kim joined our team in 2006 as a Staff Assistant and works in the specimen receiving office. ■

Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences Faculty, Pre-Vet Students Explore Veterinary Education in New Zealand

Jennifer Bosch, BS, SDSU; Iowa State College of Veterinary Medicine Class of 2015

This year three SDSU students spent their spring break exploring the country of New Zealand. Andrew Rogen, Ben Lamp, and Jennifer Bosch along with advisors David Zeman and Dave Knudson spent eight days visiting the sites and Massey University Veterinary School in the town of Palmerston North.

The trip was an opportunity to explore the possibility of attending vet school abroad. Massey University was recently AVMA accredited, which allows students from the United States to attend there and then come back home to practice. Each student was matched up with a current vet student from North America and several days were spent touring the school, shadowing classes, and speaking with faculty. The SDSU students also gave a presentation to the faculty on their background and how they went about selecting vet schools to apply to.

The group also toured some great places on the north island including Kapiti island (a bird sanctuary) and Feilding sale yard. Millions of sheep roam New Zealand, making it their main agricultural commodity. The country itself was beautiful with its mild climate, rolling hills, mountains, and ocean views all in a small geographical area. Other than having to do a lot of unit conversions and needing to brush up on the rules of rugby, it felt very similar to home. Overall the trip was a great experience exposing the students to another country, different culture, and the possibility of studying abroad for vet school. All that was learned was then brought home and shared with the SDSU Pre-Vet Club. ■



SDSU Pre-Veterinary students and VBS department staff visit Feilding stockyard in Feilding, New Zealand. (L-R: Jennifer Bosch, Ben Lamp, and Andrew Rogen, SDSU pre-veterinary students; Dr. Dave Knudsen, SDSU VBS Department; Colleen Zeman; Representative from Feilding stockyard; Dr. Dave Zeman, SDSU VBS Department. (Photo: Dave Zeman)

Pieces and Parts

Griffith Undergraduate Research Award Won by SDSU Pre-Veterinary Student

Among the six awardees of the SDSU Griffith Undergraduate Research Award was Ashley Peterson, for her project entitled, "In vitro germinal centers to generate antibody responses ex vivo." Her faculty mentor is Dr. Alan Young, professor of veterinary and biomedical sciences.

"This award provides me with the opportunity to get more hands-on experience with research, and it will also broaden my knowledge and help me develop skills that will be beneficial in the future," Peterson said.

The project is designed to investigate mechanisms of antibody production in the laboratory that may duplicate what occurs naturally in immunized humans and animals. Using immune cells derived from normal animals, Peterson and Dr. Young will test their ability to produce antibodies in response to exposure to compounds in cell culture. If successful, this will provide a system to directly study the immune response in a highly controlled environment, and may be applied to develop highly specific antibodies for both therapy and diagnosis in cell culture.

The Griffith Undergraduate Research program is administered by the South Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station, and provides monetary awards to students in order to support their interests in research. The award includes up to \$2000 for research operating expenses and travel and a \$1000 stipend for the student.

William and Byrne Griffith established the awards to recognize the vital role of agriculture in South Dakota, and in the belief that for a society to fully flourish, there must be cultural enrichment. The Griffiths' goal was that these endowments serve as sources of inspiration, encouragement and enlightenment.



Matthees Recognized with Outstanding Service Award

In recognition of his substantial contributions to service to SDSU's stakeholders, Dr. Duane Matthees, professor in the Olson Agricultural Analytical Services Laboratory, was presented the 2011 Outstanding Service Award from the South Dakota State University chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta, the honor society of agriculture, at its annual banquet on April 12, 2011. Duane has served agricultural producers for over 30 years as supervisor of the OAASL pesticide laboratory. As such, he corresponds regularly with clients and performs hands-on analysis in the lab.

Length of Service Awards Achieved by ADRDL/OAASL Faculty and Staff

This spring, the following faculty and staff members recently were recognized by South Dakota State University and the State of South Dakota for their length of service to the department, university, and state:

10 YEARS:

- Roger Chapin-- Senior Microbiologist, Molecular Diagnostics, ADRDL
- Alan Young--Professor, Research, Vet. & Biomedical Sciences Dept.

20 YEARS:

- Diane Baker--Ag Research Management Specialist, Vet. & Biomedical Sciences Dept.
- Chris Chase--Professor, Research, Vet. & Biomedical Sciences Dept.
- Dale Miskimins--Professor, Pathology and Extension, ADRDL

25 YEARS:

- David Zeman--Professor and Head, Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences Dept.

30 YEARS:

- Richard Larson--Senior Chemist, Olson Ag. Analytical Services Lab.
- Russell Lokken--Program Assistant II, Vet. & Biomedical Sciences Dept.

2011-2012 Pre-Veterinary Scholarship Awards

R. B. Taylor Memorial Scholarship: Lacy Bobb

Rural Technologies Jackrabbit Scholarship: Katie Wollenburg

J. Michael Robbie Scholarship: Nathan Wilen and Alexandra Meyer

Dr. Harry Halverson Memorial Scholarship: Katie Boote

Richard and Carolyn Dierks Scholarship: Meagan Abraham

Freeman J. Lewis Memorial Scholarship: Karly Rupert, Dustin Ahrendt, Elizabeth Young, Kylie Poel, Spencer Kurtz, Danielle Bruschner, and Jenetta Porter.

Thiex to Serve as Journal of AOAC INTERNATIONAL Section Editor

Dr. Nancy Thiex, professor in South Dakota State University's Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences Department, has been appointed as the newest section editor of the *Journal of AOAC* (Association of Official Analytic Chemists) *INTERNATIONAL*. She replaces retiring Emmett Braselton, Michigan State University, who had served as section editor for more than a decade for the topic area of agricultural materials. "I am honored to serve AOAC INTERNATIONAL in this capacity," Thiex said. "It is definitely an opportunity to stay current and will be a new and exciting challenge."

Thiex will oversee contributions to the Journal specific to plant nutrients, animal feed, veterinary medicinal products, and veterinary toxicology, focusing on nutrients, additives, contaminants, and toxins.

Thiex is no stranger to the Journal or its peer review process: she previously served as Editorial Board chair from 2000

-2003, and served as a special guest editor in 2009. She served AOAC as chair of the AOAC Stakeholder Panel on Endocrine Disruptors. The project resulted in approved performance requirements/voluntary consensus standards for quantitative measurement of endocrine disrupting compounds in surface waters located near animal feeding operations. Nancy has been the recipient of many honors and recognitions from AOAC as an expert, study director and general referee in the area of feeds. She received a Fellows Award from AOAC INTERNATIONAL in 1998 for her dedication as an AOAC volunteer, and was recognized for her significant contributions while serving as president of the AOAC Midwest Section in 2000. She has also served as president of the National Forage Testing Association, and received a distinguished service award from the Association of American Feed Control Officials in 1997.

"AOAC welcomes Nancy and looks forward to her serving as the newest Jour-

nal section editor," said Bob Rathbone, senior director, methods validation and publications. "With her network in the feeds topic area, and her AOAC experience, she will serve the Journal well in recruiting new authors, inviting reviews on feed issues, and promoting the Journal for other important contributions in developing, improving, and testing uniform and precise and accurate methods from the agricultural community."

AOAC INTERNATIONAL is worldwide provider and facilitator in the development, use, and harmonization of validated analytical methods and laboratory quality assurance programs and services. AOAC also serves as the primary resource for timely knowledge exchange, networking, and high-quality laboratory information for its members and customers.

Source: "Inside Laboratory Management" March/April 2011 issue, AOAC INTERNATIONAL website ■

Director's Message

(Continued from page 1)

and has served SD agricultural interests in many other ways for decades. Their expertise and the efficient working relationship we enjoyed with them will be greatly missed. Several of you have asked how you can help the college and the current budget situation. The Dean and I will dialogue with the ADRDL Advisory Committee on June 13th at our regularly scheduled meeting, and I will also continue to keep the SDVMA informed of how these changes will impact our services to the public. I remain optimistic, but these are trying times for many, not just those of us in this department. We appreciate the ongoing support of all of our faithful stakeholders and valued customers.

I hope the rest of the summer is warm, dry and prosperous for all of you. I look forward to seeing many of you in August.

■

Continuing Education Events

August 7-10, 2011

South Dakota Veterinary Medical Association Annual Meeting

Ramkota Inn, Sioux Falls, SD <http://www.sdvmed.org> or 605-688-6649

Large and small animal sessions: Gender and generational differences in veterinary medicine; speaking with your state legislator; clostridial disease in domestic animals; equine lameness examinations; companion animal dermatology, GI/liver disease, and orthopedics; South Dakota animal care laws; SDSU case reports, much more.

August 4-6, 2011 – Academy of Veterinary Consultants Summer Meeting,

Antlers Hilton Hotel, Colorado Springs, CO <http://www.avc-beef.org/>

August 14-16, 2011 – North Dakota Veterinary Medical Association Annual Meeting,

Ramada Plaza Suites ~ Fargo, ND <http://www.ndvma.com>

August 24-30, 2011 – Central Veterinary Conference, Kansas City Convention and Entertainment Centers, Kansas City, MO, <http://www.thecvc.com>

September 15-16, 2011– Iowa Veterinary Medical Association Annual Meeting,

Scheman CE Center, Ames, IA, <http://www.iowavma.org/>

September 22-24, 2011 – American Association of Bovine Practitioners Annual Meeting,, St. Louis, MO, <http://www.aabp.org>

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Animal Health MATTERS

The SDSU Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences Department conducts research, teaching, professional service, and extension service to South Dakota and the surrounding region. Entities within the department include the South Dakota Animal Disease Research and Diagnostic Laboratory, the Olson Agricultural Analytical Service Laboratory, and the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Vaccinology.

The South Dakota Animal Disease Research and Diagnostic Laboratory is a full-service, all-species diagnostic laboratory accredited by the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD). The AAVLD accreditation program complies with international expectations for quality diagnostic services under the guidance of the World Organization for Animal Health (the OIE). The ADRDL collaborates with the USDA National Veterinary Services Laboratory on many federal disease monitor and eradication programs and is a member of the National Animal Health Laboratory Network. For information regarding the laboratory's Quality System, contact Rakesh Parmar – ADRDL Quality Manager, at 605 688 4309.

Editor: Russ Daly, DVM

IN THIS ISSUE

ADRDL Hosts North Central Conference of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians.....	1
Director's Message: Floods, Feasts, and Famines.....	1
SDSU Extension Veterinarian Designated as State Public Health Veterinarian.....	2
ADRDL Virology Section Recognized by SD Game, Fish and Parks.....	2
Summary of BVDV-PI Testing at SDSU ADRDL, FY 2010.....	3
The Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences Clerical Team: The Support Behind Department Missions.....	4
Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences Faculty, Pre-Vet Students Explore Veterinary Education in New Zealand.....	5
Pieces and Parts	
Griffith Undergraduate Research Award Won by SDSU Pre-Veterinary Student.....	6
Matthees Recognized with Outstanding Service Award.....	6
Length of Service Awards Achieved by ADRDL/OAASL Faculty and Staff.....	6
2011-2012 Veterinary Science Scholarship Awards.....	6
Thiex to Serve as Journal of AOAC INTERNATIONAL Section Editor.....	7
Calendar of Events.....	7