Welcome to our newest trainers! We just returned from San Diego and the US Animal Health Association meeting where we conducted a half-day training session on our agroterrorism and bioterrorism materials for 53 veterinarians. They were the first to receive the Agroterrorism Awareness Education: Safeguarding American Agriculture CD ROM with 23 PowerPoints on it. This will be available to all current trainers who are actively utilizing the other materials and reporting their training sessions to us. For more information, please email us at cfsph@iastate.edu or visit the website at www.cfsph.iastate.edu. See the last section on meetings and training sessions for where we will be conducting future seminars. As always, we encourage you to let your colleagues know about our sessions.

In The News

**West Nile Virus** was very active again this year with the first human case diagnosed in South Carolina on July 8. If you are interested in updating the statistics in your presentation, here they are as of October 16, 2003:
- 6977 human cases, 149 deaths in 44 states
- For specific disease manifestations, based on 6862 cases:
  - 65% (4471) had West Nile Fever (mild disease)
  - 29% (1997) had West Nile Meningitis or Encephalitis (severe disease)
  - 6% (394) were clinically unspecified
- The top five states for human cases are: Colorado, Nebraska, South Dakota, Texas, and North Dakota.
- Equine cases of WNV continue to occur and we have had 2,912 cases in 38 states as of October 16, 2003. This is down considerably from the 14, 717 cases in 2002.
- There was some concern earlier this year that the vaccine caused abortions and deformed foals. Many of the problems were anecdotal and lacked veterinary involvement and/or confirmation. The USDA states on their website, “Horse owners should be assured that the vaccine is safe and it should be used as protection against West Nile virus.”

**BSE** continues to halt much of the exportation of cattle and ruminant products from our neighbors to the north. In a statement made in August, the following products are allowed to be exported with a permit: “Hunter-harvested wild ruminant products that are intended for personal use; Veal (meat) from calves that were 36 weeks of age or younger at slaughter; Boneless meat from sheep or goats that were 12 months of age or younger at slaughter; Meat from farm-raised cervids (cervids include deer and elk); Boneless bovine meat from animals that were 30 months of age or younger at slaughter; Fresh or frozen bovine liver; Finished pet chews that are made from bone, ligaments, hides or hooves; and Calf milk replacer, pet food, and feed ingredients that contain only non-ruminant products when produced in facilities with dedicated manufacturing lines.” taken from [http://www.usda.gov/news/releases/2003/08/qa0281.htm](http://www.usda.gov/news/releases/2003/08/qa0281.htm)

**BT Awareness Education Update**

- 61 presenters have given 220 presentations to colleagues and clients.
- Talks have been given in 32 states and Puerto Rico.
- Over 9000 people have attended bioterrorism awareness education sessions—thank you for your hard work!
- Numerous newsletters, radio and television interviews, and a newspaper have written about the bioterrorism presentations.

**Request for Materials/ New Products**

- Nevada, Kentucky, and North Dakota have ordered personalized wall charts to distribute to their veterinarians.
- Mercy Medical Center of Iowa ordered wall charts for distribution to doctors, nurses, infectious disease specialists, and emergency responders.

**NEW!! 10” x 15” version of the wall chart is available.** Emergency responders requested this size for use in rescue vehicles. Check out our website for more details.
What your colleagues have to say...

“The whole program you put together is outstanding and I have been asked by other practitioners if you will be repeating the training session in the future”

“A lot of information to cover in 30 minutes. I add my own digital pictures and experiences from practice to personalize the presentation.”

“The person who invited me was impressed that none of the handouts were left at the end of the meeting. He felt the information was valuable.”

Having trouble setting up your 6 presentations? Some of your colleagues have presented to the following audiences:

- State/Regional Veterinary Medical Association
- Meat inspectors, plant employees
- Producer group mailings/websites
- Kennel and horse clubs
- County extension agents and emergency responders
- High schools
- 4-H/FFA groups
- Rotary/Kiwanis clubs
- Physicians, nurses, hospital staff

CFSPH Designated Specialty Center by CDC

The CFSPH has just been named a CDC Specialty Center in Public Health Preparedness for Veterinary Medicine and Zoonotic Diseases. The Specialty Centers for Public Health Preparedness (S-CPHP) program is a coordinated effort focused on improving the capacity of frontline public health workers and clinicians to address current and emerging public health threats. The CFSPH is one of 12 S-CPHPs and is the only specialty center to focus specifically on veterinary medicine and zoonotic diseases. The website for the S-CPHPs is [http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/owpp/CPHPSpeciality.asp](http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/owpp/CPHPSpeciality.asp). Many of the S-CPHPs have also developed educational materials. As a part of the network of S-CPHPs, we plan to utilize, and/or make you aware of, materials developed by other S-CPHPs that will complement or enhance our program.

Drs. Gayle Brown and Radford Davis represented the CFSPH at a meeting of all 12 S-CPHPs in Athens, GA October 14-15, 2003. The representatives from the other S-CPHPs and the CDC at the meeting were impressed by the work of the CFSPH and the many veterinarians delivering presentations on the topic of bioterrorism awareness and zoonotic diseases. The CDC recognizes the important role of the veterinarian in public health and is very supportive of our efforts.

Trainer News

**Dr. Paul Nicoletti**, one of our trainers from Florida, received the University of Florida’s Distinguished Service Award. Congratulations!

**Dr. Lisa Conti**, another trainer from Florida, received the University of Florida’s 2003 Alumni Achievement Award. Congratulations!

**Dr. Tom McGinn**, one of our trainers from North Carolina, received the Veterinarian of the Year award from his state association. Congratulations!

**Dr. Elizabeth Carney**, a trainer from Pennsylvania, has been appointed to Chairperson of the Biosafety Committee for the biologics company where she works. Congratulations Dr. Carney!

Do you have some news to share? We would love to include it in our next newsletter.

**In Memory... Dr. Bill Johnston**, one of our trainers from Alabama, passed away on August 3, 2003. Dr. Johnston was the president of the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians and was serving as the Alabama State Public Health Veterinarian. He had many contributions to the world of public health and will be missed by all.

Meetings and Training Sessions

**American Public Health Association**, November 16-19, San Francisco, California, booth and presentation by CFSPH staff.


**American Veterinary Medical Association**, July 24, 2004, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania– a Train-the-Trainer session on Emerging Diseases and Biosecurity. We will also be involved with a half day session on July 25 addressing similar topics.

**Wanted: Interesting stories!** The CDC is interested in real life stories and anecdotes about the impact the training materials and/or presentations have had on you or your audiences. If you have an interesting story to share, we would love to hear from you!