

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Animal and Plant  
Health Inspection  
Service

Veterinary  
Services

National  
Veterinary  
Services  
Laboratories

# **TRAINING COURSES**

**PROVIDED BY THE**

**NATIONAL  
VETERINARY  
SERVICES  
LABORATORIES**

FISCAL YEAR 2020

## TRAINING COURSES AT THE NATIONAL VETERINARY SERVICES LABORATORIES

(For Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 - October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020)

(For courses offered more than once, all dates are listed)

Some courses may require additional fees for special supplies and equipment. \*Fees are subject to change.

COURSE TITLE	LENGTH	DATES	COST	PAGE NO.
Avian Influenza (AI) and Newcastle Disease (ND) Virus Isolation and Characterization	5 days	By Request	\$1,810	14
Bluetongue (BT) and Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) Virus Isolation	5 days	By Request	\$1,810	16
Bovine/Porcine/Fish Virus Isolation Techniques	2 days or 5 days	By Request	\$724 or \$1,810	17
<i>Brucella</i> Isolation, Identification, and Genotyping	5 days	By Request	\$1,810	4
<i>Brucella</i> Reagent Production	5 days	By Request	\$1,810	30
Complement-Fixation Test (Anaplasmosis, Brucellosis, Equine Piroplasmiasis, and/or Paratuberculosis (Johne's))	4 ½ days	By Request	\$1,629	31
Contagious Equine Metritis (CEM)	1 ½ days	As Scheduled	\$543	6
Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) Agar Gel Immunodiffusion (AGID) and Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) Laboratory Methods	1 ½ days	As Scheduled	\$668	18
Equine Viral Arteritis (EVA) Virus Neutralization (VN)	2 days	By Request	\$724	19
Fluorescent Antibody (FA) Conjugate Production	5 days	By Request	\$1,810	20
Foreign Animal Diseases	Varies	As Scheduled	\$450/day*	33
Hemagglutinating Encephalomyelitis Hemagglutination-Inhibition (HI) Test	1 day	By Request	\$362	21
Johne's Isolation, Identification, and Genotyping	4 days	By Request	\$1,448	7
<i>Leptospira</i> Microscopic Agglutination Test	2 days	As Scheduled	\$724	9
<i>Mycobacterium</i> Isolation, Identification, and Genotyping	10 days	By Request	\$3,620	10
Porcine Parvovirus (PPV) Hemagglutination-Inhibition (HI) Test	2 days	By Request	\$724	22
Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS) Indirect Fluorescent Antibody (IFA) Test	1 day	By Request	\$362	23
Pseudorabies (PR) Virus Neutralization Test	2 days	By Request	\$724	24
Pseudorabies (PR) Virus Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) and Automated Latex Agglutination (ALA) Test	2 days	By Request	\$724	25
Swine Influenza (SI) Hemagglutination-Inhibition (HI) Test	2 days	By Request	\$724	26
Vesicular Stomatitis (VS) Virus (New Jersey and Indiana Serotypes) Complement-Fixation Test	2 days	By Request	\$724	27
Vesicular Stomatitis (VS) Virus (New Jersey and Indiana Serotypes) Virus Neutralization Test	2 days	By Request	\$724	28

- **NVSL Application for Laboratory Training (VS Form 4-11)** should be submitted as soon as possible, but no later than 2 months before the course.
- For specialized training or training not listed, contact the NCAH Training Office:

Email: [NCAH.Training@usda.gov](mailto:NCAH.Training@usda.gov)

Phone: (515) 337-7475 or 7300 FAX: (515) 337-7716

In response to requests from our customers for more specific information on diagnostic training to protect the health of animals, the National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) is pleased to provide you with this catalog which outlines some of the training courses provided by the NVSL. We hope this catalog will be helpful to you in identifying your training needs and in determining how the NVSL can assist you in meeting those needs.

While a number of courses are listed, this catalog is not all inclusive as we do provide training in other diseases. Feel free to contact us regarding your training requirements, and the NVSL will be glad to customize training to meet your specific needs. For information on the daily rate for training in Ames, Iowa and Greenport, New York, contact the NVSL training office below.

Requests for training or for more information on training should be sent to:

TRAINING OFFICE  
NATIONAL VETERINARY SERVICES LABORATORIES  
P.O. BOX 844  
AMES, IA 50010

The Training Office can be reached by e-mail at [NCAH.Training@usda.gov](mailto:NCAH.Training@usda.gov), by phone at (515) 337-7475 or 7300, or by fax at (515) 337-7716.

Information can also be accessed through the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wps/portal/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth>

Let us know how we can meet your training needs.

# CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
<b>Mission and History of the National Veterinary Services Laboratories.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>General Information .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Overview of Diagnostic Bacteriology &amp; Pathology Laboratory .....</b>	<b>3</b>
◆ Brucella Isolation, Identification, and Genotyping .....	4
◆ Contagious Equine Metritis.....	6
◆ Johne’s Isolation, Identification, and Genotyping .....	7
◆ Leptospira Microscopic Agglutination Test.....	9
◆ Mycobacterium Isolation, Identification, and Genotyping.....	10
<b>Overview of Diagnostic Virology Laboratory .....</b>	<b>12</b>
◆ Avian Influenza (AI) Virus Isolation, Subtyping, and Agar Gel Immunodiffusion .....	14
◆ Bluetongue (BT) and Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) Virus Isolation .....	16
◆ Bovine/Porcine/Fish Virus Isolation Techniques .....	17
◆ Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) Agar Gel Immunodiffusion (AGID) Test, the Competitive Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (C-ELISA) , and the Synthetic Antigen (SA) ELISA .....	18
◆ Equine Viral Arteritis (EVA) Virus Neutralization (VN) .....	19
◆ Fluorescent Antibody (FA) Conjugate Production .....	20
◆ Hemagglutinating Encephalomyelitis Hemagglutination-Inhibition (HI) Test .....	21
◆ Porcine Parvovirus (PPV) Hemagglutination-Inhibition (HI) Test .....	22
◆ Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS) Indirect Fluorescent Antibody (IFA) Test .....	23
◆ Pseudorabies (PR) Virus Neutralization Test .....	24
◆ Pseudorabies (PR) Virus Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) and Latex Agglutination (LA) Test.....	25
◆ Swine Influenza (SI) Hemagglutination-Inhibition (HI) Test .....	26
◆ Vesicular Stomatitis (VS) Virus (New Jersey and Indiana Serotypes) Complement-Fixation Test...	27
◆ Vesicular Stomatitis (VS) Virus (New Jersey and Indiana Serotypes) Virus Neutralization Test ....	28
<b>Overview of Diagnostic Bioanalytical &amp; Reagent Laboratory .....</b>	<b>29</b>
◆ <i>Brucella</i> Reagent Production .....	30
◆ Complement-Fixation Test .....	31
<b>Overview of Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory .....</b>	<b>33</b>
◆ Foreign Animal Diseases .....	32

## **Mission and History of the National Veterinary Services Laboratories**

**MISSION: TO PROTECT THE HEALTH OF ANIMALS AND CONTRIBUTE TO PUBLIC HEALTH BY PROVIDING TIMELY, ACCURATE, AND RELIABLE LABORATORY SUPPORT TO OUR CUSTOMERS.**

The National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) performs animal disease testing for Veterinary Services (VS) and is the only laboratory system in the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) dedicated to the testing of diagnostic specimens for diagnosis of domestic and foreign animal diseases. The NVSL provides analytical services, disseminates scientific information, conducts developmental activities, and provides training for APHIS programs. It also works closely with APHIS' International Services to provide consultation, reagents, and training for foreign governments. Laboratory support services are provided for many APHIS programs. [Specific responsibilities of the individual laboratories are listed on pages 4, 14, 33, and 34.] The NVSL works closely with VS specialists in program development and program monitoring, and personnel are active on many animal health organization committees. NVSL clients and stakeholders include private, state, Federal, university and various diagnostic laboratories, and other groups, both domestic and international.

**HISTORY:** The origin of the NVSL can be traced to the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI). Some of the significant events include:

**1961** – Opening of the National Animal Disease Laboratory (NADL) at Ames, Iowa. The original organizational structure provided for a Director and Assistant Director for Research and an Assistant Director for Regulatory Laboratories. The Regulatory Laboratories were assigned 20 percent of the space and were to provide diagnostic services for the Animal Disease Eradication Division. Within a few years, reorganization resulted in three independent units for research, biologics, and diagnostics.

**1971** – The Animal Health Division laboratory facilities in Beltsville, Maryland, were assigned to the Diagnostic Services group.

**1972** – APHIS was formed as an Agency of the USDA. Diagnostic Services was a part of this Agency.

**1973** – The Diagnostic Services Laboratory and the Biologics Laboratory were combined into one and named the Veterinary Services Laboratories.

**1977** – The name of the laboratory was changed to NVSL. Growth and planning for construction of a new facility continued.

**1978** – Phase I of the NVSL central facility was completed. The biologics laboratory personnel along with administrative services and support personnel moved into the new facility. Personnel from Beltsville along with their testing responsibilities moved to Ames.

**1984** – Diagnostic activities at the Plum Island Animal Disease Center, Plum Island, New York, were transferred to APHIS and made a part of the NVSL. The diagnostic laboratory was named Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (FADDL).

**1996** – The NVSL's focus is exclusively on diagnostic activities due to the transfer of biologics testing responsibility to the Center for Veterinary Biologics.

**2004** – Phase I of the National Centers for Animal Health (NCAH) Consolidated Laboratory Building 21 completed.

**2009** – Phase II of the NCAH Consolidated Laboratory and Administrative Facility Building 20 completed.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Nomination Procedure

Refer to the course outlines as some training requires the approval of the Federal and/or State Veterinarian in your state. All requests for training should be sent to:

Training Office  
National Veterinary Services  
Laboratories (NVSL)  
P.O. Box 844  
Ames, IA 50010

### Register Early

Mail or fax a [NVSL Application for Laboratory Training \(VS Form 4-11\)](#) early but no later than 2 months prior to the course to assure availability.

### Telephone Registration

Registration will not be accepted by telephone; however, [NVSL Applications for Laboratory Training \(VS Form 4-11\)](#) sent by fax to (515) 337-7716 will be accepted if authorizing signature is included.

### Confirmation Notification by the NVSL

An email confirming receipt of the nomination will be sent to the individual submitting the request. Upon acceptance into a course, an informational packet containing specific materials on the course will be sent directly to the trainee. The packet will contain an agenda, specifics on the course, an invoice, logistical details on hotels and transportation to Ames, etc., a form to be returned to the NVSL to confirm attendance, and any other appropriate information.

### Confirmation and Payment by the Trainee

The informational packet will contain a confirmation form that should be returned by the trainee as soon as possible but no later than the date indicated on the form. The full tuition payment is due at this time. Payment can be made by User Fee Account, VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Discover, check, or money order (U.S. dollars payable to the USDA, APHIS). Instructions for paying the tuition will be included in the informational packet.

### Substitutions

We encourage substitutions if you cannot attend a course. Employers may substitute another participant until the beginning of the course.

### Withdrawals

You may withdraw from the class up to 2 weeks before the course begins with a full refund of tuition. After that date, refunds will be reduced by 1 day's tuition. Substitutions will be accepted up until the beginning of the course with no change to the tuition.

### Accessibility

Participants needing special arrangements due to visual, hearing, or mobility impairment should contact the NVSL Training Office at least 4 weeks before the course to discuss specific needs and accommodations.

### Interpreters

All courses are taught in English. The trainee must provide his/her own interpreter if one is needed.

### Transportation/Housing

Participants are responsible for making their own travel arrangements and paying for their own costs for transportation, housing and food. The NVSL will provide information on hotels and transportation options along with the course information prior to the course.

### Purchasing Reagents

Unless otherwise indicated by the course outline, reagents for use during the course will be provided. For information on purchasing reagents, call (515) 337-6200, or fax (515) 337-7402.

### Equal Opportunity

Training will be provided without discrimination for any nonmerit reason such as race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical or mental handicap, or membership or nonmembership in an employee organization.

To contact the NVSL Training office

by email: [NCAH.Training@usda.gov](mailto:NCAH.Training@usda.gov)

by phone: (515) 337-7475 or 7300

by fax: (515) 337-7716

## OVERVIEW OF THE DIAGNOSTIC BACTERIOLOGY & PATHOLOGY LABORATORY (DBPL)

The DBPL provides assistance to state, Federal, university, industry, and foreign laboratories through the isolation and identification of pathogenic bacteria from animal tissues and fluids and provides pathology services. This laboratory is the national reference center for confirmation and/or diagnosis of various VS program diseases (e.g., transmissible spongiform encephalopathies and bovine tuberculosis). Laboratory support is provided for brucellosis, tuberculosis, *Salmonella* Enteritidis, horse importation, and other programs such as the National Animal Health Monitoring System and the National Poultry Improvement Plan by the following sections:

### **Bacterial Identification Section**

- Veterinary, Zoonotic, and Select Bacterial Agent Isolation and Identification
- *Salmonella* spp. Isolation and Serotyping
- *Leptospira*, *Pasteurella multocida*, and Avian *Mycoplasma* Testing and Reagents
- *Salmonella*, *Leptospira*, Anthrax, and Contagious Equine Metritis Reference Laboratories

### **Mycobacteria and Brucella Section**

- *Brucella* and *Mycobacteria* Isolation & Identification
- Proficiency Testing of State Laboratories for Johne's Disease and Brucellosis
- Johne's Disease Isolation, Identification, and Genotyping

### **Pathology Section**

- Histopathology Support for the Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication/Control Program
- Gross Pathology/Histopathology Support for Diagnosis of Foreign Animal Diseases and Enzootic Diseases
- Histopathology/Immunohistochemistry for Scrapie and Chronic Wasting Disease Diagnosis
- Surveillance Histopathology, IHC, ELISA, and western blot for Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
- Gross Pathology/Histopathology Reference Support for State Diagnostic Laboratories
- Histological and Immunohistochemical Preparations

### **COURSES OFFERED**

- ◆ *Brucella* Isolation, Identification and Genotyping
- ◆ Contagious Equine Metritis
- ◆ Johne's Isolation, Identification, and Genotyping
- ◆ *Leptospira* Microscopic Agglutination Test
- ◆ *Mycobacterium* Isolation, Identification and Genotyping

## BRUCELLA ISOLATION, IDENTIFICATION, AND GENOTYPING

*By Request*

- ◆ Description  
This training will provide practical hands-on experience enabling participants to process tissue specimens for the isolation and identification of *Brucella spp.*
- ◆ Objectives  
At the conclusion of this training, participants will be able to perform the following skills:
  - Obtain a basic understanding of the procedures used in a Biosafety Level III laboratory
  - Process tissue, milk, and blood specimens for the isolation of *Brucella spp.*
  - Identify the colonial morphology of *Brucella* on various media
  - Obtain pure cultures of *Brucella* and perform various biochemical tests required for identification
  - Interpret the biochemical results and identify the species and biovars of the genus *Brucella*
  - Perform the AMOS PCR for identification of species and biovars of the genus *Brucella*
  - Perform genotyping for *Brucella*.
- ◆ Topics to be Covered  
The following laboratory sessions will be provided:  
  
Demonstrations and hands-on laboratory activities including:
  - Processing various animal specimens including tissue, milk, blood, and swabs
  - Sample preparation
  - Observing bacterial growth characteristics
  - Cellular morphology
  - Biotyping various species of *Brucella*
  - AMOS PCR
  - Media used
  - Identifying unknowns
  - Genotyping *Brucella* strains  
Lectures and/or discussions will include:
  - Clinical and epidemiological aspects of bovine brucellosis
  - Interpretation of atypical laboratory results
  - Interpretation of Genotyping results for *Brucella*
  - Laboratory safety
  - Trouble shooting
  - Emerging technologies
  - Animal inoculations
  - Quality assurance  
Demonstrations and tours (optional):
  - NVSL/DBL – Media preparation laboratory
  - NVSL/PL – Pathobiology Laboratory
  - NADC – Brucellosis Laboratory
  - ISU – Pathology and Microbiology

*(continued on next page)*





***CONTAGIOUS EQUINE METRITIS (CEM)***

***As Scheduled***

- ◆ Description                      This training will provide information and experience necessary for participants to isolate and partially identify *Taylorella equigenitalis*
  
- ◆ Objectives                      • To prepare enrollees to conduct approved CEM testing
  
- ◆ Topics to be Covered              Overview of CEM including:
  - Background information on the organism and disease
  - Associated regulations
  - Requirements for CEM approved labs
  - Isolation of the organism
  - Identification of the organism
  - NVSL SOPs
  - Proficiency testing
  
- ◆ Target Audience                  Technicians, technologists, microbiologists, laboratory supervisors, or other scientists seeking knowledge or official approval as a CEM testing laboratory.
  
- ◆ Time Requirements                1 ½ days
  
- ◆ Contact Person                      For technical information: Head, Bacterial Identification Section  
Diagnostic Bacteriology Laboratory  
(515) 337-7565  
  
For logistical information: Training Office (515) 337-7475 or 7300

## **JOHNE'S ISOLATION, IDENTIFICATION, AND GENOTYPING**

**By Request**

- ◆ Description                      This training will provide practical hands-on experience enabling participants to process fecal or tissue specimens for the isolation and identification of *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis* (MAP).
  
- ◆ Objective                        Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
  - Indicate the current significant epidemiological trends of paratuberculosis in the United States
  - Demonstrate laboratory practices for safely working with *Mycobacteria*
  - Discuss important aspects of quality assurance
  - Discuss specimen collection and transport
  - Perform acid-fast staining and microscopic interpretation
  - Perform specimen processing and culturing methods.
  - Perform confirmatory PCR for identification of suspect cultures as MAP.
  - Perform the current *M. avium* subsp *paratuberculosis* direct PCR tests.
  - Describe new testing methods giving applications and limitations
  - Perform current genotyping methods available for MAP.
  - Discuss reporting laboratory results
  - Discuss effective communication with clinicians
  
- ◆ Topics to be Covered            Laboratory sessions include the following demonstrations and hands-on laboratory activities:
  - Sample preparation and processing fecal and tissue specimens
  - Ziehl-Neelsen stain procedures
  - Observing bacteriological growth characteristics
  - Media used
  - Using direct PCR methods
  - Identifying unknowns using confirmatory PCR.
  - Genotyping and molecular epidemiology.

Lectures/Discussions Include:

  - Clinical and epidemiological aspects of paratuberculosis
  - Test interpretations
  - Laboratory safety
  - Quality assurance
  - Trouble shooting
  - Emerging technologies

Demonstration and tours (optional)

  - NVSL-DBL media laboratory
  - NADC paratuberculosis laboratory and library
  - NVSL-DBL serology laboratory
  - ISU paratuberculosis laboratory and library

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- ◆ Target Audience                      Technicians, technologists, microbiologists, laboratory supervisors, laboratory trainers and/or other scientists who desire current knowledge of the Johne's diagnostic procedures. Class is limited to 4 trainees.
  
- ◆ Time Requirements                      4 days (course may be modified to focus on a particular topic or method, please call for information)
  
- ◆ Contact Person                              For technical information: Head, Mycobacteria and Brucella Section  
Diagnostic Bacteriology Laboratory  
(515) 337-7388  
  
For logistical information: Training Office (515) 337-7475 or 7300

**LEPTOSPIRA MICROSCOPIC AGGLUTINATION TEST**

*As Scheduled*

- ◆ Description This is a hands-on training course that provides the opportunity for participants to learn the *Leptospira* microscopic agglutination test (MAT) for the detection of antibodies against *Leptospira*
- ◆ Objective Participants will review and update their knowledge of the test by observing and practicing specific techniques.
- ◆ Topics to be Covered Topics will include:
  - *Leptospira* culture maintenance
  - Dealing with contaminated cultures
  - Performance and variability of test
  - Proper standardization of cultures
  - One on one training of test interpretation
  - Short term and long term storage of cultures
  - Impact of different dark field microscopes
  - Quality control of *Leptospira* medium
  - NVSL SOPs
  - Proficiency Testing
  - Other information available upon request (i.e. Production of *Leptospira* antiserum in rabbits etc.)
- ◆ Target Audience Diagnostic laboratory technicians, supervisors, and epidemiologists. Class size is limited to 6.
- ◆ Time Requirements 2 days
- ◆ Contact Person For technical information: Head, Bacteriological Identification Section  
Diagnostic Bacteriology Laboratory  
(515) 337-7565  
  
For logistical information: Training Office (515) 337-7475 or 7300

## MYCOBACTERIA ISOLATION, IDENTIFICATION, AND GENOTYPING

By Request

- ◆ Description                        This training will provide practical hands-on experience enabling participants to process tissue specimens for the isolation and identification of *Mycobacterium bovis* and other atypical Mycobacteria.
- ◆ Objective                            Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
- Indicate the current significant epidemiological trends of bovine tuberculosis in the United States
  - Demonstrate laboratory practices for safely working with *Mycobacteria*
  - Discuss important aspects of quality assurance
  - Discuss specimen collection and transport
  - Perform acid-fast staining and microscopy
  - Perform specimen processing
  - Perform direct detection of *M. bovis* in lesioned tissues using PCR
  - Perform PCR based identification methods
  - Overview of whole genome sequencing and basic molecular epidemiology
  - Discuss effective communication with clinician
  - Discuss reporting laboratory results Describe new testing methods giving applications and limitations
- ◆ Topics to be Covered            Laboratory sessions include the following demonstrations and hands-on laboratory activities:
- Processing tissue specimens
  - Sample preparations
  - Ziehl-Neelsen acid-fast stain procedures
  - Observing bacteriological growth characteristics
  - Media used for recovery of Mycobacteria from diagnostic samples
  - Colonial morphology
  - Cellular morphology
  - 16s rDNA and *rpoB* sequencing to identify unknown acid-fast bacteria
  - PCR identification of *M. tuberculosis* complex bacteria
- Lectures/Discussions include:
- Clinical and epidemiological aspects of bovine tuberculosis
  - Test interpretations
  - Laboratory safety
  - Quality assurance
  - Trouble shooting
  - Genotyping methods
  - Emerging technologies
- Demonstrations and tours (optional)
- NVSL-DBL media laboratory
  - NADC tuberculosis laboratory and library
  - NVSL-PL laboratory

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- ◆ Target Audience  
Technicians, technologists, microbiologists, laboratory supervisors, laboratory trainers or other scientists who desire current knowledge of the bovine tuberculosis diagnostic procedures. Class is limited to 4 trainees.
- ◆ Time Requirements  
10 days:           5 days – Processing Portion  
                         5 days – Identification Portion  
(course may be modified to focus on a particular topic or method, please call for information)
- ◆ Restrictions  
A tuberculin skin test will be administered to trainees on the first day of the class unless they have previously been vaccinated for tuberculosis with BCG vaccine. Trainees will be provided with laboratory clothing which will be worn during the training.
- ◆ Contact Person  
For technical information: Head, Mycobacteria & Brucella Section  
Diagnostic Bacteriology Laboratory  
(515) 337-7388  
  
For logistical information: Training Office (515) 337-7475 or 7300

## **OVERVIEW OF THE DIAGNOSTIC VIROLOGY LABORATORY (DVL)**

The DVL provides diagnostic support for APHIS programs and foreign animal diseases (FAD) as well as diagnosis of domestic diseases by virus isolation and identification, serologic tests, and electron microscopy. The DVL conducts surveillance, import/export testing, and reference and reagent production. They provide diagnostic assistance in domestic diseases for private, state, Federal, and university laboratories, and train scientists from national and international laboratories.

The DVL is a national reference laboratory for bluetongue (BT), equine infectious anemia (EIA), highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), Newcastle disease (ND), pseudorabies (PR), swine influenza (SI) and vesicular stomatitis (VS) viruses. The DVL is also an Office International des Epizooties reference laboratory for BT, EIA, HPAI, exotic ND, PR, Eastern, Western, and Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis, West Nile, and VS viruses.

### **Avian Viruses Section**

- Isolation and Identification of Avian Virus Pathogens
- Reference Laboratory for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza and Exotic Newcastle Disease

### **Bovine, Porcine & Aquaculture Viruses Section**

- Isolation and Identification of Bovine and Porcine Viruses, and viruses from aquatic organisms such as fish and shrimp
- Reference Laboratory for Pseudorabies Virus, Swine Influenza Virus, and Vesicular Stomatitis Virus.

### **Equine and Ovine Viruses Section**

- Isolation, identification, and serologic testing for Equine and Small Ruminant Viruses, Equine Encephalomyelitis, and West Nile Virus
- Reference Laboratory for Equine Infectious Anemia, Bluetongue, Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease, Eastern, Western, Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis, and West Nile Viruses

## **COURSES OFFERED**

- ◆ Avian Influenza (AI) Virus Isolation, Subtyping, and Agar Gel Immunodiffusion
- ◆ Bluetongue (BT) and Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) Virus Isolation
- ◆ Bovine/Porcine/Fish Virus Isolation Techniques
- ◆ Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) Agar Gel Immunodiffusion (AGID) and Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA), Laboratory Methods
- ◆ Equine Viral Arteritis (EVA) Virus Neutralization (VN)
- ◆ Fluorescent Antibody (FA) Conjugate Production
- ◆ Hemagglutinating Encephalomyelitis Hemagglutination-Inhibition (HI) Test
- ◆ Newcastle Disease (ND) Virus Isolation and Characterization
- ◆ Porcine Parvovirus (PPV) Hemagglutination-Inhibition (HI) Test
- ◆ Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS) Indirect Fluorescent Antibody (IFA) Test

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- ◆ Pseudorabies (PR) Virus Neutralization Test
- ◆ Pseudorabies (PR) Virus Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) and Latex Agglutination (ALA) Test
- ◆ Swine Influenza (SI) Hemagglutination-Inhibition (HI) Test
- ◆ Vesicular Stomatitis (VS) Virus (New Jersey and Indiana Serotypes) Complement-Fixation Test
- ◆ Vesicular Stomatitis (VS) Virus (New Jersey and Indiana Serotypes) Virus Neutralization Test

**AVIAN INFLUENZA (AI) AND NEWCASTLE DISEASE (ND) VIRUS ISOLATION AND CHARACTERIZATION**

*By Request*

- ◆ **Description**

This training will provide the participant(s) hands-on experience in the isolation, identification, and characterization of an AI and ND virus and in the detection of antibodies by the agar gel immunodiffusion test.
- ◆ **Objective**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

  - Demonstrate laboratory safety practices in handling AI and ND virus
  - Discuss important aspects of quality assurance related to the procedures used
  - Perform virus isolation using chicken embryos
  - Perform the hemagglutination test
  - Perform the hemagglutination-inhibition test
  - Perform the agar gel immunodiffusion test
  - Discuss pathogenicity criteria
  - Discuss and understand subtyping methods including hemagglutination-inhibition and neuraminidase-inhibition tests
- ◆ **Topics to be Covered**

Laboratory sessions will include the following demonstrations and hands-on training:

  - Tissue selection and preparation for virus isolation
  - Antibiotic and media formulations
  - Embryo inoculation via allantoic sac route
  - Embryo candling and collection of allantoic fluid
  - Hemagglutination test
  - Hemagglutination-inhibition test for virus identification
  - Agar gel immunodiffusion test
  - Subtype (hemagglutination-inhibition and neuraminidase-inhibition tests) determination by determination

Discussions will include:

  - Epidemiology of avian influenza and Newcastle
  - Good laboratory practices
  - Techniques to prevent laboratory contamination
  - Quality assurance
  - Trouble shooting
  - Test interpretations
  - Pathogenicity tests and interpretations
  - Reagent preparation
  - Subtyping procedure

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***EQUINE INFECTIOUS ANEMIA (EIA) AGAR GEL  
IMMUNODIFFUSION (AGID) AND  
ENZYMELINKED IMMUNOSORBENT ASSAY (ELISA)  
LABORATORY METHODS***

*As Scheduled*

- ◆ Description                      This is a hands-on course that gives participants complete training in EIA AGID setup and interpretation as well as conducting the currently licensed ELISA tests.
  
- ◆ Objective                        To provide trainees with the information and skills to set up and interpret EIA AGID and ELISA reactions and earn certification to perform USDA-approved testing.
  
- ◆ Topics to be Covered              Topics include:
  - EIA testing and regulatory concerns
  - Status reports
  - Pouring, cutting, and inoculating immunodiffusion (ID) plates
  - Reading and interpretation of ID plates
  - Agar preparation
  - Setup and interpretation of EIA ELISA tests
  - Approved EIA laboratory and technician responsibilities
  
- ◆ Target Audience                  Technicians, microbiologists, and/or veterinarians who want EIA testing certification. Class size is limited to 12.
  
- ◆ Time Requirements                1 ½ days
  
- ◆ Nomination Procedure              Requests for training must be signed by the applicant’s Federal Veterinarian before sending to the Director’s Office, National Veterinary Services Laboratories.
  
- ◆ Contact Person                      For technical information: Head, Equine & Ovine Viruses Section  
Diagnostic Virology Laboratory  
(515) 337-7551  
  
For logistical information: Training Office (515) 337-7475 or 7300

***EQUINE VIRAL ARTERITIS (EVA) VIRUS NEUTRALIZATION (VN)***

*By Request*

- ◆ Description                                   A hands-on training course designed to give students an opportunity to learn microtiter VN techniques and successfully complete an EVA check test set.
- ◆ Objective                                     To enable trainees to successfully perform the EVA VN test
- ◆ Topics to be Covered                      Topics include:
  - Overview of microtiter VN testing
  - Overview of tissue culture techniques
  - Specific procedures and requirements for EVA VN testing
- ◆ Target Audience                            Technicians, microbiologists, and veterinarians who will actually perform the test in the laboratory. Class size limited to 2.
- ◆ Time Requirements                         The test requires 2 days – 1 day for overview and setup and 1 day to read results. Results are read 72 hours later. Training will be provided on Friday, with results read the following Monday. Alternately, the training may be scheduled for Monday and the following Thursday. (Trainees have the option to schedule other NVSL training on Tuesday and Wednesday.)
- ◆ Restrictions                                 The training will be conducted in a high-security laboratory. Trainees will be required to change clothing to enter and shower to leave. Participants must sign an agreement not to go near or handle livestock or poultry during the training and for 5 days after completion of the training.
- ◆ Contact Person                             For technical information:                 Head, Equine & Ovine Viruses Section  
Diagnostic Virology Laboratory  
(515) 337-7551  
  
For logistical information:                 Training Office (515) 337-7475 or 7300

**FLUORESCENT ANTIBODY (FA) CONJUGATE PRODUCTION**

**By Request**

- ◆ Description Hands-on training to prepare an FA conjugate using fluorescein isothiocyanate (FITC) dye. Serum antibody used in this course was produced against a viral agent, but the FA-labeling technique can also be applied to antiserum produced against other agents.
- ◆ Objective To enable participants to conjugate and evaluate FITC-labeled antibody.
- ◆ Topics to be Covered The production and evaluation of conjugate including:
  - Discussion of antiserum production
  - Preparation of reagents used in procedure
  - SAS fraction of serum
  - Dialysis
  - Protein determination
  - Gel filtration with Sephadex
  - Evaluation of FA conjugates
  - Production of acetone extraction for rabbit liver powder and need for production of FA conjugates
- ◆ Target Audience Technicians, microbiologists, and/or veterinarians who want training in FA conjugate production. Restricted to 2 trainees.
- ◆ Time Requirements 5 days
- ◆ Restrictions The training will be conducted in a BSL-2 laboratory. Participants must sign an agreement not to go near or handle livestock or poultry during the training and for 5 days after completion of the training.
- ◆ Contact Person For technical information: Reagent Production Unit  
Diagnostic Virology Laboratory  
(515) 337-7551  
  
For logistical information: Training Office (515) 337-7475 or 7300



***HEMAGGLUTINATING ENCEPHALOMYELITIS  
HEMAGGLUTINATION-INHIBITION (HI) TEST***

***By Request***

- ◆ **Description** Explanation of the complete procedure and hands-on practical experience will enable the trainee to perform the HI test for detection of antibodies against hemagglutinating encephalomyelitis virus (HEV).
- ◆ **Objective** At the conclusion of the training, course participants will be able to perform the HI for detection of antibodies against HEV.
- ◆ **Topics to be Covered** Overview of test procedures including:
  - Propagation of virus stocks
  - Virus titration to determine virus concentration
  - Sample preparation and titration for determination of endpoint titer
  - Challenge virus dilution and preparation of back titrations
  - Reading and evaluation of test plates
  - Use of controls to monitor performance of the test
  - Reporting of test results
- ◆ **Target Audience** Laboratory personnel who wish to conduct testing. Class size is limited to 2.
- ◆ **Time Requirements** 1 day
- ◆ **Restrictions** The training will be conducted in a high-security laboratory. Trainees will be required to change clothing to enter and shower to leave. Participants must sign an agreement not to go near or handle livestock or poultry during the training and for 5 days after completion of the training.
- ◆ **Contact Person**

For technical information: Head, Bovine, Porcine & Aquaculture  
Viruses Section  
Diagnostic Virology Laboratory  
(515) 337-7551

For logistical information: Training Office (515) 337-7475 or 7300



***PORCINE REPRODUCTIVE AND RESPIRATORY SYNDROME (PRRS) INDIRECT FLUORESCENT ANTIBODY (IFA) TEST***

***By Request***

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| ◆ Description          | This training will provide an explanation of the testing procedure and provide practical hands-on experience which will enable participants to conduct the IFA test for detection of antibodies against PRRS virus.  |
| ◆ Objective            | To perform the IFA test for detection of antibodies against PRRS.  |
| ◆ Topics to be Covered | Overview of testing procedures including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Propagation of virus stocks</li><li>● Virus titrations to determine virus concentration</li><li>● Preparation of IFA slides</li><li>● Sample preparation and titration for determination of endpoint titer</li><li>● Reading and evaluation of slides</li><li>● Use of controls to monitor performance of the test</li><li>● Reporting of test results</li></ul> |
| ◆ Target Audience      | Laboratory personnel who wish to conduct testing. Class size is limited to 2.  |
| ◆ Time Requirements    | 1 day  |
| ◆ Restrictions         | The training will be conducted in a high-security laboratory. Trainees will be required to change clothing to enter and shower to leave. Participants must sign an agreement not to go near or handle livestock or poultry during the training and for 5 days after completion of the training.  |
| ◆ Contact Person       | For technical information: Head, Bovine, Porcine & Aquaculture Viruses Section<br>Diagnostic Virology Laboratory<br>(515) 337-7551<br><br>For logistical information: Training Office (515) 337-7475 or 7300   |





**SWINE INFLUENZA (SI) HEMAGGLUTINATION-INHIBITION (HI) TEST**

**By Request**

- ◆ **Description** This training will provide an explanation of the testing procedure and provide practical hands-on experience which will enable participants to conduct the HI test for detection of antibodies against SI virus.
- ◆ **Objective** To perform the HI test for detection of antibodies against SI virus.
- ◆ **Topics to be Covered** Overview of HI testing procedures including:
  - Propagation of virus stocks
  - Virus titrations to determine virus concentration
  - Sample preparation and titration for determination of endpoint titer
  - Challenge virus dilution and preparation of back titrations
  - Reading and evaluation of test plates
  - Use of controls to monitor performance of the test
  - Reporting of test results
  - Public health issues involved with these viruses
- ◆ **Target Audience** Laboratory personnel who wish to conduct testing. Class size is limited to 2.
- ◆ **Time Requirements** 2 days
- ◆ **Restrictions** The training will be conducted in a high-security laboratory. Trainees will be required to change clothing to enter and shower to leave. Participants must sign an agreement not to go near or handle livestock or poultry during the training and for 5 days after completion of the training.
- ◆ **Contact Person**
  - For technical information: Head, Bovine, Porcine & Aquaculture  
Viruses Section  
Diagnostic Virology Laboratory  
(515) 337-7551
  - For logistical information: Training Office (515) 337-7475 or 7300



**VESICULAR STOMATITIS (VS) VIRUS  
(NEW JERSEY AND INDIANA SEROTYPES)  
VIRUS NEUTRALIZATION TEST**

*By Request*

- ◆ Description This training will provide an explanation of the testing procedure and provide practical hands-on experience which will enable participants to conduct the virus neutralization test for detection of antibodies against VS virus (New Jersey and Indiana serotypes).
- ◆ Objective To perform the virus neutralization test for detection of antibodies against VS virus (New Jersey and Indiana serotypes).
- ◆ Topics to be Covered Overview of virus neutralization testing procedures including:
  - Propagation of virus stock
  - Virus titrations to determine virus concentration
  - Sample preparation and titration for determination of endpoint titer
  - Challenge virus dilution and preparation of back titration
  - Cell culture methods
  - Reading and evaluation of test plates
  - Use of controls to monitor performance of the test
  - Reporting of the test results
  - Public health issues involved with this virus
- ◆ Target Audience Technicians, microbiologists, and/or veterinarians who wish to conduct testing to qualify animals for export or interstate shipment. Class size limited to 2.
- ◆ Time Requirements 2 days
- ◆ Restrictions The training will be conducted in a high-security laboratory. Trainees will be required to change clothing to enter and shower to leave. Participants must sign an agreement not to go near or handle livestock or poultry during the training and for 5 days after completion of the training.
- ◆ Contact Person
 

For technical information:	Head, Bovine, Porcine & Aquaculture Viruses Section Diagnostic Virology Laboratory (515) 337-7551
For logistical information:	Training Office (515) 337-7475 or 7300



## **OVERVIEW OF THE DIAGNOSTIC BIOANYTICAL & REAGENT LABORATORY (DBRL)**

The DBRL provides differential diagnostic studies of Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) and domestic animal diseases, serologic testing for diseases caused by bacteria, fungi, and protozoa, provision of reagents and proficiency tests, and offering of training courses. The laboratory's clients and stakeholders include several Federal programs, various diagnostic laboratories, and other groups, both domestic and international.

This laboratory is the national reference center for confirmation and/or diagnosis of various VS program diseases (e.g., screwworm myiasis, and cattle fever ticks). It is an international center for analytical services and provides pathology, parasitology, entomology, and analytical chemistry services.

### **Serology Section**

- Brucellosis Program Testing
- Import/Export Program Testing
- Proficiency Test of State Laboratories
- Tuberculosis Serum Bank

### **Proficiency Testing and Reagent (PTR) Section**

- Cytology
- Reagent Production
- Proficiency Testing

### **Parasitology, Chemistry and Analytical Services (PCAS) Section**

- Chemical Identification and Quantitation of Program-related Agents
- Analysis of Pesticide Concentrations for APHIS Programs
- Chemical Analysis of Veterinary Biologics Products
- Standardization of Analytical Methodologies
- Fraudulent Blood Screening
- Exotic and Domestic Parasite Identification (e.g., Ticks, Myiasis Flies, Mites, Hemoparasites)
- Center for National Tick Surveillance Program

### **Brucella & Mycobacterium Reagents Team (BMRT) / Hemoparasite Reagent Unit (HRU)**

- *Brucella abortus*, *Brucella canis*, and *Brucella ovis* Reagent Production
- *Mycobacterium bovis* and *Mycobacterium avium* Reagent Production
- Proficiency Testing Panels for *Brucella abortus*, *Brucella ovis*, *Mycobacterium bovis*, *Mycobacterium avium paratuberculosis* (Johnes) milk and serum, and *Anaplasma marginale*
- Equine Piroplasmiasis reagent production
- Glanders reagent production
- Dourine reagent production

### **COURSES OFFERED**

- ◆ *Brucella* Reagent Production..... 7
- ◆ Complement-Fixation Test
- ◆ Specialized training available upon request. Contact the Training Office, telephone (515) 337-7475 or 7300 or email: [NCAH.Training@usda.gov](mailto:NCAH.Training@usda.gov)





# **OVERVIEW OF THE FOREIGN ANIMAL DISEASE DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY (FADDL)**

The Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (FADDL), located in the Plum Island Animal Disease Center in Plum Island, NY, is responsible for the diagnosis of animal diseases foreign to the United States. The facility receives and tests both domestic and international samples. FADDL is a national and international reference laboratory for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE).

## **Director's Office**

- Import, Export, and Domestic Transfer of Biologic Materials
- Safety Testing and Treatment of Biologic Materials to be Imported to the U.S. mainland
- Coordination of International Capacity Building Efforts

## **Diagnostic Services Section**

- Diagnosis of Foreign Animal Diseases (FAD)
- Pathogen Discovery and Characterization
- Diagnostic Assay Validation
- Histologic Studies on Diagnostic Cases
- Electron Microscopic Examination of Pathogens

## **Reagents and Vaccine Services Section**

- New Methods Evaluation and Implementation
- Proficiency Test Administration to the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN)
- Production, Maintenance, and Distribution of Diagnostic Reagents and Cell Products
- Repository of Foreign Animal Disease Agents and Biologics
- OIE/FAO Authorized Rinderpest Holding Facility

## **North American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Vaccine Bank**

- Maintenance of North American Foot-and-Mouth (FMD) antigen stockpile
- Protective Dose and Stability Testing of vaccine antigen
- Identity Sequencing of FMD Antigen

## **TRAINING OFFERED**

Foreign Animal Diseases

***FOREIGN ANIMAL DISEASES***

***As Scheduled***

Training in the handling and diagnosis of foreign (transboundary) animal diseases is not a service offered to the public by the Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (FADDL). Specific training for veterinarians, animal health officials, and other animal health professionals in foreign/transboundary disease recognition may be offered through the [USDA APHIS VS Professional Development Services](#).