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## Did You Know??

A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.

Most cows give more milk when they listen to music.

Spotted skunks do handstands before they spray.

- - taken from "Interesting Facts" at  
<http://www.tealdragon.net/humor/facts/facts.htm>

## Notes From the Director

### Filling Out Accession Forms:

I would like to encourage our clients to take the time to fill out histories and case data thoroughly. This information helps us verify tests to be performed. In addition, these data help us compile long-term epidemiological reports. We also encourage our clients to call and discuss cases prior to specimen collection and submission if there are any questions.

### Test Validation:

We often receive many questions regarding test validation, interpretation and use of predictive values. The following paper is an excellent summary by Dr. Smith of our UNL-VBMS faculty.

**Vet Clin Food Anim 18 (2002): 157-175**  
**Epidemiologic Tools for Biosecurity and Biocontainment**  
**David R. Smith, DVM, PhD**  
**Department of Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences,**  
**Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources,**  
**University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE 685834907, USA**

### Government Websites:

Two excellent sources of information regarding the status of federal and state diagnostic and control programs as well as updates on disease outbreaks:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/index.shtml>

<http://www.agr.state.ne.us/division/bai/bai.htm>

- - - submitted by D. Scott McVey, DVM, PhD,  
Director, Veterinary Diagnostic Center

**ELECTRONIC EIA (COGGINS) SUBMISSION NOW AVAILABLE  
AT THE VDC**



What you will need:

- Digital camera
- Internet access
- Level 2 Access (eAuthentication Account) through the USDA

To learn about and apply for an eAuthentication Account go to:

<http://www.eauth.egov.usda.gov/>

Once you have an eAuthentication account, this service is free through the VSPPS (Veterinary Services Process Streamlining) website (<https://vspps.aphis.usda.gov/vspps/>). You will be able to submit a digital picture of the horses being tested (no more drawing spots on Appaloosas) and your profile information will automatically be entered. You will receive the official report through the website where it can be printed for owners and for your records.

If you have questions regarding the process please call the Federal Veterinarian's Office at 402-471-2300

- - - Submitted by Judi Galeota, Virology Lab Supervisor

"Animals are such agreeable friends--- they ask no questions, they pass no criticisms." - -  
George Elliot

## FROM THE BACTERIOLOGY/PARASITOLOGY LAB

The *Tritrichomonas foetus* PCR test is run on Tuesday and Friday. Processing and testing samples takes most of the day, so sample must be in the lab by 10 am and already incubated. InPouches must be incubated for a minimum of 24 hours prior tested. If you incubate the InPouches before shipping indicate that on your submission form.

We are now offering a fecal flotation quantitative egg counting procedure. The cost is \$17.00 per sample and turn around time is 24 hours. Results will be reported in number of eggs per gram of feces.

Our new Trek Sensititer Antimicrobial System has the ability to do some tracking and trending. If you are interested in using this data contact the bacteriology lab at 402-472-1434 for more information.

- - - submitted by Debra Royal, Bacteriology Lab Supervisor

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### MEET OUR EMPLOYEES



***Pat Claussen***

Meet Pat Claussen. Pat has been employed at the Diagnostic Center for the past 13 years. Pat is a Research Technician III in the Diagnostic Center Histology lab. Pat previously worked in the necropsy area of the VDC. Pat is from Lincoln, Nebraska. Her hobbies include wildlife rehab and ferrets. Pat is a member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and Secular Franciscan Order.



***Julia Russ***

Julia, "Jules", Russ is a laboratory technician III in the Diagnostic Center Virology lab. Jules has been employed in the Lab for a little over one year. Jules received her Bachelor of Science Biology degree from UNL in 1998. Her hobbies and interests include: photography, travel, beachcombing, reading, cooking, gardening, growing cacti, and natural history museums. Jules' husband is originally from Chile and he became a U.S. citizen last September. Jules and her husband reside in Lincoln,.

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**We're On the Web:**  
<http://vbms.unl.edu/>

The Nebraska Veterinary Diagnostic Center is accredited by the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians

All regulatory testing for export is done in compliance with the code of federal regulations and technicians performing the test have been tested annually by the USDA through the National Veterinary Services Laboratories check-testing program. Additional assays within the lab regarding toxicology, microbiology and parasitology are assessed annually by check testing through the Veterinary Laboratory Association. Positive and negative control samples are included in all serologic and toxicologic testing protocols that require them.

Ancillary testing is reviewed by a single case coordinator who assures that test results are in agreement and any unusual test results are investigated to ensure that standard operating procedures are followed and that results can be replicated. Standard operating procedures are on file in each of the laboratories and available for inspection. A copy of our Quality Manual is available upon request.

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