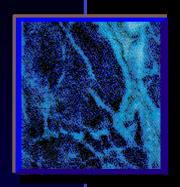


Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy: An Update

Linda A.Detwiler Senior Staff Veterinarian USDA, APHIS, VS



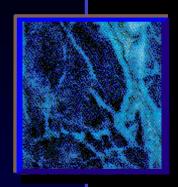


Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies

- prolonged incubation
 period
 progressive
 debilitating
 neurological illness
 pathological changes
- confined to CNS

 fatal

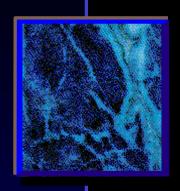




Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies

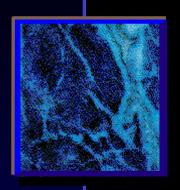
- Scrapie Associated Fibrils (SAF) negative stain EM
- **Transmissibility**





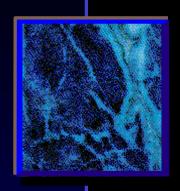
Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies: Etiology

- agent not fully characterized
- smaller than smallest known virus
- Tellicits no detectable immune or inflammatory response in the host
- resistant to most disinfectants and treatments which normally destroy nucleic acids



Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies: Agent Theories

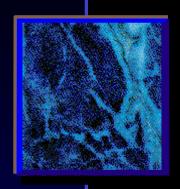
- **VIRUS** unconventional, unusual biochemical and biopysical properties
- VIRINO host-derived protein coat coupled to a small noncoding regulatory nucleic acid
 - PRION host-coded normal cellular protein becomes partially protease resistant through post tranlational conformation change



Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies: Human

- Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD)
- Gerstmann-Straussler-Scheinker syndrome (GSS)
- fatal familial insomnia (FFI)
- Kuru
- Variant CJD (vCJD)



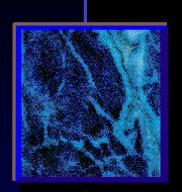


Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies: Scrapie

- Reported most sheep producing regions
- Known over 250 years
- Sheep, goats, moufflon



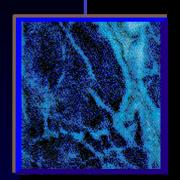




Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies: Chronic Wasting Disease

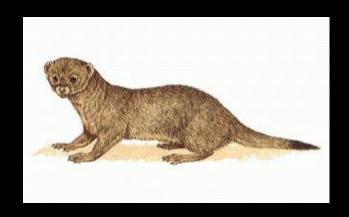
- First recognized as disease syndrome 1967
- Colorado, Wyoming endemic areas
- Farm raised elk

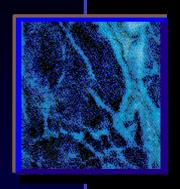




Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies: Transmissible Mink Encephalopathy

- Affects ranch raised mink
- First recognized in 1947
- Detected and documented in Canada, Finland,
 - (East) Germany, Russia
- Associated with feed

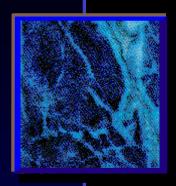




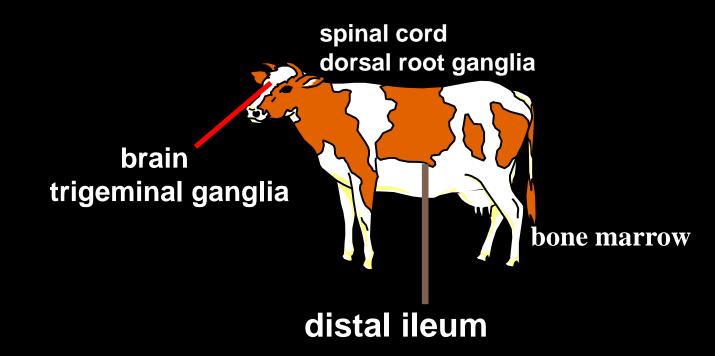
Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies: Animal

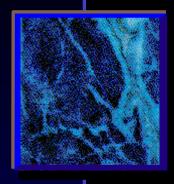
- Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
- Feline Spongiform Encephalopathy
- TSE of Exotic Ruminants





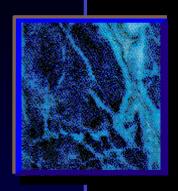
Distribution of Infectivity





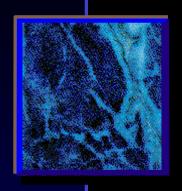
Transmission





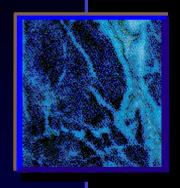
BSE Diagnostics

- No live animal test
- No preclinical test
- Need brain tissue
- Histology, IHC, WB, ELISA
- "Negatives" do not guarantee absence of infectivity



TSE Diagnostics: EU Approved

- Histology
- Standard IHC and Western Blot
- Prionics AG modified Western Blot (8 hrs)
- Enfer Ltd. High throughput chemiluminescen ELISA (3-4 hrs)
- CEA Sandwich Immunoassay (3-4 hrs)
- all require brain/clinical cases



BSE STATISTICS for GREAT BRITAIN* (as of February 9, 2001)

Total number of confirmed cases: 177,717

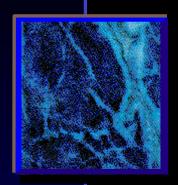
Total number of affected herds: 35,150

Proportion of dairy herds affected: 61.3%

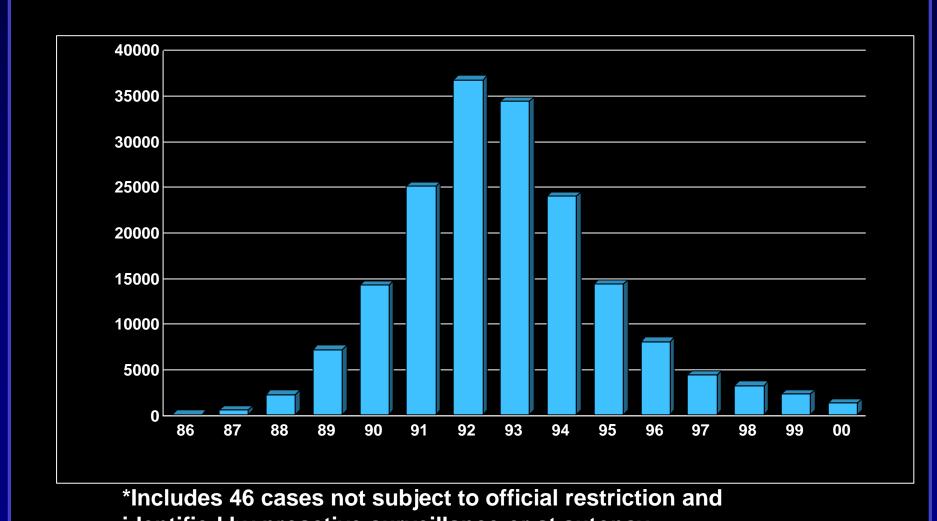
Proportion of beef suckler herds affected: 16.6%

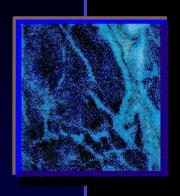
Confirmed total herd incidence: 37.5%

* England, Scotland, Wales



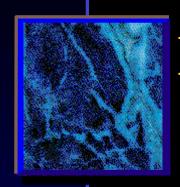
Confirmed cases of BSE in Great Britain by year of restriction (1986 - 1 December 2000)*





UK MAFF Actions

- Mammalian to food animal feed ban
- Over thirty month scheme
- Selective Cull
- Offspring Cull
- SRM/SBO bans
- Beef on the bone prohibition No longer in place



First cases of BSE

Total number of cases (3-12-01)

UK >180,000 Belgium - 23

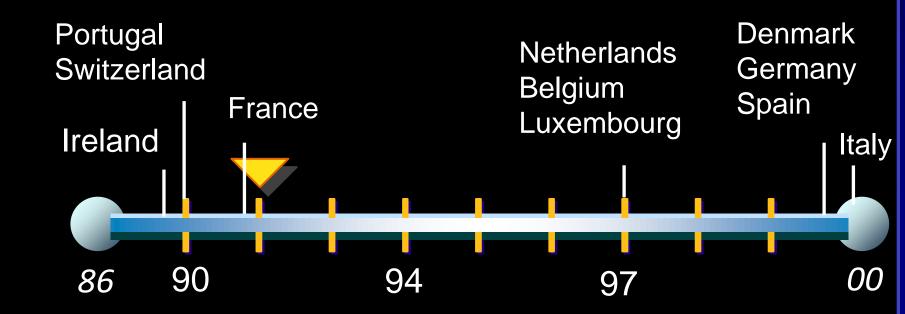
Ireland -653 Spain - 32 Italy - 4

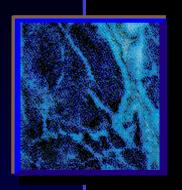
Portugal - 528 Netherlands - 13

Switzerland - 370 Liechtenstein - 2

France - 279 Denmark - 2

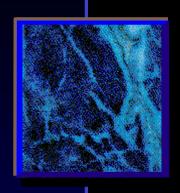
Germany - 44 Luxembourg - 1





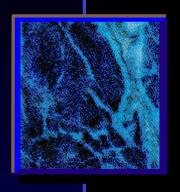
BSE Incidence Rate (per million cattle > 2 yrs)

	<u>98</u>	<u>99</u>
United Kingdom	596	422
Portugal	147	236
Switzerland	16	53
Ireland	22	27
France	2	3
Belgium	4	2
Netherlands	1	1



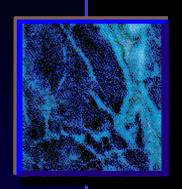
BSE: Control Measures in EU

- SRM bans on sheep, goats, cattle (Oct 2000)
- Prohibit feeding of most processed animal proteins (excluded fish meal) to farmed animal (Jan 2001)
- test of all cattle >30months at slaughter (if cannot test destroy) (Jan 2001)



EU BSE Surveillance

- CNS cases
- Fallen stock and emergency slaughter
- herdmates of positive cases in some countries
- Call bovines to slaughter > 30 months of age or older
- Negative doesn't guarantee lack of infectivity



BSE: Comparison of surveillance

France

450,000 > 30 mos

tested - 10 pos (1-01

to 3-01)

54,000 fallen stock

tested - 68 pos

(summer 2000 to 3-

01)

Switzerland

14,900 normal

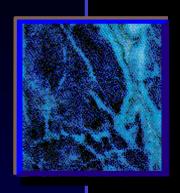
slaughter - (3 pos 99;

0 pos 00)

22,900 fallen and ES

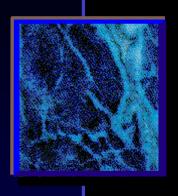
- (22 pos 99; 16 pos

00)



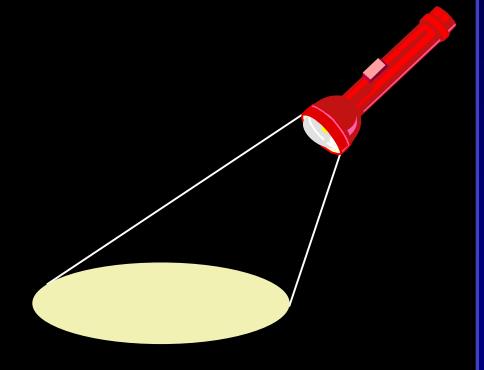
Fallout from BSE (Nov-Feb)

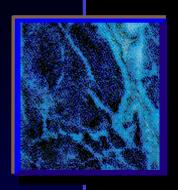
- Meat sales drop dramatically
- Loss of consumer confidence
- Politicians resign or lose jobs
- Disposal Problems (carcasses/MBM)
- Logistical test problems



EU Geographical BSE Risk

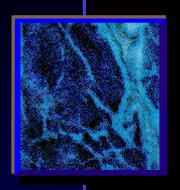
- 25+ countries evaluated
- Member states
- Non member states
- Examined:
 - Challenges
 - Stability of system





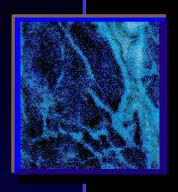
EU Geographical BSE Risk

- Challenges
 - External
 - cattle
 - MBM
 - Internal
 - cattle
 - MBM



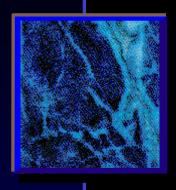
EU Geographical BSE Risk (continued)

- Stability
 - Feed bans
 - Rendering
 - Time
 - Temperature
 - Pressure
 - SRM bans



EU Categories of Risk

- I Highly Unlikely
- II Unlikely but Cannot be excluded
- - Likely but not confirmed
 - BSE confirmed at a lower level
- IV BSE confirmed at a higher level



Category I

Argentina

Australia

Chile

New Zealand

Norway

Paraguay

Uruguay

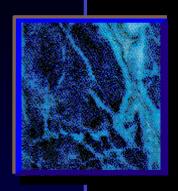
Botswana

Namibia

Nicaragua,

Swaziland

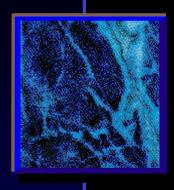




Category II

- Austria
- Finland
- Sweden
- Canada
- United States

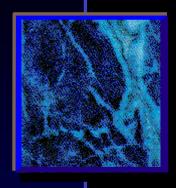




Category III

- Germany
- Italy
- **Spain**
- Lithuania
 - Belgium
 - **Denmark**
 - France
 - Ireland
 - Luxembourg
 - **Netherlands**
 - Switzerland

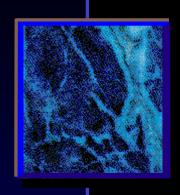




Category IV

- United Kingdom
- Portugal





CJD vs. vCJD

sporadic, genetic,

iatrogenic

55-75 yrs of age

< 6 mos clinical course

memory loss, myoclonus,

dementa

no plaques in brain

food contaminated with

BSE infected CNS

28 yrs. median

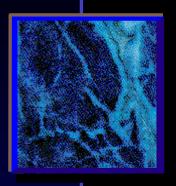
avg 14 mos clinical

course

psychiatric followed by

neuro

florid plaques



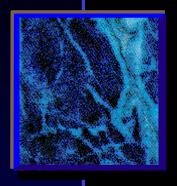
vCJD Cases (as of April 2001)



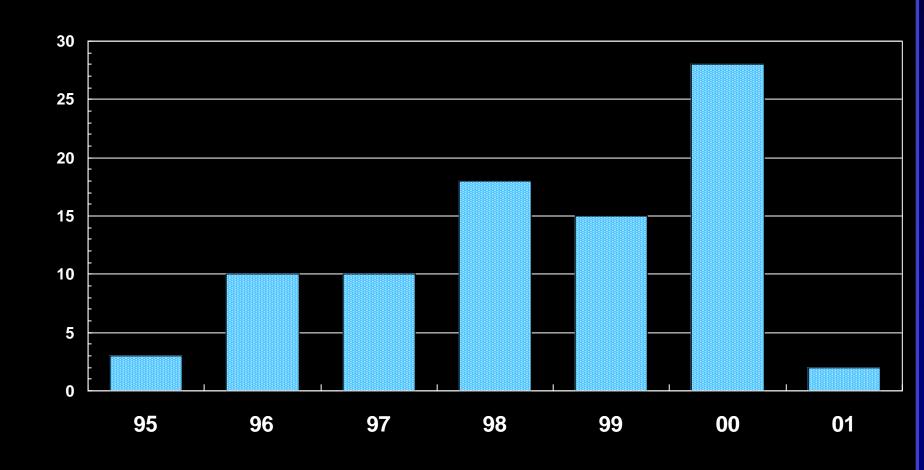
* vCJD cases - 98 definite and probable

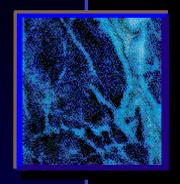


* vCJD cases - 2 definite, 1 probable

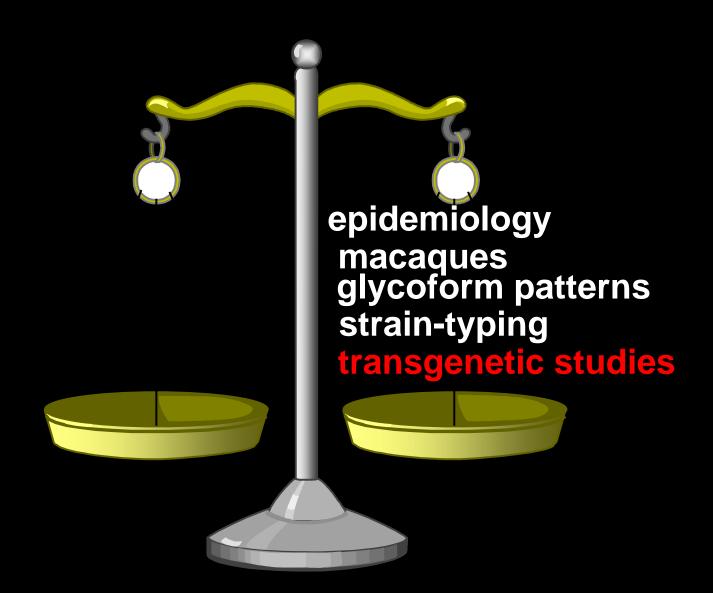


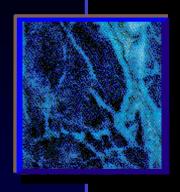
vCJD cases by Year





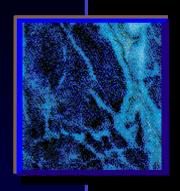
vCJD = BSE





vCJD: Distribution of Infectivity

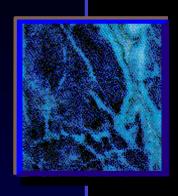
- Different than classical CJD
- Spleen, tonsil, appendix
- Retrospective study 3000 samples negative results
- leucodepletion of blood supply
- UK imports plasma and plasma products
- US and Canadian deferrals



USDA ACTIONS: Prevention and Surveillance

- Import Regulations
- Surveillance
- Formal Risk Assessments
- TSE Working Group

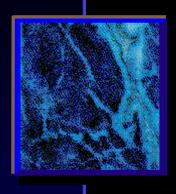




BSE - Prevention

- Import Restrictions countries with BSE
 - July 1989 live ruminants
 - November 1989 ruminant products
 - 1991 formal regulations
- Import Restrictions Europe
 - December 1997
 - January 1998 interim rule
 - all live ruminants and ruminant products

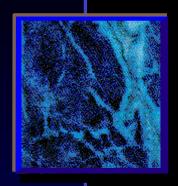




BSE - Prevention

- Import Restrictions Europe
 - December 6, 2000 all MBM, etc. regardless of species
- Evaluations of other countries
 - South America underway
 - Central America
 - Asia



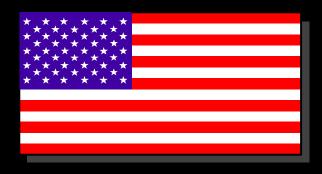


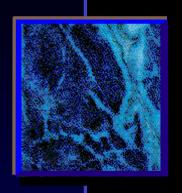
Import Policies and Regulations

North American Policy



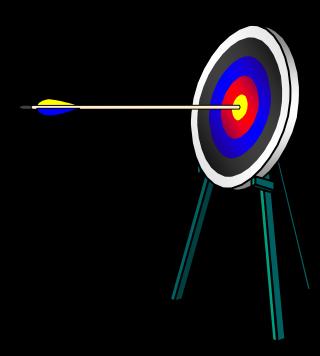


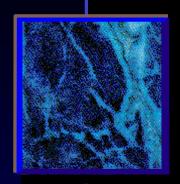




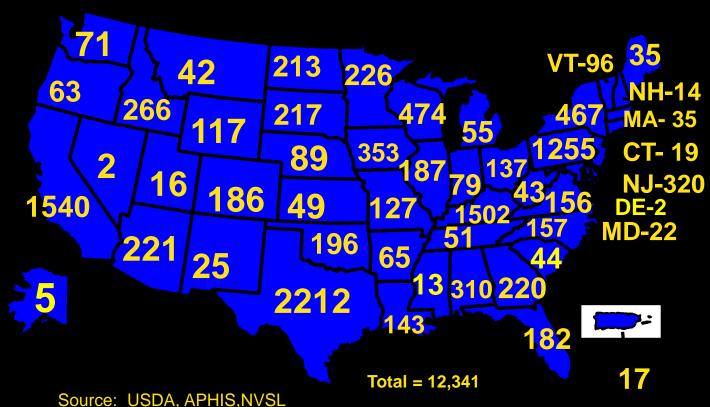
USDA ACTIONS: Surveillance

- Field CNS Cases
- VDL data
- CNS condemns at slaughter
- "Downers"

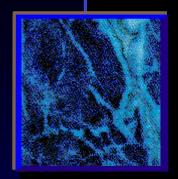




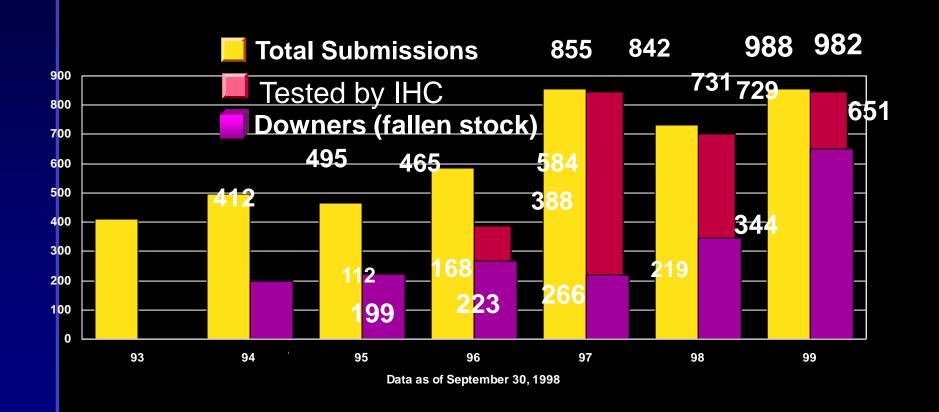
BSE Surveillance: Total Bovine Brain Submission by State May 10, 1990 thru March 31, 2001

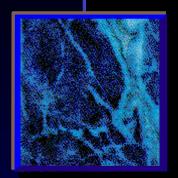


Note: None of the US Brain Submission Have Tested Positive for BSE

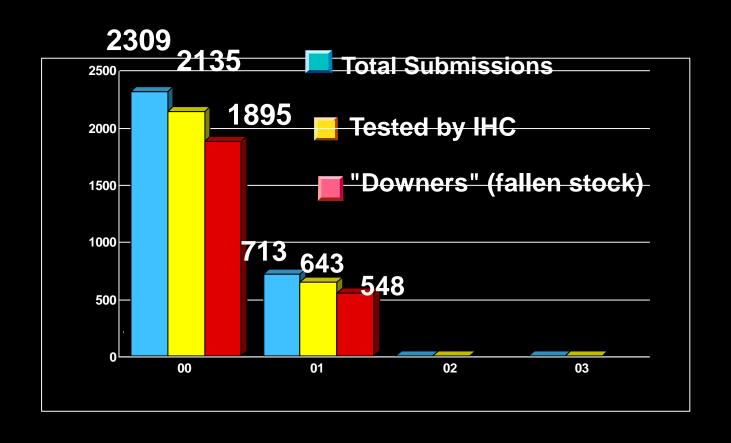


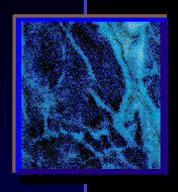
BSE Surveillance NVSL Bovine Brain Submissions FY 93-99





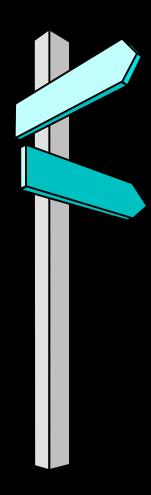
NVSL BSE Surveillance Bovine Brain Submissions FY 00-01 (as of 3-31-01)

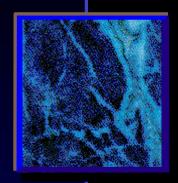




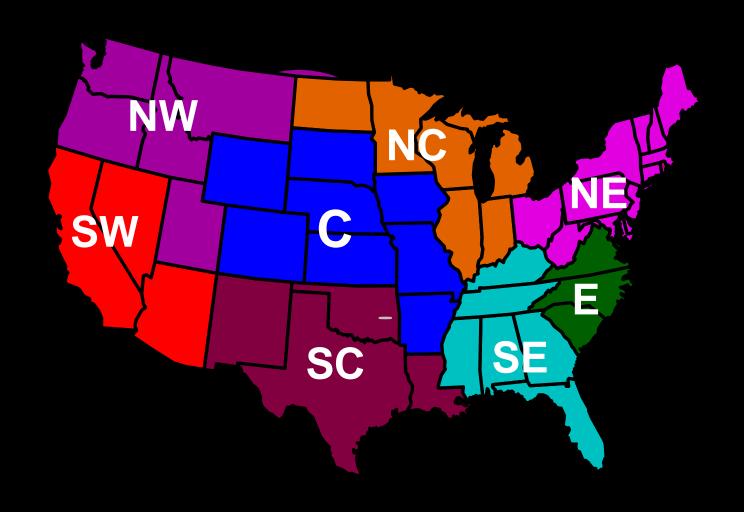
US Surveillance: Current Direction

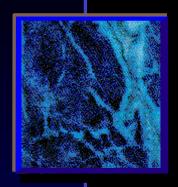
Regional Goals



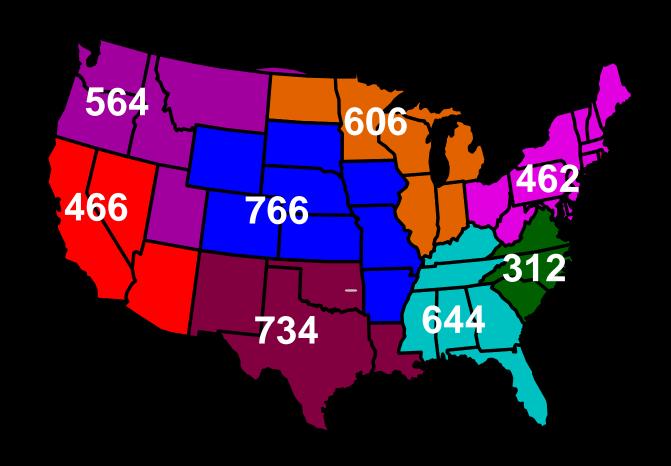


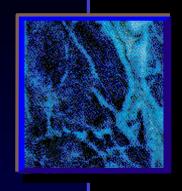
US Regions for BSE Surveillance





US Regional Goals for BSE Surveillance - FY 2001

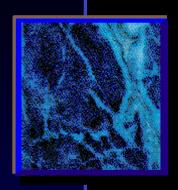




US Regional Goals for BSE Surveillance (2001)

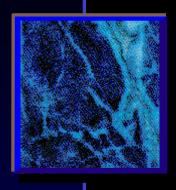
REGION			FY 2000	FY 2001*
	2x OIE goals			
NW	564	27	134	118
SW	466	256	220	68
C	766	159	120	60
SC	734	281	1094	250
NC	606	135	240	54
NE	462	331	461	122
E	312	26	30	16
SE	644	194	367	51

* as of March 31, 2001



Increase of submissions

- Down cattle:
 - aged; dairy vs. beef
 - condemns at slaughter
 - 3D/4D
 - Renderers
- Remind VDLs to submit data

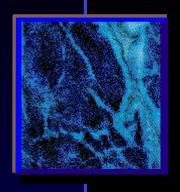


Surveillance Reminders

- Submissions need:
 - obex
 - age of bovine

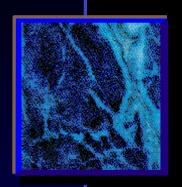
 - clinical signs (or down)
 - 10-4 & supplemental
 - plant number
- Questions call NVSL (515-663-7521)



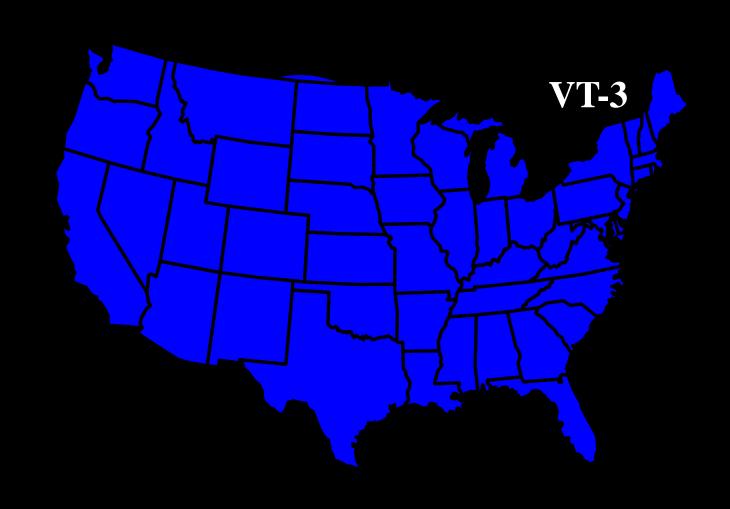


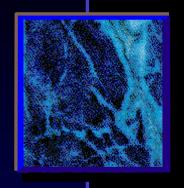
Test Methodology

- Histology
- Immunohistochemistry
- Western Blot
- New tests:
 - Enfer (High throughput chemiluminescent ELISA 3-4 hrs)
 - Prionics (modified WB 8 hrs)
 - Biorad (Sandwich Immunoassay (3-4 hrs)
- All need brain

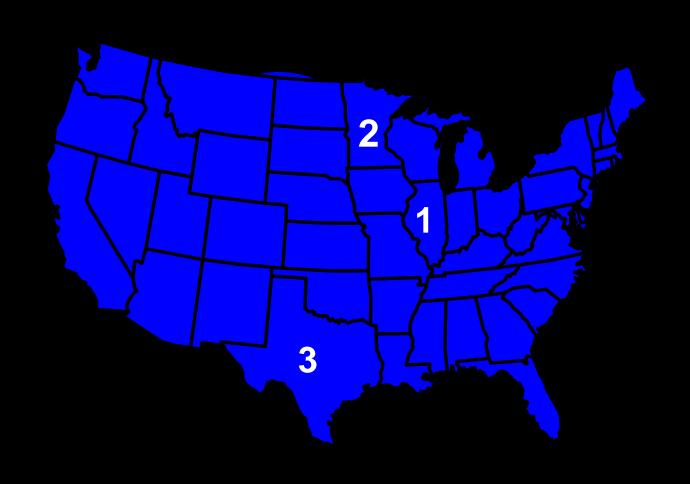


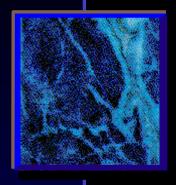
Status of Cattle Imported into the US from the United Kingdom and Ireland (as of May 2, 2001)



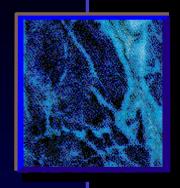


Status of Cattle Imported into the US from other European countries in 1996-97 (as of May 2, 2001)





www.aphis.usda.gov/oa/bse

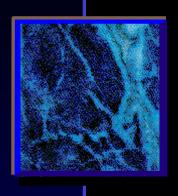


BSE Risk Assessment



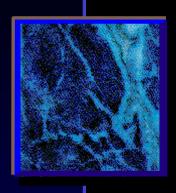
Harvard School of Public Health

Tuskegee University



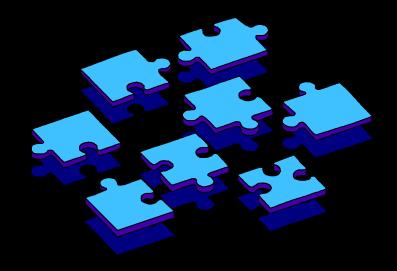
BSE Risk Assessment

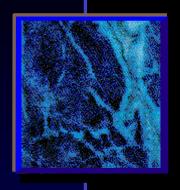
- Define scope
- Describe potential pathways BSE infectivity into national herd or food supply
- Characterize and quantify steps in pathways
- Identify key steps for research or risk management



BSE Response Plan

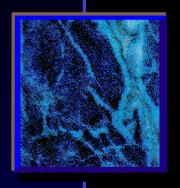
- First version early 1990's
- Slightly revisions early 1996
- Major revisions 1996-98



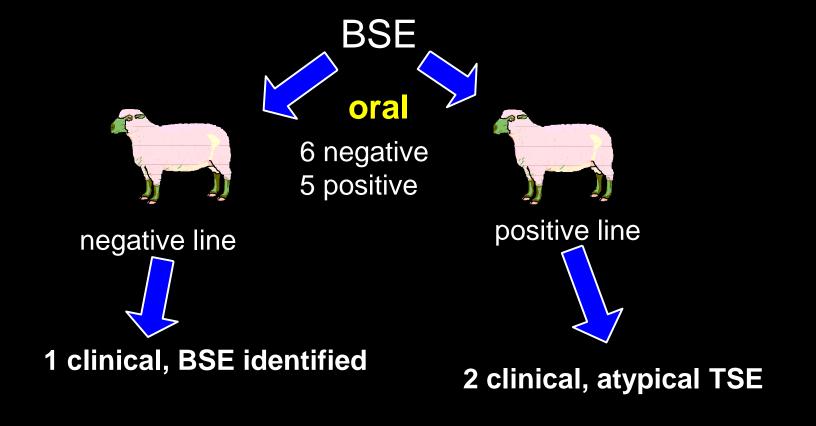


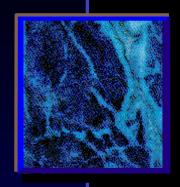
BSE Prevention: Feed Ban

- FDA Authority
- Prohibited to feed most mammalian proteins to ruminants
- Exceptions:
 - **milk**
 - blood
 - gelatin
 - plate waste
 - pure equine/pure porcine



BSE in Sheep: Research (Foster et. al.)





BSE in Sheep: Research

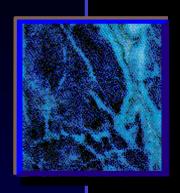
Distribution of Infectivity

brain spinal cord

blood-1 report

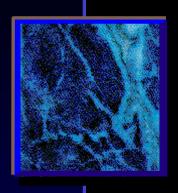
spleen

intestine (PrPsc)

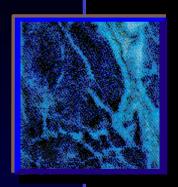


BSE in Sheep: European Situation

- Exposure to contaminated MBM
- Must differentiate from scrapie mouse bioassay system (2-3 yrs)
- Surveillance for natural cases
- None to date limited number assessed
- Public Health Protection SRM ban on sheep and goat tissues

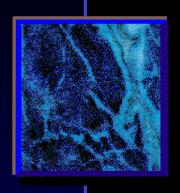


- Two shipments imported from Belgium and Netherlands
- August and November 1996
- 65 head total
- Distribution:
 - 52 Vermont farm 1
 - 11 Vermont farm 2
 - 2 rams New York farm

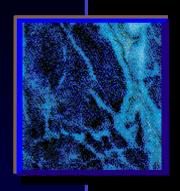


- Monitored since entry
- Quarantined since 10-98
- 9 progeny sold prior to quar.

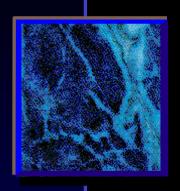




- USDA bought culls, sicks and picked up dead
- Sampled and incinerated
- Results:
 - Histology vacuolated neurons, astrocytosis, neuronal degeneration
 - CE blood positives
 - Western 4 brain positives

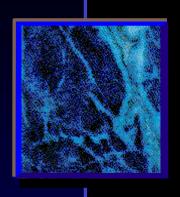


- Test cannot differentiate "strains" or variants of scrapie from BSE
- Mouse bioassay
- 2-3 years
- Named atypical (histology) TSE of foreign origin

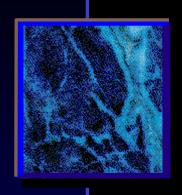


- Owners asked to voluntarily depopulate one agreed
- Declaration of Extraordinary Emergency and Emergency declared on July 14, 2000
- Orders issued to seize sheep of 2 flocks



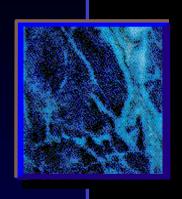


- Two owners went to court for a temporary restraining order (TRO) July 2000
- Judge ruled in USDA's favor and did not gran TRO
- Owners did not comply
- Motion for order to comply and rule on ments



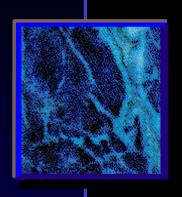
Imported Sheep in Vermont (continued)

- Feb. 6, 2001 Judge denied plaintiffs motion for summary judgment
- Granted defendants motion for judgment and orders for compliance
- Plaintiffs ordered to comply with Secretary
 - Declaration forthwith
- Plaintiffs file motion for stay



Imported Sheep in Vermont (continued)

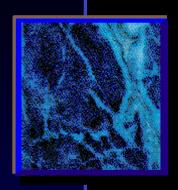
- Federal District Court Judge denies motion for stay
- Plaintiffs file motion for stay with Second Circuit Court
- Motion denied
- Sheep removed from farms week of March 19, 2001



Imported Sheep in Vermont (continued)

- April 10, 2001 Arguments in front of second circuit court
- April 20, 2001 Court rules appeal is moot





CONCLUSIONS

- No BSE in US to date
- Continue conservative
- approach
- Continue and increase
 - surveillance
- Adjust as science and policy dictates

