

A scanning electron micrograph (SEM) showing numerous Trichomonas vaginalis organisms. The organisms are pear-shaped with multiple flagella extending from one end. They are scattered across a reddish-brown, textured surface that appears to be the mucosal lining of a host. The organisms are shown in various orientations, some with their flagella curled or extended. The background surface has a distinct longitudinal ribbed pattern.

Trichomoniasis

A Practicing Veterinarians View

Jeremy VanBoening, DVM



Republican Valley
Genetics



REPUBLICAN VALLEY
ANIMAL CENTER

Modern care for animals large & small





United States

Nebraska

Kansas

Iowa

Colorado

Kearney

Omaha

Lincoln

Kansas City

Sioux City

Norfolk

Woodland

Thul

North Platte

Grand Island

Des Moines

Cheyenne

Fort Collins

Denver

Centennial

Colorado Springs

Pueblo

St. Joseph

Hays

Salina

Topeka

Olathe

Lee's Summit

Wichita

Springfield

Enid

Rogers

Trichomoniasis Involvement

- Nebraska Cattlemen
 - Animal Health Vice Chair or Chair 2008 to Present
 - Legislation for Notification of Neighbors
 - Took 5 years (2008 to 2013) for an Agreement
 - **Complicated Issue for Producers**
 - ✓ Commercial Cow-Calf Producers
 - ✓ Seedstock Producers
 - ✓ Embryo Recipients
 - ✓ Cull Cow Buyers/Feeders (Commerce Effects)
 - ✓ Livestock Marketing Association Concerns



Nebraska Veterinary Medical Association

- Ad Hoc Committee
 - **Complicated Issue for Veterinarians**
 - ✓ Diagnosis (What's the best test?)
 - ✓ Neighboring Herds (Can we tell them?)
 - ✓ Regulatory Issues (What test is accepted?)
 - ✓ Should There Be Veterinary Certification Programs
(Training Programs for Veterinarians)

Summary of PCR Related Questions

Incubation	Yes= 2	No=6	Your Choice=2
Ship on Ice	Yes=2	Room Temp=6	Other=2
Pooling	Up to 5=7	No Pooling=2	Up to 3=1
Preferred Collection Media	In Pouch=6	Saline=2	Tubes=2

Diagnostic Challenges

1. Collections

- Proper Sampling
 - Preputial Wash or Scrape
 - Culture (3 times every 7 days)
 - Trich-It Device
 - Reading Cultures
- Bull Restraint (Personal Safety)
 - 2nd and 3rd scraping
- Collection Media/Containers (Are they all ok?)



Dirty Samples

- Rarely if Ever Return Positive
- Recent Study Huston, et al MSU
 - 20 Samples w/ bacteria injected at increasing #'s
 - 20 Samples clean (Only *T. Foetus* Added)
 - **0 of 20 with bacteria** ever recorded as positive
 - 20 of 20 w/out bacteria had at least one positive recording

Sample Preparation

- Depends on the Diagnostic Lab
- Incubation Time and Time of Incubation
 - Sensitivity and Specificity go down for both culture and PCR as time to incubation increases

	Day 0	Day 2	Day 4	Average
Sensitivity	0.86	0.77	0.55	0.74
Specificity	0.98	0.91	0.87	0.92

Huston et al MSU

Transportation Issues

- Rural Access to Timely **Reliable** Transportation
- How should the sample be packaged?
 - On Ice
 - Room Temperature
 - Depends on the Weather
 - One Ice but NOT Touching Ice Packs

Diagnostic Lab Issues

- Early On: PCR Qualified Personnel (Quality Controls)
- Sample Prep Workflows
- **Disagreements in Results!**
 - **Lead to Loss of Confidence by Vets/Producers**

Quantitative PCR Study

Accepted for Publication in January JVDI 2014

1. Compared Sample Prep Workflows and qPCR
2. Assessed the Accuracy of Pooling
3. Assessed the Specificity of the Primers and Probes Currently Used
4. 5 Labs Participated with the Study Lab
 - ✓ 803 Samples from Across the USA.

Work Flow Issues From Study

- DNA Extraction
 - Boiling (Heat Lysis) -vs- Chemical Extraction
 - 86% of samples that did not agree with study laboratory were from work flows utilizing boiling

Work Flow Issues From Study

- Internal Amplification Control
 - Detecting if something was inhibiting the amplification of DNA
 - 6.2 % of the samples in the study were identified as inhibited and needed more testing

Overall Sensitivity

True Positives

- Heat-Lysis 84.4%
- Chemical Extraction 95.7%

Overall Specificity

True Negatives

Heat-Lysis 97.5%

Chemical-Lysis 100%

More Findings

➤ False Negatives and False Positive

✓ 22 False Negatives

- 91% of those were from the labs utilizing heat-lysis and no internal control

✓ 9 False Positives

➤ What are the consequences????

➤ Loss of Customer Confidence

➤ Both Veterinarians and Producers

➤ Economic Implications for Producers

False Positive Example

- Dual Ownership of Bull (Valued at \$50,000)
- Bull goes to owner in southern region for breeding season
- Tested for Trich for return to co-owner in northern region
- Positive result (PCR) from Lab A
- 3 subsequent tests from Lab A and Lab B,C show negative results

How Do We Get Better????

Standardization

1. Adopt the Best Diagnostic Testing Available (qPCR) Using Chemical-Lysis and IAC
2. Promote SOP's for Sampling, Sample Prep, and Shipping
3. Increased Veterinarian/Producer Awareness
4. Standardized Regulations