

# WOAH Reference Laboratory Reports Activities 2022

## Activities in 2022

This report has been submitted : 26 avril 2023 17:24

### Laboratory Information

<b>Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated WOA Reference Laboratory:</b>	Anthrax
<b>Address of laboratory:</b>	USDA, APHIS, VS, DB, National Veterinary Services Laboratories, 1920 Dayton Ave., P.O. Box 844, Ames, Iowa 50010 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
<b>Tel.:</b>	+1-515 337 7070
<b>E-mail address:</b>	ginger.r.harvey@usda.gov
<b>Website:</b>	www.aphis.usda.gov/nvsl
<b>Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):</b>	Dr Suelee Robbe-Austerman, Director, National Veterinary Services Laboratories, USDA, APHIS, VS, DB
<b>Name (including Title and Position) of WOA Reference Expert:</b>	Ginger Harvey, Microbiologist, Diagnostic Bacteriology Laboratory, National Veterinary Services Laboratories, USDA, APHIS, VS, DB
<b>Which of the following defines your laboratory? Check all that apply:</b>	Governmental

### TOR1: DIAGNOSTIC METHODS

1. Did your laboratory perform diagnostic tests for the specified disease/topic for purposes such as disease diagnosis, screening of animals for export, surveillance, etc.? (Not for quality control, proficiency testing or staff training)

Yes

Diagnostic Test	Indicated in WOA Manual (Yes/No)	Total number of test performed last year	
Indirect diagnostic tests		Nationally	Internationally
none	Yes	0	0
Direct diagnostic tests		Nationally	Internationally
Isolation and Identification	Yes	7	

**TOR2: REFERENCE MATERIAL**

2. Did your laboratory produce or supply imported standard reference reagents officially recognised by WOA?H?

No

3. Did your laboratory supply standard reference reagents (nonWOAH-approved) and/or other diagnostic reagents to WOA?H Members?

Yes

TYPE OF REAGENT AVAILABLE	RELATED DIAGNOSTIC TEST	PRODUCED/ PROVIDE	AMOUNT SUPPLIED NATIONALLY (ML, MG)	AMOUNT SUPPLIED INTERNATIONALLY (ML, MG)	NO. OF RECIPIENT WOA?H MEMBER COUNTRIES	COUNTRY OF RECIPIENTS
Gamma phage	Gamma phage lysis diagnostic test	produced	1	1	2	America Europe

4. Did your laboratory produce vaccines?

Not applicable

5. Did your laboratory supply vaccines to WOA?H Members?

Not applicable

**TOR3: NEW PROCEDURES**

6. Did your laboratory develop new diagnostic methods for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

7. Did your laboratory validate diagnostic methods according to WOA?H Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

8. Did your laboratory develop new vaccines for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

9. Did your laboratory validate vaccines according to WOA?H Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

**TOR4: DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FACILITIES**

10. Did your laboratory carry out diagnostic testing for other WOA?H Members?

No

11. Did your laboratory provide expert advice in technical consultancies on the request of an WOA?H Member?

Yes

NAME OF THE WOA?H MEMBER COUNTRY RECEIVING A TECHNICAL CONSULTANCY	PURPOSE	HOW THE ADVICE WAS PROVIDED
FINLAND	Clarified the details of various staining methods for the Bacillus anthracis capsule	e-mail

SPAIN	Provided methods for the isolation of Bacillus anthracis from soil	e-mail
GEORGIA	Provided vaccine testing information	e-mail
AZERBAIJAN	Provided support for the validation and verification methods for Anthrax	e-mail

## **TOR5: COLLABORATIVE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES**

12. Did your laboratory participate in international scientific studies in collaboration with WOAHA Members other than the own?

No

## **TOR6: EPIZOOLOGICAL DATA**

14. Did your Laboratory collect epidemiological data relevant to international disease control?

No

15. Did your laboratory disseminate epidemiological data that had been processed and analysed?

No

16. What method of dissemination of information is most often used by your laboratory? (Indicate in the appropriate box the number by category and list the details in the box)

a) Articles published in peer-reviewed journals:

b) International conferences:

c) National conferences:

d) Other (Provide website address or link to appropriate information):

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov>

## **TOR7: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TRAINING**

17. Did your laboratory provide scientific and technical training to laboratory personnel from other WOAHA Members?

No

## TOR8: QUALITY ASSURANCE

18. Does your laboratory have a Quality Management System?

Yes

Quality management system adopted	Certificate scan (PDF, JPG, PNG format)	
ISO/IEC 17025		ISO 17025 Biological-Ames.pdf

19. Is your quality management system accredited?

Yes

Test for which your laboratory is accredited	Accreditation body
Bacterial Isolation	American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)
Biochemical Testing	American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)
Antimicrobial Susceptibility	American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)
Microscopic Examination (Staining)	American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)
Confirmatory	American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)

20. Does your laboratory maintain a "biorisk management system" for the pathogen and the disease concerned?

Yes

Biosafety, Security and Incident Response Plan and Biological Risk Assessments: NVSL-MAN-0018 and NVSL-WI-1207

## TOR9: SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

21. Did your laboratory organise scientific meetings related to the pathogen in question on behalf of WOAHA?

No

22. Did your laboratory participate in scientific meetings related to the pathogen in question on behalf of WOAHA?

No

## TOR10: NETWORK WITH WOAHA REFERENCE LABORATORIES

23. Did your laboratory exchange information with other WOAHA Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen or disease?

Yes

24. Are you a member of a network of WOAHA Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen?

Yes

PURPOSE OF THE PROFICIENCY TESTS: 1	ROLE OF YOUR REFERENCE LABORATORY (ORGANISER/ PARTICIPANT)	NO. PARTICIPANTS	PARTICIPATING WOAHA REF. LABS/ ORGANISING WOAHA REF. LAB.
-------------------------------------	--	------------------	---

25. Did you organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with WOAHA Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen?

No

26. Did your laboratory collaborate with other WOAHA Reference Laboratories for the same disease on scientific research projects for the diagnosis or control of the pathogen of interest?

No

## TOR11: OTHER INTERLABORATORY PROFICIENCY TESTING

27. Did your laboratory organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with laboratories other than WOAHA Reference Laboratories for the same pathogen?

No

## TOR12: EXPERT CONSULTANTS

28. Did your laboratory place expert consultants at the disposal of WOAHA?

Yes

KIND OF CONSULTANCY	Location	SUBJECT (FACULTATIVE)
Response to technical queries from WOAHA: Terrestrial Code: Manual Anthrax Chapter	virtual	Capsule visualization

29. Additional comments regarding your report:

*Anthrax is a well-controlled disease within the United States and the rest of North America. Within the United States, there were less than a dozen premises with animals that tested positive for anthrax in 2022. The positive cases occurred in states that are endemic for anthrax and are well prepared to confirm their own samples. The NVSL did not receive any requests for international diagnostic testing in 2022, although we did support Belize with testing four samples in 2021. We maintained our availability and proficiency and are happy to accept samples from other countries. The NVSL does consistently produce and distribute reagents internationally and provide scientific guidance to our international partners. The NVSL had planned twinning activities such as training other laboratories to improve their diagnostic activities, harmonize and extend our methods to include whole genome sequencing, and to discuss other possible collaborations with our Canadian Anthrax expert counterparts, but plans were cancelled due to the global COVID pandemic. We do not see the demand for testing increasing, and since NVSL's mission is primarily diagnostics and not research, we do not expect our activities to change.*