World Organisation for Animal Health

Oliver Lung - - CANADA

WOAH Reference Laboratory Reports Activities 2025

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LABORATORY INFORMATION

***Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated WOAH Reference Laboratory:**	Bovine viral diarrhoea
***Address of laboratory:**	225090 Township Rd. 91, Lethbridge County, AB, T1J5R7 Canada
***Tel:**	+1-403 382 55 00
***E-mail address:**	oliver.lung@inspection.gc.ca
Website:	
***Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):**	Dr. Kinsley Amoako, Director, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, National Centres for Animal Diseases, Lethbridge Laboratory
***Name (including Title and Position) of WOAH Reference Expert:**	Oliver Lung, Research Scientist/Head, Genomics Unit and Centre for Vector-Borne Diseases, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease
***Which of the following defines your laboratory? Check all that apply:**	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 WOAH Manual (Yes/No)	Total number of test performed last year	
Indirect diagnostic tests		Nationally	Internationally
BVD-immuneo-peroxidase	Yes	2929	0
BVD-serum neutralization	Yes	4393	0
Direct diagnostic tests		Nationally	Internationally
BVD-virus isolation	Yes	362	0

TOR2: REFERENCE MATERIAL

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

No

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

Yes

Type of reagent available	Related diagnostic test	Produced/ provide	Amount supplied nationally (ml, mg)	Amount supplied internationally (ml, mg)	No. of recipient WOAH Member Countries	Country of recipients
25 BVDV strains	BVD-IP, PCR, SN, sequencing	produced/provided	30 ml each produced and 2 ml each provided	0	1	CANADA,
BVD mAb pools (hybridomas 115, 157, 184, 348, BA2, BA3 that are specific to BVDV						

type 1 (Pestivirus bovis), type 2 (Pestivirus tauri) or common to type 1 and 2)	BVD-IP	provided	1 ML	0	1	CANADA,
whole blood and serum from BVD-free cattle herd	BVD-IP, PCR, SN	produced/provided	3 ML serum (1 ML to each of three different laboratories); 20 x 10 ML blood to a fourth laboratory	0	1	CANADA,

4. Did your laboratory produce vaccines?

No

5. Did your laboratory supply vaccines to WOAH Members?

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 WOAH Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

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

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

TOR4: DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FACILITIES

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

No

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

Yes

Name of the WOAH Member Country receiving a technical consultancy	Purpose	How the advice was provided
CANADA UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	queries regarding the frequency of testing of semen samples	via email

TOR5: COLLABORATIVE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES

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

No

13. In exercising your activities, have you identified any regulatory research needs* relevant for WOAH?

Yes

Research need : 1

Please type the Research need: characterization of field BVD strains to characterize viral evolution, inform development and maintenance of molecular assays and selection of additional strains as a challenge virus for BVD-SN tests

Relevance for WOAH Capacity Building, Standard Setting,

Relevance for the Code or Manual Manual,

Field Epidemiology and Surveillance, Diagnostics,

Animal Category Terrestrial,

Disease:

Kind of disease (Zoonosis, Transboundary diseases) production limiting diseases,

If any, please specify relevance for Codes or Manual, chapter and title

(e.g. Terrestrial Manual Chapter 2.3.5 - Minimum requirements for aseptic production in vaccine manufacture)

Answer: Terrestrial Manual Chapter 3.4.7 (Bovine Viral Diarrhoea)

Notes:

Answer:

TOR6: EPIZOOLOGICAL DATA

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

Yes

If the answer is yes, please provide details of the data collected:
passive surveillance

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

Yes

If the answer is yes, please provide details of the data collected:
passive surveillance data

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:

0

b) International conferences:

0

c) National conferences:

0

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

1
annual reporting to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency

TOR7: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TRAINING

17. Did your laboratory provide scientific and technical training to laboratory personnel from other WOAH 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 17025-2017	pdf	2026-.01.06 ASB_15366-CFIA-Certificate_v1.pdf

19. Is your quality management system accredited?

Yes

Test for which your laboratory is accredited	Accreditation body
BVD-serum neutralization; BVD-immunoperoxidase; BVD-virus isolation	Standards Council of Canada

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

Yes

The laboratory has a high level of security with multiple points of controlled access. All laboratory work is conducted in Class 2 biological safety cabinets, and biological waste is autoclaved. All staff are trained in the safe handling of infectious material.

TOR9: SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

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

No

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

No

TOR10: NETWORK WITH WOAH REFERENCE LABORATORIES

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

Yes

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

Yes

NETWORK/DISEASE	ROLE OF YOUR LABORATORY (PARTICIPANT, ORGANISER, ETC)	NO. PARTICIPANTS	PARTICIPATING WOAH REF. LABS
Network/BVD	participant	4	Australia, UK, Canada, Germany

25. Did you organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with WOAH Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen during the past 2 years?

Yes

Purpose of the proficiency test:	Role of your Reference Laboratory (organiser/ participant)	No. participating Laboratories	Participating WOAH Ref. Labs/ organising WOAH Ref Lab
proficiency testing	participant	48	Friedrich-Loeffler Institut, Germany

26. Did your laboratory collaborate with other WOAH 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 WOAH Reference Laboratories for the same pathogen during the past 2 years?

Yes

Purpose for inter-laboratory test comparisons1	**Role of your reference laboratory (organizer/participant)**	**No. participating laboratories**	**Name of the test**	**WOAH Member Countries**
proficiency testing	participant	2	BVD-SN	CANADA, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

TOR12: EXPERT CONSULTANTS

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

Yes

Kind of consultancy	Location	Subject (facultative)
review of WOAH standards	remote via email	BVD Chapter in the terrestrial manual
responding to technical queries	remote via email	BVD related reagents and methods

29. Additional comments regarding your report:

Yes

Activity of the BVD laboratory was impacted, as limited BVD laboratory personnel and resources were used to support priority HPAI response in Canada, as well as in other WOAH and FAO reference laboratories (e.g., avian influenza and African swine fever) and Collaborating Centres at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.