

WOAH Reference Laboratory Reports Activities 2025

This report has been submitted: 27 janvier 2026 23:41

LABORATORY INFORMATION

*Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated WOA Reference Laboratory:	Contagious equine metritis
*Address of laboratory:	1920 Dayton Avenue, Ames, IA 50010 United States of America
*Tel:	5153377551
*E-mail address:	kristina.lantz@usda.gov
Website:	https://www.aphis.usda.gov/labs
*Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):	Dr. Suelee Robbe-Austerman, Director, NVSL
*Name (including Title and Position) of WOA Reference Expert:	Dr. Kristina Lantz, Deputy Director, NVSL DVL
*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 WOA Manual (Yes/No)	Total number of test performed last year	
		Nationally	Internationally
Indirect diagnostic tests			
Complement Fixation	Yes	1432	57
Direct diagnostic tests			
Isolation (culture) Tests	Yes	850	16
Real-time PCR	Yes	322	0
Whole Genome Sequencing	No	30	0

TOR2: REFERENCE MATERIAL

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

No

3. Did your laboratory supply standard reference reagents (nonWOAH-approved) and/or other diagnostic reagents to WOA 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 Member Countries	Country of recipients
Eugon Agar with 10% Chocolate Horse Blood	Isolation (culture) test	Both	740	0	1	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Modified Timoney-	Isolation (culture) test	Both	740	0	1	UNITED STATES OF

Kristina Lantz - - UNITED_STATES_OF_AMERICA

Shin Agar						AMERICA,
Taylorella control strains	Isolation (culture) test	Both	10	0	1	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
CEM High Titer Control Serum	Compliment Fixation	Provide	8	0	1	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

4. Did your laboratory produce vaccines?

Not applicable

5. Did your laboratory supply vaccines to WOAHA 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 WOAHA 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 WOAHA Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

TOR4: DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FACILITIES

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

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

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

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

No

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:

The reference laboratory participates in diagnosis and confirmation of contagious equine metritis, however, epidemiological data such as animal movements are stored outside of the laboratory, but within the parent agency of NVSL, USDA-APHIS-Veterinary Services.

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:

Whole genome sequencing of cultured *Taylorella equigenitalis* isolates were analyzed to determine the phylogenetic relationships between new isolates and isolates from previous outbreaks or detections. The analysis was distributed to federal and state animal health officials and epidemiologists to aid in disease tracing. Epidemiologic information is reported publicly via the USDA website: <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/equine/contagious-equine-metritis>

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:

1

Initial identification of genomic islands in Taylorella equigenitalis and Taylorella asinigenitalis and their distribution in isolates from around the world <https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.11.26.686905>

b) International conferences:

0

c) National conferences:

0

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

1

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/equine/contagious-equine-metritis>

TOR7: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TRAINING

17. Did your laboratory provide scientific and technical training to laboratory personnel from other WOA 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	A2LA Biological Testing Certificate_2526-01.pdf	A2LA Biological Testing Certificate_2526-01.pdf
ISO 17043	A2LA Proficiency Testing Provider_2526-06.pdf	A2LA Proficiency Testing Provider_2526-06.pdf

19. Is your quality management system accredited?

Yes

Test for which your laboratory is accredited	Accreditation body
Bacterial Isolation Taylorella Species	American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)
Biochemical Testing Taylorella Species	American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)
Agglutination Testing Taylorella Species	American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)
Real-Time PCR Taylorella Species	American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)
16S Sequencing Taylorella Species	American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)
Whole Genome Sequencing Taylorella Species	American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)
Complement Fixation	American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)
Proficiency Panel: Contagious Equine Metritis	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 WOAHP?

No

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

No

TOR10: NETWORK WITH WOAHP REFERENCE LABORATORIES

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

Yes

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

No

25. Did you organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with WOAHP 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 WOAHP Ref. Labs/ organising WOAHP Ref Lab
Isolation and Identification of the Agent	Participant	1	National Veterinary Services Laboratories/ Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) quality assurance unit (VETQAS)

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

Yes

Purpose for inter-laboratory test comparisons ¹	Role of your reference laboratory (organizer/participant)	No. participating laboratories	Name of the test	WOAHP Member Countries
Culture proficiency test required to conduct official testing in the U.S.	Organizer. The NVSL produces, coordinates, evaluates results, and approves laboratories and laboratorians to conduct testing.	11	Taylorella Isolation	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

TOR12: EXPERT CONSULTANTS

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

No

29. Additional comments regarding your report:

Yes

Q10: Data for this field is being tallied under question 1 in order to harmonize with other disease reports.

Q17: Our laboratory provides an annual training course for laboratory personnel in the United States. All personnel at laboratories in the U.S. that perform CEM culture must attend this training. The training course was conducted in 2025 with 11 participants. Training is available for international participants on a by request basis. No international requests were received in 2025.