

# Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS) Surveillance on Wisconsin Fish Farms

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Protection (DATCP)

## Roles and Responsibilities

- ▶ DATCP is responsible for health requirements for live fish including imported fish
- ▶ DATCP has led the veterinary training efforts in Wisconsin

## Funding Support

United State Department of Agriculture  
(USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection  
Service (APHIS)

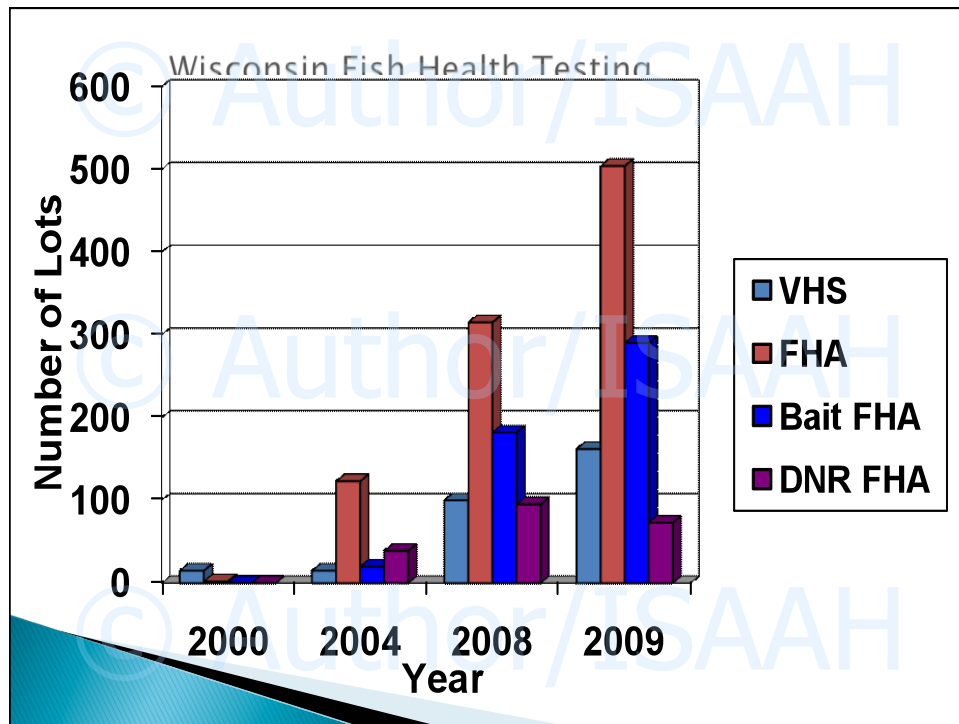
Cooperative Agreement Award for VHS



[www.aphis.usda.gov/vs](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs)

## Historical Surveillance

- ▶ DATCP has reviewed over 300 fish health certificates per year for the past ten years
- ▶ DNR conducts surveillance of wild fish populations



## Fish Health Medicine Certificate Program

<http://vetmedce.vetmed.wisc.edu/fhm>



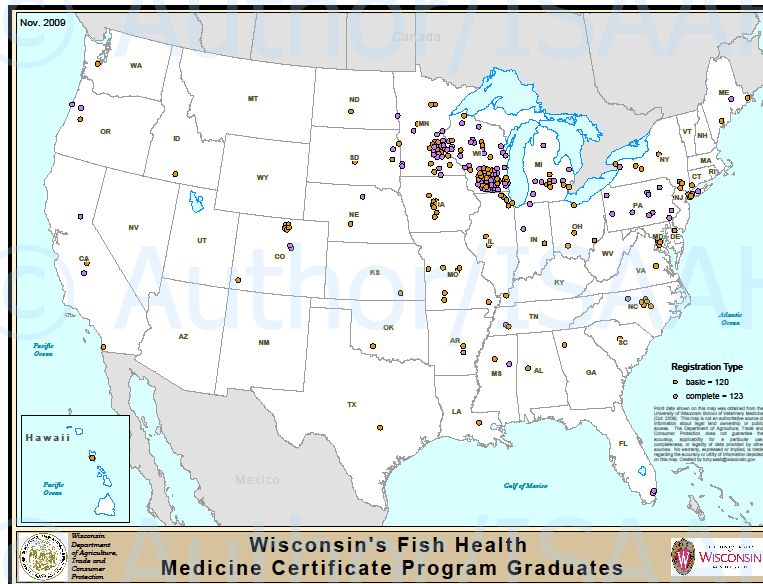
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## Road Map

- ❖ Module 1 – Introduction
- ❖ Module 2 – Risk Management and Biosecurity
- ❖ Module 3 – Water Quality
- ❖ Module 4 – Fish Health Inspections
- ❖ Module 5 – Veterinary Health Assessments



## Veterinary Workshop on Fish Regulatory Medicine

- ▶ April 26 –27, 2010
- ▶ Interstate regulations
- ▶ OIE testing requirements
- ▶ AFS Bluebook Standards
- ▶ VHS testing and surveillance result
- ▶ Epidemiology

## Compliance

- ▶ Fish farm record inspection
- ▶ Compliance investigation
- ▶ Warning notice
- ▶ Portable enforcements
- ▶ No VHS violations

## Surveillance

- ▶ Six farms
- ▶ 70 fish per group
- ▶ 560 fish total
- ▶ All VHS negative

## Conclusion

- ▶ VHS testing has greatly increased
- ▶ VHS has not been found on fish farms
- ▶ Compliance with VHS testing requirements is good
- ▶ Demand for funds for VHS testing is low
- ▶ The supply of veterinarians is greater than the demand for veterinary services

Future 2010 VHS Cooperative Agreement  
October 1, 2010 – September 30, 2011  
Fish health certificate database  
Electronic fish health certificates  
Electronic import permits  
VHS risk evaluation of fish farms



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## Current Questions

- ▶ Is the level of VHS testing sufficient?
- ▶ If not how should it be modified?
- ▶ What are current training needs?
- ▶ Are there enough veterinarians?
- ▶ What have we learned from VHS that can benefit us when the next disease emerges?

DATCP acknowledges USDA, APHIS  
for support of this work

**VS**  
**Veterinary Services**



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Questions?