



Chronic Wasting Disease Investigation Update

Provided by the Animal Industry Division
Michigan Department of Agriculture
April 14, 2009

Background:

The Michigan departments of Agriculture (MDA) and Natural Resources (DNR) confirmed the state's first case of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in a three-year old white-tailed deer from a privately owned cervid (POC) facility in Kent County on Monday, August 25, 2008.

The disease investigation as to where or how CWD was transmitted to this animal has closed. The CWD disease trace investigation involved reviewing records of the index facility. This included reviewing the list of all animals that have left the facility through sale or non-sale transfers, and a list of all test results from the facility. From the information gathered, the same investigation was repeated at all facilities that received exposed cervids.

Disease Surveillance:

The following information is provided to the public to ensure complete understanding of the disease investigation and subsequent actions intended to protect the POC industry.

The initial herd that had one CWD positive doe on the premises was depopulated. The owner received indemnity for the animals from USDA and MDA. To protect the industry, an immediate statewide quarantine was put into place to prevent the transfer of potentially infected animals from one location to another. POC quarantines have been systematically lifted as audits confirm compliance with rules, regulations, and disease surveillance (see table below).

MDA Privately Owned Cervid (POC) statewide disease surveillance

Since January 2009, 252 POC facilities have been released from quarantine as they are Public Act 190 and disease surveillance compliant. There are 240 POC facilities remaining under quarantine for various reasons. These POC facility owners have been notified and understand what is needed to come into compliance in order to have the quarantines released.

Quarantine Release Status



Status of Privately-Owned Cervid Facility Quarantine Releases as of 4/2/2009

Risk Level ¹	Full, Exhibition and Hobby (Classes IV, II & I) Facilities		Ranch (Class III) Facilities	
	Number still quarantined	Number released	Number still quarantined	Number released
Level Four (Very Low Risk)	0	13	Not applicable	Not applicable
Level Three (Low Risk)	0	44	0	34
Level Two (Medium Risk)	96	105	13	46
Level One (High Risk)	98	2	33	8
TOTALS	194	164	46	88

¹As described in "Cervid Industry Criteria for Release of Quarantine", dated 9/15/2008, available at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/emergingdiseases/CRITERIA_FOR_RELEASE_final_250028_7.pdf