



Chronic Wasting Disease Investigation Update

Provided by the Animal Industry Division
Michigan Department of Agriculture
October 24, 2008

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. Shortly after, MDA issued a statewide quarantine on all POC facilities. Subsequent reviews of POC records resulted in the quarantine release of 87 facilities. The remaining facilities are under quarantine until they come into compliance for disease testing, Public Act 190 of 2000, and operational standards for registered privately owned cervid facilities.

Officials do not yet know how the deer may have contracted the disease. The disease investigation looked at the records of 11 facilities; MDA removed animals connected to the positive facility off ranches and farms for euthanasia and testing; and additional ranches under suspicion are quarantined and must submit samples for disease testing from all animals that die or are shot. There is no evidence that CWD presents a risk to humans or to animals other than cervids.

MDA Actions:

The state-wide quarantine on all privately owned cervid facilities continues. MDA has released quarantines on 87 facilities to date (this includes Level three – low risk facilities). There are 148 full, registration and exhibition facilities and 17 ranches in the level two category.

DNR has contracted with USDA Wildlife Services (WS) to audit Level 2 (medium risk) **full registration and exhibition facilities**. DNR provides the list of facilities to USDA WS and the task is divided up by region. Producers will be contacted to schedule the audit.

Once the audit is complete, the document is mailed to DNR for PA 190 compliance review. When the DNR review is complete, MDA confirms that the facility has entered into a disease surveillance plan, and if appropriate, a quarantine release will be faxed, mailed, or otherwise delivered to the POC facility owner.

The document USDA WS will fill out during the audit is available to producers on the emerging diseases website www.michigan.gov/chronicwastingdisease.

To date, 1,669 POC disease samples have been submitted for 2008 statewide surveillance testing.

The State Veterinarian will systematically review and release quarantined facilities that have cleared the disease investigation after DNR affirms POC Facilities meet standards for P.A. 190.

Michigan State University and Michigan Farm Bureau each have assigned staff to assist bait growers in finding markets for their crops.

MSU's contact is: Bill Knudson, MSU Market Maker program

Michigan Farm Bureau's contact is: Ken Nye

CWD Investigation Surveillance Table:

Index facility	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
1 Depopulated Negative	5 herds 1) Kent County – Sold to index herd - depopulated – negative , quarantine release pending 2) Kent County – Sold 6 to Index herd – all 6 accounted for in index herd – were negative – quarantine released 3) Kent County - Sold to index herd, not all animals accounted for, must remain under 5 year herd plan 4) Osceola County – Purchased from index herd, not all available to test, herd plan in place for 5 years 5) Montcalm County – Purchased from index herd, not all available to test, herd plan in place for 5 years	Six herds Kent County (1) Bay County (1) Saginaw County (1) Mecosta County (2) Investigation not complete	Pending Tier 2 epidemiology

Education and Outreach:

A CWD Town Hall meeting was held in Kalamazoo on October 22, and another was held in Marquette on October 23.

The following CWD Town Hall meetings are scheduled:

October 27, 2008 in Frankenmuth at the Bronner Theater, 525 E. Genesee from 6-8 PM. MSU Extension's Jeannine Grobbel will be hosting the meeting.

October 29, 2008 in Grayling at the Grayling High School, from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. MSUE's Linda Cronk will host the meeting.

The Michigan Association of Conservation District asked MDA and DNR to present CWD information at the annual convention in Mt. Pleasant on December 11, 2008.

Media:

The following links will take you to CWD articles:

Detroit Free Press – Detroit, Michigan
09/24/08 -- Court petition challenges deer-baiting ban --
<http://www.freep.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080924/SPORTS10/80924088/1048/sports>

The Cheboygan Daily Tribune – Cheboygan, Michigan
<http://www.cheboygannews.com/articles/2008/09/25/news/news3.txt>

09/25/08 -- Judge hastens hearing on deer baiting-and-feeding
<http://www.freep.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080925/NEWS06/80925048/1008/NEWS>

The Green Bay Press Gazette – Green Bay, Wisconsin
09/25/08 -- Patrick Durkin column: Michigan follows Wisconsin script on CWD --
<http://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080925/GPG0204/809250538/1233/GPG02>

09/26/08 -- Chronic Wasting Disease testing finds more than 500 deer
cleanhttp://www.mlive.com/outdoors/index.ssf/2008/09/chronic_wasting_disease_testin.html

The Leelanau Enterprise – Leelanau, Michigan
09/29/08 -- DNR warns against using bait piles during deer hunt
<http://www.leelanaunews.com/blog/2008/09/29/dnr-warns-against-using-bait-piles-during-deer-hunt/>

The Ludington Daily News – Ludington, Michigan
09/30/08 -- DNR deer disease approach praised --
http://www.ludingtondailynews.com/news.php?story_id=41717&newsgroup_id=

The Gaylord Herald Times – Gaylord, Michigan
10/03/08 -- Chronic wasting in deer prompts rehab ban
http://www.gaylordheraldtimes.com/articles/2008/10/03/news/top_stories/doc48e666b3c732d044525575.txt

The Leelanau News – Leelanau, Michigan
10/03/08 -- Protecting the herd -- <http://leelanaunews.com/~enterpr/drupal/index.php?q=node/353>

The Toledo Blade – Toledo, Ohio
10/05/08 -- Beware of peddlers hawking fruits, veggies in deer country --
<http://toledoblade.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20081005/COLUMNIST22/810050390/1/SPORTS09>

10/07/08 -- Tests of more than 1,000 deer find no more cases of chronic wasting
http://www.mlive.com/grpress/news/index.ssf/2008/10/tests_of_more_than_1000_deer_f.html

WZZM TV Channel 13 – Grand Rapids, Michigan
10/07/08 -- DNR: No sign of CWD in wild deer --
http://www.wzzm13.com/news/news_story.aspx?storyid=99658&catid=14

The Detroit News – Detroit, Michigan
10/08/08 -- Deer dilemma: State, rehabilitators battle over new rules to fight disease
<http://detnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20081008/METRO/810080388>

10/08/08 -- With bait ban a problem, here's one solution --
http://blog.mlive.com/bcopinion/2008/10/with_bait_ban_a_problem_heres.html

10/09/08 -- Judge upholds Michigan's ban on deer baiting, feeding to battle chronic wasting disease --
http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2008/10/judge_upholds_michigans_ban_on.html

10/10/08 -- Bait ban is part of plan for deadly deer disease --
http://blog.mlive.com/bcopinion/2008/09/bait_ban_is_part_of_plan_for_d.html

The Detroit Free Press – Detroit, Michigan
10/12/08 -- Deer bait ban makes economic sense
<http://www.freep.com/article/20081012/SPORTS10/810120460/1058>

The Traverse City Record Eagle – Traverse City, Michigan
10/15/08 -- Town hall meetings to address CWD –
http://www.record-eagle.com/outdoors/local_story_289095716.html

10/16/08 -- Bait ban not likely to reduce deer kill –

<http://www.freep.com/article/20081016/SPORTS10/810160423/1217/SPORTS>

10/18/08 -- Farmers stuck with surplus crops after ban --

http://blog.mlive.com/chronicle/2008/10/farmers_stuck_with_surplus_crops_after_ban.html

WWMT TV Channel 3 – Kalamazoo, Michigan

10/22/08 -- Chronic wasting disease meeting –

http://www.wwmt.com/articles/wasting_1354820__article.html/chronic_disease.html

10/23/08 -- Officials to step up enforcement of deer-baiting ban --

<http://www.mlive.com/news/kzgazette/index.ssf?/base/news-31/1224773438100800.xml&coll=7>