



June 2025: Pathogen Updates: Agrotourism and Rabies

When: Wed. June 18, 2025, 12:00 - 1:30 pm Central Time

Where: Zoom Meeting ID: 919 7485 9129, Passcode: Core2025

<https://uiowa.zoom.us/j/91974859129?pwd=oSNdNhrcSi4JRvAbQru37spMCMaX8K.1>

Objective:

As summer gets going on the farm, we want to update Ag Health Academy members about pathogenic concerns on the farm. While we are still concerned about the highly pathogenic avian flu (H5N1) and swine flu (H1N1) and other concerns for livestock, there are some persistent pathogenic concerns we want to highlight this month. We are bringing together two experts in the Great Plains Region with expertise in infectious diseases and epidemiology to provide us with updates. Carri Klumb, MPH, is a senior epidemiologist at the Minnesota Department of Public Health in the Zoonotic Diseases unit, where she conducts surveillance of zoonotic diseases in ag workers, their families, and those exposed in agricultural settings. She will discuss healthy animal handling and provide updates on outbreaks associated with agritourist events in her state. Dr. Andrew Hennenfent, DVM, MPH, is Iowa's new State Public Health Veterinarian, also with expertise in infectious diseases in both agriculture and health care sectors. He will provide us with observations in Iowa and highlight new rabies information for our attendees.

At the end of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Understand current risk factors and possible illness outcomes associated with animal handling in the Midwest
- Provide tips for healthy animal handling, including at agritourist venues
- Understand rabies and tick-borne disease concerns for this summer's season
- Know resources available to guide farmers to safe practices and responses to exposures/illnesses from exposure to agricultural pathogens

Agenda:

Speaker	Contact Info
Carrie Klumb	carrie.klumb@state.mn.us
Andrew Hennenfent	andrew.hennenfent@hhs.iowa.gov

Discussion Questions:

To prepare for the open discussion, think about the following

- Has your organization responded to potential animal bites warranting rabies vaccination?
- In visiting farms, have you been aware of any handwashing facilities? How accessible are they?
- Have you had to coordinate testing for zoonotic illnesses in people or animals on the farm?



Speaker Bios:



Carrie Klumb, MPH, is a senior epidemiologist in the Zoonotic Diseases Unit at the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and is the project coordinator for MDH's project within the NIOSH-funded Upper Midwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center (UMASH) at the University of Minnesota. Her project focuses on surveillance of zoonotic diseases in agricultural workers, their families, and others exposed to agricultural settings. She is the principal investigator for the CDC/CSTE Youth in Ag grant awarded to several states to help educate 4-H participants about zoonotic diseases. She has spearheaded a variety of outreach and education initiatives around county fairs and agritourism. She is also the animal rabies surveillance coordinator at MDH. She received her MPH from the University of Minnesota in Environmental Health in 2010 and completed a two-year CDC/CSTE Applied Epidemiology Fellowship before being hired as an epidemiologist at MDH. In 2023, Carrie was featured in a FarmSafe Podcast that provides basic background on zoonotic diseases, which is available here: <https://gpcah.public-health.uiowa.edu/zoonotic/>



Andrew Hennenfent DVM, MPH, DACVPM, is the State Public Health Veterinarian for Iowa, overseeing zoonotic disease prevention and response. Dr. Hennenfent completed an applied epidemiology fellowship in infectious disease at the District of Columbia Department of Health, then oversaw the city's emerging and zoonotic disease program and served as the city's public health veterinarian. After joining the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services, Dr. Hennenfent oversaw the Healthcare Associated Infections (HAI) Program, leading planning and response efforts for antimicrobial stewardship efforts and infection prevention technical assistance provided to Iowa healthcare personnel to improve infection control practices in all settings. Prior to joining Iowa HHS Dr. Hennenfent worked for the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS).