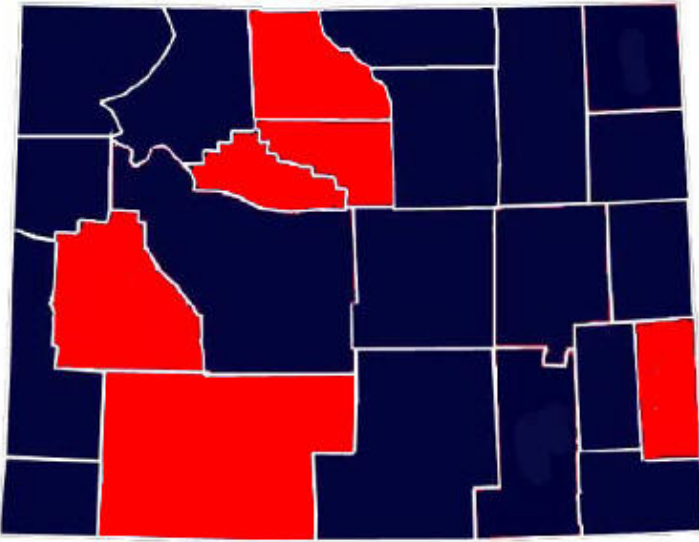




## Vesicular stomatitis (VS) in Wyoming - 2005

Vesicular stomatitis due to vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV) was confirmed on 10 August 2005 in a herd of cattle in Sublette Count, by virus isolation. One animal in a herd of ~250 on a cow-calf operation had clinical signs consistent with VS. The owner requested veterinary attention and a foreign animal disease investigation was initiated. The investigation revealed no other sick cattle on the premises. A quarantine was placed on the affected premises by regulatory officials. There were 27 equine also on the premises but none were showing clinical sign. A second vesicular stomatitis-positive premises was identified in Goshen County. The property contained 4 susceptible horses, 1 of which was ill. A quarantine was placed on the affected premises by state regulatory officials. At the time of writing these are the only two confirmed VS-affected premises in the state.

As of 24 August 2005, VS is confirmed in 6 of the state's 23 counties: Goshen , Big Horn, Washakie, Hot Spring, Sweetwater and Sublette (4)(see map). A large number of investigations are ongoing, so this number is likely to increase over the next few weeks.



Wyoming had no cases of vesicular stomatitis in 2004.

Cases of VS were laboratory confirmed in 2005 in the following states: AZ, TX, CO, MT, UT and WY.

VS is important since it is a reportable disease since it has similarities to foot and mouth disease. Serious economic and regulatory repercussions are associated with the diagnosis, and once the disease is detected in the United States, countries take action to block international trade of U.S. animals. Interstate movement of animals is also impacted. Premises

containing affected animals are quarantined **until 21 days after the lesions in the last affected animal have healed.**

If you have animals (primarily horses or cattle) that have clinical signs of VS, you need to report these to either the state veterinarian, Dr. Dwayne Oldham, or the Area Veterinarian in Charge, Dr. Bret Combs (addresses and phone numbers below). Currently the WSVL does not test for VS - samples are shipped to laboratories that perform the tests.

Clinical signs of VS are:

- Excessive salivation
- Swollen lips
- Blanched skin and raised or broken vesicles of various sizes around and in the mouth.

In horses lesions occur on the upper surface of the tongue, surface of the lips and around nostrils, corners of the mouth, and the gums. In cattle lesions are in the tongue, lips, gums, hard palate, and sometimes the muzzle and the area around the nostrils. Pigs get lesions around the snout. Occasionally, horses and cattle may become lame due to lesions in the coronary band.

Since VS is a federally regulated disease, and you need information about moving animals within or through the state, please contact the office of the Area-Veterinarian-in-Charge or the state veterinarian:

USDA APHIS Area Veterinarian in Charge,  
Wyoming  
Dr. Bret Combs  
307 432 7960  
307.772.2592 (fax)

State Veterinarian  
Dr. Dwayne Oldham  
307-777-7515  
[WLSB web page](#) with link to  
VS information in the state

[Testing for VS](#) (pdf - National Veterinary Services Laboratories)

[USDA updates on VS](#) and information about the disease