

ILM Initiative Expands

The Integrated Livestock Management group (ILM) continues to mature. Since its inception in 1996, ILM has sought to train animal agricultural specialists who understand and work effectively with the complex nature of modern agriculture. ILM activities include outreach efforts like this newsletter and research. Recently, a multidisciplinary group of microbiologists, epidemiologists and clinicians secured funding to enhance efforts on Johnes Disease. The laboratories of Ian Orme, Patrick Brennan and John Belisle will conduct laboratory studies to improve identification of Johnes infected animals while Drs Frank Garry, Heather Hirst, Brian McCluskey and Ragan Adams investigate the epidemiology and economics of the disease in Colorado to aid in herd management decisions. The rumen generated toxin study group of the ILM led by Drs Dan Gould and Guy Loneragan has been joined by veterinary epidemiologist Paul Morley. The three have USDA funding to continue studies on rumen metabolism and respiratory disease. Dr Rob Callan is investigating new aspects of coronavirus infection in cattle and is working with Diagnostic Lab personnel to improve our understanding of Malignant Catarrhal Fever. The coliform mastitis study group is seeking funding from Mereil to continue the work begun by Dr John Wenz and reported in the Dairy News this May.

While results these and other studies considered of interest to dairy producers will be reported in future issues of Colorado Dairy News, the purpose of this article is to introduce our clients with some new faculty and staff who have joined the ILM group. Much of the success of the ILM is dependent on communication between producers and academics. We feel strongly that you should contact the University with your problems and suggestions. It is impossible to cover all the new faces in one issue, so this feature will continue next month with the introduction of Drs Dave Van Metre, Heather Hearst, Paul Morley and Yoichi Mizuta.

Dr Randy Basaraba in Pathology is a new contributor to ILM efforts. Randy's primary service assignment is the necropsy area. One of his major research interests is bovine respiratory disease. Randy received his veterinary training at Washington State University (WSU) and then joined a veterinary practice in Alaska before returning to WSU for his pathology training. He was on the faculty at Kansas State University (KSU) for over 7 years before moving to Fort Collins this summer with his family.

Dr Doreene Hyatt also comes to us from KSU where she was a member of the Food Animal Health and Management Center. Doreene now heads the Bacteriology Section of the CSU Diagnostic Laboratory. Trained at the University of Arizona, Doreene's major research interests are Salmonella and E coli 0157.

Dr Wayne Cunningham is an old friend returned. Wayne worked for several years with Dr Cleon Kimberling at CSU before becoming the Assistant Colorado State Veterinarian. Wayne has rejoined CSU on a part-time basis. The purpose of his dual positions with the state office in Denver and at CSU is to coordinate the outreach efforts of these two organizations.

Geri Parsons has been the lead veterinary technician in the food animal clinic for the last several years. She has now shifted roles to work on ILM activities with Drs Kimberling and Garry in the position vacated by Deb Marsh. Deb has moved on to the University of Tennessee.