

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

Veterinary
Services

Centers for
Epidemiology
and Animal
Health

TRAINING COURSES

PROVIDED BY THE

**CENTERS FOR
EPIDEMIOLOGY AND
ANIMAL HEALTH**

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NOMINATION/APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Each field nominee must submit the enclosed nomination request through the Area Office to the Regional Office. Each headquarters nominee must submit the enclosed nomination request through the Associate Deputy Administrator's Office, National Animal Health Policy Programs (NAHPP). The Regional Office and/or the NAHPP, Associate Deputy Administrator's Office will then submit the prioritized nominations to the nomination address listed in the course description. First priority is given to those individual(s) who are in absolute need of the training. More than one person may be placed in priority one status.

The Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health (CEAH) cannot accept nominations directly unless they come through the Regional Office or the NAHPP, Associate Deputy Administrator's Office. If you have not nominated a participant, or have vacant positions that are to be filled, and want to reserve a space in the course, you may write "to be determined," or, "TBD" on the nomination form. Director approval is required for the named nominations, as well as a commitment to fill or cancel reserved spaces.

All training-related correspondence (select, non-select, cancellation, etc.) will be sent directly to the participants by email with copies to the VSMT, Training Coordinators, and supervisors. Hard copies will no longer be issued. Requests for exceptions may be made to the CEAH Training Coordinator.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Each course description gives the course title, dates, purpose, and in some cases, objectives, eligibility, location, source person, and nomination contact person.

The course dates do not include travel dates. Travel dates are normally the day before the start of the course and the afternoon and evening of, or the day after, the end of the course.

CANCELLATION AND SUBSTITUTION POLICY

Based on each particular course, it is important that CEAH be notified as soon as possible in the case of a substitution and/or withdrawal of a course participant(s). We will accept substitutions and cancellations up to 1 week before the start of the course. Any changes in the status of nominees or course logistics will be communicated immediately through the Training Coordinators.

Disease Simulation Modeling with the North American Animal Disease Spread Model	
Dates	January 14 – 18, 2008 August 4 – 8, 2008 **This is a five day course**
Location	Ft. Collins, CO
Course Purpose	See Course description in AgLearn
Target Audience	Epidemiologists, emergency coordinators, decision makers with an interest in knowing more about the model
Cost	Travel costs only
Contact	Kim Forde-Folle at kim.n.forde-folle@aphis.usda.gov
Nominations DEADLINES:	Nominations are to be sent to the Regional Director's Office. The Regional Office will forward the nominations to CEAH. January 14 – 18, 2008 - To Region: November 12, 2008 To CEAH: November 26, 2008 August 4 – 8, 2008 - To Region: June 2, 2008 To CEAH: June 16, 2008 *** Please honor the nomination deadlines. Thank you. ***

Workshop on the Fundamentals of Risk Analysis for Decision Makers and Technical Risk Analysts	
Dates	March 4 – 6, 2008
Location	Ft. Collins, CO
Course Purpose	<p>The primary focus of this 3-day workshop is to introduce the fundamentals of risk analysis from the perspectives of both decision makers and technical risk analysts. Participants will discuss the fundamentals of risk analysis, how it is conducted and how it can be used effectively in evaluating trade-related animal health risks and making regulatory decisions. The workshop will consist of two parts: (1) a non-technical but extensive overview of the risk analysis process and (2) an in-depth technical discussion of quantitative risk analysis, probability and probability distributions.</p> <p>The non-technical part will be given on the first day of the course and should take up to 5 hours followed by a 2 hour informal discussion. Decision makers and those who are interested in how to use risk analysis results to make more informed decisions will benefit the most from this part of the course and may continue to attend the technical part of the course only if they wish to do so.</p> <p>The technical part of the workshop will take 2 days and is independent of the non-technical part of the first day so that participants may chose to attend either parts or both parts of the course. The technical part covers (1) how to conduct a quantitative risk analysis and evaluate it critically, (2) the fundamental laws of probability on which risk analysis is based, and (3) probability mass and probability distribution functions and how they are used to model data and expert opinions in a risk analysis model. Real life examples will be presented and discussed throughout the course from, formulating the problem to running the model using @Risk software and to interpreting results.</p>
Target Audience	Decision makers and intermediate to technical risk analysts'
Cost	Travel only
Contact	Ziad Malaeb, Ph.D. (A.B.D)VS/CEAH, (970) 494-7288
Nominations	Nominations are to be sent to the Regional Director's Office. The Regional Office will forward the nominations to CEAH.
Nomination Deadline	To Region: January 7, 2008 To CEAH : January 21, 2008 ** Please honor the nomination deadlines. Thank you. ***

Spatial Epidemiology Methods and Applications – * CANCELLED *	
Date(s) of the Course:	April 8 – 9, 2008 ** This is a two day course **
Location:	Fort Collins, CO
Course Purpose:	Participants will learn how Veterinary Services processes spatial data and applies spatial statistics and modeling approaches to better understand the ecology, distribution, and determinants of disease in space and time. The course will cover; 1) data acquisition, processing, and visualization, 2) pattern analysis and quantifying spatial structure, and 3) modeling approaches in disease systems. Analytical topics to be covered include; visualization of data and exploratory data analysis (EDA) techniques, identification of general disease patterns using spatial statistics, cluster detection and identification, and model based approaches to spatial prediction, parameter estimation, and disease mapping of epidemiological data. The class will use a combination of geographic information systems (GIS) and more specialized statistical software to provide participants with hands-on experience in the areas of geospatial processing of data prior to analysis and the application of spatial statistical analysis and modeling in an epidemiological context.
Target Audience:	This course is intended for disease program managers, analytical epidemiologists, area epidemiologists, surveillance specialists, program analysts, GIS specialists, incident managers, and others who would like to learn how to apply spatial statistics and modeling approaches to address questions regarding the distribution and determinants of disease spread.
Prerequisites:	Background knowledge regarding methods used to process spatial information, ARCGIS 9.x experience, and previous statistical coursework/training is required.
Cost	Participants pay travel and hotel.
Contact:	Heather Bredeson, heather.m.bredeson@aphis.usda.gov or 970-494-7272
Nomination Deadlines	Nominations are to be sent to the Regional Director's Office. The Regional Office will forward the nominations to CEAH. April 8 – 9, 2008 – Region: February 11, CEAH: February 25, 2008 **Please honor the nomination deadlines. Thank you.

Geospatial Methods in Epidemiology and Incident Management	
Dates	May 6 – 8, 2008 September 23 – 25, 2008
Location	Ft. Collins, CO
Course Purpose	Participants will learn how Veterinary Service's geospatial applications are used in surveillance, epidemiological analysis, and planning disease management strategies during an incident response. Participants will learn how to collect and validate spatial data from field locations using global position system (GPS) methods, address geocoding techniques, and GPS-embedded digital photography. In addition, participants will learn how to conduct epidemiological analyses using the EMRS Mapping Module. The application of spatial models in epidemiological assessments will be studied through use of VS' Farm Location and Animal Population Simulator. Participants will learn how to access and use spatial data in the VS Atlas Spatial Data Library of Animal Health Information for analysis and incident planning.
Target Audience	This course is intended for disease program managers, analytical epidemiologists, area epidemiologists, surveillance specialists, program analysts, GIS specialists, incident managers, and others who would like to learn how to use the geospatial tools developed by Veterinary Services.
Cost	Travel costs only
Contact	Heather Bredeson, heather.m.bredeson@aphis.usda.gov or (970) 494-7272
Nominations	Nominations are to be sent to the Regional Director's Office. The Regional Office will forward the nominations to CEAH.
Nomination Deadline	<p>May 6 – 8, 2008 To Region: March 3, 2008 To CEAH: March 17, 2008</p> <p>September 23 – 25, 2008 To Region: July 28, 2008 To CEAH: August 11, 2008</p> <p>**Please honor the nomination deadlines. Thank you.**</p>

NOMINATION REQUEST

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

COURSE TITLE: _____

DATE OF THE COURSE: _____

1. Participant's name, social security number, mailing address, phone and fax number, and e-mail address:

(Dr. Mr. or Ms.) Name Social Security Number

Mailing address (street, city, state, and zip code)

Phone number Fax number E-mail address

2. Job Title: _____

3. Participants Official Duty Station: _____

4. Estimated costs (This information is needed for the preparation for the Quarterly Travel Plan):

No. of days for per diem _____

POV (need # of miles round trip): _____

Miscellaneous expenses (round trip estimates): _____
{shuttle, parking, taxi, etc.}

Common carrier fare: _____

Method of purchase for common carrier (GTR, GVTS, CC, etc.): _____

GOV (Check if this mode of transportation will be used): _____

Car Rental: _____

5. Method of Transportation: _____

6. Supervisor's signature for approval: _____

7. Region's approval: _____

PLEASE FAX TO THE REGIONAL OFFICE. THE REGIONAL OFFICE WILL FAX TO THE NOMINATIONS CONTACT PERSON NOTED AT THE END OF EACH COURSE DESCRIPTION.