



Unusual Outbreaks of Zoonotic, Emerging, and Foreign Animal or Plant Diseases

Notifications & Joint Investigations Between Law Enforcement & Animal/Plant Health Experts

The Problem: An intentional release of an animal or plant pathogen/toxin may be difficult to discern from a natural or accidental outbreak.

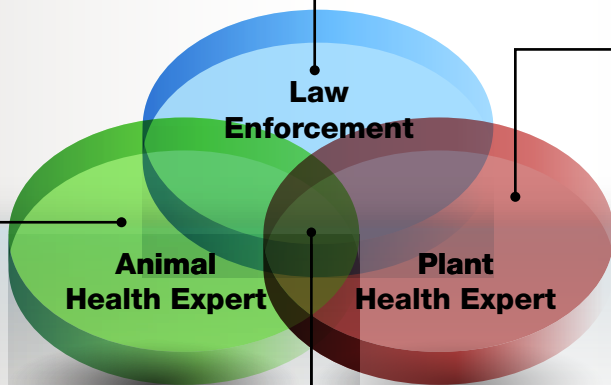
The Solution: Joint criminal & epidemiological investigations allow animal/plant experts & law enforcement to utilize each other's strengths & resources.

- Investigate unusual disease outbreaks
- Identify disease agent or source
- Implement outbreak control and eradication measures

- Perform Criminal Investigations
- Determine criminal or terrorism nexus
- Identify, apprehend, and prosecute those responsible
- Prevent further attacks

- Investigate unusual disease outbreaks
- Identify disease agent or source
- Implement outbreak control and eradication measures

- Detect and report suspicious or unusual outbreaks
- Determine if intentional, natural or accidental
- Protect health & economic stability
- Share information/intelligence



Joint animal disease and law enforcement investigations allow for a more rapid and efficient recognition, detection, and response to unusual zoonotic, emerging, and transboundary disease outbreaks.

Preparedness

- Build relationships between law enforcement & animal/plant health experts
- Joint protocols for triggers, notifications, responses, and investigations
- Joint training and exercises

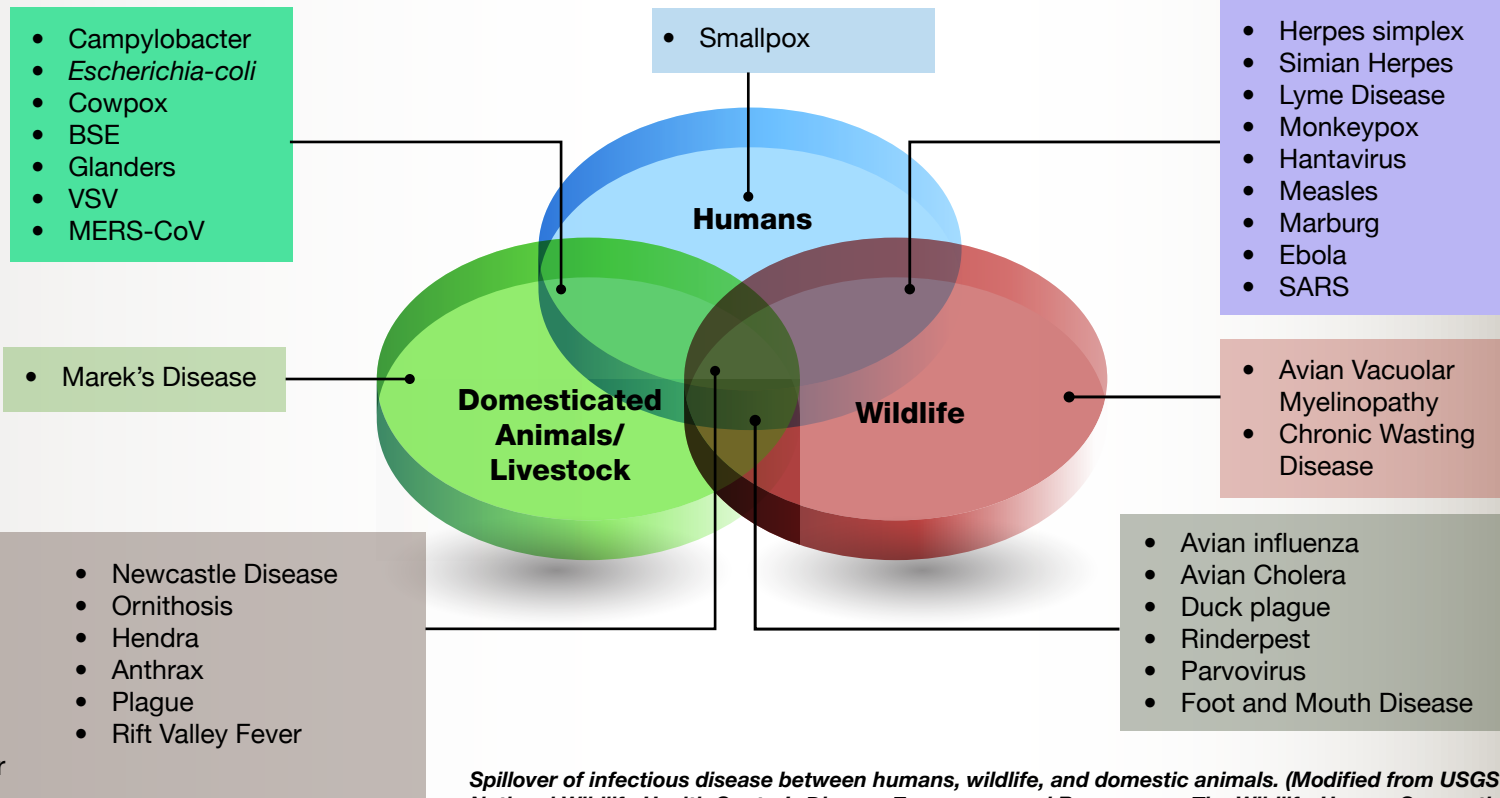
Detection & Notifications

- Rapid identification and notification of law enforcement of unusual disease outbreaks
- Proactively share relevant law enforcement and animal /plant health information

Response & Investigation

- Sampling & evidence collection
- Joint investigations utilizing information from both law enforcement and animal/plant health experts
- Joint interviews maximize the opportunity to collect information

Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases



Spillover of infectious disease between humans, wildlife, and domestic animals. (Modified from USGS National Wildlife Health Center's Disease Emergence and Resurgence: The Wildlife-Human Connection).

- Many new, emerging diseases affect humans, livestock, and wildlife and potentially could be weaponized for criminal or terrorist uses.
- Agricultural Terrorism is a variation of Bioterrorism that targets the health and productivity of livestock, crops, and forests.
- Early notification of highly suspicious disease investigations are key for Law Enforcement to recognize and disrupt intentional, criminal, or terrorist attacks.
- Develop Tools to Recognize Threats, Unusual, or Suspicious Disease patterns:
 - Active and Syndromic Surveillance
 - Reportable Disease Lists
 - Disease Awareness Training
- Develop Notification Triggers/Thresholds for reporting unusual or suspicious disease to Law Enforcement.
- Develop Information Sharing Tools between Animal/Plant Health Experts and Law Enforcement
 - Agroterrorism Working Groups
 - Terrorism/Intelligence Fusion Centers

