



# Technical Bulletin

## Leptospirosis Update

### LEPTOSPIROSIS STATISTICS in the Northwest

These statistics are for January through September 22, 2015. A total of 107 samples were submitted for leptospirosis titers – from 91 dogs, three horses, and two elephants. Eleven paired samples were submitted and thus there were 96 animals for which individual samples were submitted for testing.

According to the Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (WADDL) at Washington State University, where titers are run, recent infection to a serovar is defined by a positive titer greater than or equal to 1:800 or a four-fold rise in titer on paired samples. There were 13 positive samples indicating recent infection, all based on the results of a single titer and all in dogs.

For comparison there were 189 animals tested with 29 positives cases in 2014. In 2013, 161 animals were tested with seventeen positive cases and in 2012, 178 animals tested with seventeen positive cases

According to WADDL, the serovar with the highest titer is determined to be the predominant infecting serovar. Serovars tested include: *L. autumnalis*, *L. bratislava*, *L. canicola*, *L. hardjo*, *L. grippityphosa*, *L. icterohemorrhagica* and *L. pomona*. In 2015, all but one of the 13 positive samples had the highest titer to *L. autumnalis*. In one case titers were equally high to *L. autumnalis* and *L. grippityphosa*.

We also tracked the monthly occurrence of leptospirosis cases – percentage of cases that were considered positive (results rounded to nearest whole number):

January	15%	February	31%	March	23%
April	0%	May	15%	June	8%
July	8%	August	0%	September	7%

Location of clinics with positive cases: **Three cases:** Seattle. **Two cases:** Federal Way. **One case each:** Bellevue, Coupeville, Raymond, Renton, Spokane, Tacoma, Vashon, Winlock.

