



# NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2007



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## Dr. Debra Sauberli New Equine Specialist Veterinarian

The Equine Specialist Veterinarian for AACUP oversees the veterinary care program for horses used in research and teaching at the ACES Equine Research Farm, Large Animal Clinic and Veterinary Medicine Research Farm.



Dr. Sauberli received her Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Sciences and her DVM from the University of Illinois. After graduating in 1991, she did 3 years of equine emergency work and practiced at a small animal and equine clinic in Griffith, IN. She then accepted a position at Richland Ranch, a large quarter horse breeding and training farm, where she was responsible for reproductive management of 250-300 mares, 9 stallions, and the general health management of horses of all ages. She concurrently managed an ambulatory practice, providing veterinary care and reproductive services for a variety of species. Dr. Sauberli returned to UIUC in 1999 to do a Theriogenology residency and became board certified in the American College of Theriogenologists in 2003. She is now a Clinical Assistant Professor focusing on canine and equine reproduction.

Anyone with questions about the use of horses for research or teaching is encouraged to contact Dr. Sauberli at [dsauberl@uiuc.edu](mailto:dsauberl@uiuc.edu) or 333-3039.

## Biomedical versus Food and Fiber Research

Are you confused by this terminology? When agricultural animals are used as models in research to gain knowledge that directly applies to human beings (biomedical objective), the animal use is regulated by the USDA.

By definition, the use of agricultural animals for teaching of veterinary or medical students is considered “biomedical”. Housing conditions and animal care practices for biomedical activities are expected to meet the standards described in the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*. Exceptions can be allowed but must be scientifically justified and approved by the IACUC.

Research aimed at improving the health, well-being, or productivity of agricultural animals used for food or fiber (agricultural objective) is classified as “agricultural research”. The use of live animals for teaching of agricultural students for the advancement of food and fiber production is considered agricultural in nature. Housing conditions and animal care practices can be, and often must be, germane to those of commercial farms but are expected to meet or exceed the standards described in the *Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Agricultural Research and Teaching*.

Agricultural animals are used in both types of research and teaching at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Animal housing for biomedical studies is already available at the ACES beef, swine [PRL/ISRL], and poultry units, the Veterinary Medicine Research Farm, and ERML, with major renovations planned for the Large Animal Clinic in 2008. If you are interested in learning more, have specific questions about the required standards, or wish to obtain copies of either Guide, please contact the AACUP office.

## Science of Animal Well Being Course

AACUP invites ACES and CVM graduate students to participate in the new Science of Animal Well Being seminar course. A different agricultural species is highlighted each semester with a focus on poultry in Spring 2008. If you are interested, you may enroll in either VCM 510 or ANSCI 510. Please call the AACUP office for additional information.