Veterinary Science
Preparatory Training for the Veterinary Assistant
Floron C. Faries, Jr., DVM, MS
Anthrax Control Program

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Objectives

- Understand that because anthrax has been a reportable disease, it has been controlled
- Understand that surveillance of a disease prevents its spread
Anthrax

- In U.S.
  - An endemic disease
  - A reportable disease

- Bacterial disease
  - Domestic and wild livestock
  - People – zoonotic disease
Causative Agent

- *Bacillus anthracis* bacteria
  - Vegetative form in animal
  - Spore form in environment
    - Resistant in soil for years
Transmission

- During summer drought following rains
  - Water pools concentrate the bacteria
    - Hot spots
- Ingestion of spores surfaced in dusty soil
Clinical Symptoms

- Blood poisoning – sudden death
  - Vegetative bacteria
- Dark blood ooze from body openings
- Bloat decomposition
Diagnosis

- Blood sample from carcass submitted to lab by private or public veterinarian
Control Program

- Quarantine infected herd
- Burn carcasses
- Vaccination all animals in herd
- Quarantine of herd for 10 days after vaccination