

STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

IN THE MATTER REGARDING)	AH Docket No. 20-O-005
REQUIRED DISEASE REPORTING BY)	
ANY VETERINARIAN, DEPARTMENT)	SPECIAL SUMMARY ORDER ADDING
OF NATURAL RESOURCES STAFF, OR)	SARS-COV-2 TO THE LIST OF DISEASES
PERSON WHO DIAGNOSES OR)	TO BE REPORTED TO DATCP WITHIN
OBTAINS CREDIBLE DIAGNOSTIC)	ONE DAY OF DIAGNOSIS OR CREDIBLE
EVIDENCE OF DISEASE IDENTIFIED)	DIAGNOSTIC EVIDENCE OF DISEASE
IN CH. ATCP 10, UNDER APPENDIX A)	UNDER APPENDIX A OF CH. ATCP 10,
)	WIS. ADMIN. CODE.

INTRODUCTION

The State of Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (department), by the State Veterinarian, based upon its efforts to protect both Wisconsin’s animal and human population from the spread of SARS-CoV-2, makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of law and issues the following summary special order adding SARS-CoV-2 to the list of diseases to be reported to the department within one day of diagnosis or credible diagnostic evidence of disease in an animal.

FINDINGS OF FACT

(1) The department is responsible for administering Wisconsin’s animal health program under ch. 95, Wis. Stats. The program is designed to protect the health of animals in this state, and to prevent, control and eradicate communicable diseases among animals. The department has broad authority to adopt rules interpreting statutes under its jurisdiction (see s. 93.07 (1), Wis. Stats.).

(2) To protect the health of animals located in this state and of humans residing in this state, the department may establish, maintain, enforce, and regulate quarantines and other measures relating to the importation, movement, and care of animals and their products, the disinfection of suspected localities and articles, and the disposition of animals, as the department determines are necessary (see s. 93.07 (10), Wis. Stats.).

(3) A veterinarian, the Department of Natural Resources, or a person who diagnoses or obtains credible diagnostic evidence of specified diseases must report the disease to the department within one day of discovery of the disease in any animal in this state (see s. 95.22 (1), Wis. Stats., and s. ATCP 10.03 (1), and ch. ATCP 10, Appendix A, Wis. Admin. Code).

(4) If the state veterinarian determines that a new disease is reportable under s. ATCP 10.03 (1), Wis. Admin. Code, because it presents a threat to animals or humans residing in this state, he or she may issue an order to make the disease reportable within one day until the new disease is published under ch. ATCP 10 Appendix A (see s. ATCP 10.03 (7), Wis. Admin. Code).

(5) SARS-CoV-2 is zoonotic virus that causes disease in both animals and humans.

(6) Dogs, cats, mink, and a few other types of animals can get infected with SARS-CoV-2. It is not yet known all of the animal species that can get infected.

(7) In October 2020, the National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) confirmed that dead mink at a Wisconsin mink farm have tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 infection.

(8) SARS-CoV-2 causes COVID-19 in humans and poses a public health risk.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

(1) Under chs. 93 and 95, Wis. Stats., the department has jurisdiction over the protection of the health of animals in this state and the authority to prevent, control, and eradicate communicable diseases among animals through quarantines and other measures. The department is authorized to take this action to protect animal and human health in Wisconsin.

(2) SARS-CoV-2 causes disease in both animals and humans and poses a public health risk.

(3) Making SARS-CoV-2 a disease to be reported within one day of diagnosis or credible diagnostic evidence of disease in an animal under Appendix A of ch. ATCP 10, Wis. Admin. Code, will help to identify and control the disease in Wisconsin.

ORDER

Based on the above stated findings of fact and conclusions of law, and in accordance with ss. 93.07 (10) and 95.22, Wis. Stats., and ch. ATCP 10, Wis. Admin. Code, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

(1) SARS-CoV-2 is added to the list of diseases to be reported to the department within one day of diagnosis or credible diagnostic evidence of disease in an animal under Appendix A of ch. ATCP 10, Wis. Admin. Code.

(2) A person may make a report under par. (1) by telephone, email, fax or by any other effective means of communication that ensures the report will reach the department within one day as follows:

Darlene.Konkle@wisconsin.gov
Wisconsin DATCP
Division of Animal Health
P.O. Box 8911
Madison, WI 53708-8911
Phone: (608) 224-4872
Fax: (608) 224-4871

(3) The reported information shall include the species, age, sex, and breed of the animal possibly infected with the disease, the address of the premises where animals are kept, and the premises code, if any.

(4) This order will remain in effect until formally rescinded by the Wisconsin State Veterinarian.

Dated this 18th day of November, 2020

STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

By: **Darlene M. Konkle**
Darlene Konkle, DVM, MS, DACVIM
State Veterinarian