Outreach Efforts: Getting the Word Out on VHSV IVb in the Great Lakes

Paul R. Bowser, James W. Casey, Mark B. Bain, Rodman G. Getchell, Geoffrey H. Groocock, Emily R. Cornwell, Gregory A. Wooster, Rufina N. Casey, and Steven F. Frattini
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853
Dave B. MacNeill, New York Sea Grant
Eric C. Obert, Sarah Whitney, Pennsylvania Sea Grant
Mark Malchoff, Lake Champlain Sea Grant
John M. Farrell, Geoffrey E. Eckerlin,
SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Michele Walsh, Micro Technologies, Inc.

ABSTRACT

The emergence of VHSV Genotype IVb in the Great Lakes Basin can be characterized as a disease event where a new form of a pathogen previously known in rainbow trout in Europe as well as a variety of marine fish species was now infecting a variety of freshwater fish species in North America for the first time. It is a pathogen that was behaving quite differently from what is known from the literature. There was a critical need to move reliable new information not only to the scientific community, but also to the aquaculture community, governmental fisheries managers as well as regulatory agencies.

Since VHSV is an OIE (World Organization for Animal Health) reportable pathogen, there was a particular urgency that only the best information be presented in the most expeditious manner. To that end, fish health specialists and fisheries biologists in New York partnered with our colleagues in New York Sea Grant, RI Sea Grant, PA Sea Grant and Lake Champlain Sea Grant, and the Northeast Regional Aquaculture Center (USDA/NIFA) as well as with other groups, to deliver an outreach effort that focused on VHSV and Aquaculture Biosecurity in the Northeast Region of the United States.

PRESENTATIONS

2006
P.R. Bowser and J.W. Casey. (2 Presentations) USDA APHIS, Conference. Washington, DC.

2007
P.R. Bowser. Fourth Annual All Conservation Conference. Albany, NY.

2008
P.R. Bowser, J.W. Casey. Continuing Education Workshop, Annual Meeting of the Fish Health Section of the American Fisheries Society. Jackson Hole, WY.
P.R. Bowser. Cornell Biological Field Station Summer Seminar Series. Bridgeport, NY.
J.W. Casey. Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia Conference. Madison, WI.
R.G. Getchell. Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia Virus Symposium. Madison, WI.

2009
G.H. Groocock. Cornell Biological Field Station Annual Open House. Bridgeport, NY.
G.H. Groocock. Empire Farm Days. Seneca Falls, NY.

2010
P.R. Bowser and J.W. Casey. Continuing Education Workshop, 33rd Eastern Fish Health Workshop. Atlantic Beach, NC.
P.R. Bowser. Aquaculture Information Meeting. New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets. Syracuse, NY.
P.R. Bowser, J.W. Casey and D.B. MacNeill. (3 Presentations) NY-RI Sea Grant VHSV Workshop. Narragansett, RI. (NY Sea Grant and RI Sea Grant)