



UF | IFAS
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

CERVIDAE HEALTH RESEARCH INITIATIVE

Volume 9, Issue 1, March 2024

Message from the Director

In January, CHeRI researchers, students and staff scientists met in St. Petersburg, Florida for our annual two day retreat. Coming together like this provides the opportunity for the eight faculty researchers and their lab members to network with each other and get up to speed on the latest research each other is doing. It also provides the faculty researchers an opportunity to update CHeRI's strategic plan and set goals for the next five years. We are excited to work on new vaccines, develop an integrated pest management plan that reduces costs and is more effective, and to continue our clinical support of Florida farmed deer. You can soon find our Strategic Plan for 2024-2029 [here](#).

Thank you, always, for your support - *Sam*

Dr. Samantha Wisely
Director, CHeRI

2023 CHeRI Summary

We received 119 samples from 23 individual Florida farms and 2 out-of-state farms. 114 samples were from white-tailed deer and 5 were exotic species.

- 34 animals tested positive for EHDV or were suspect cases.
 - EHDV-1 cases: 8
 - EHDV-2 cases: 11
 - EHDV-6 cases: 2
 - Untypeable cases: 15
- 9 tested positive for BTV
- 1 tested positive for both EHDV and BTV (included in individual EHDV/BTV counts)
- 1 tested positive for CHeRI orbivirus 3

Many of our positive coincided with the usual "season" of midge activity between July and November, peaking in October. There were some cases outside of the range with a couple EHDV positive cases in January, April, and May. We also saw an increase of EHDV – 1 which is the least frequently found

serotype of EHDV. Because deer do not see this serotype regularly, they tend to be more susceptible and as a result we saw higher mortalities this year.

2024 CHeRI Researcher Retreat

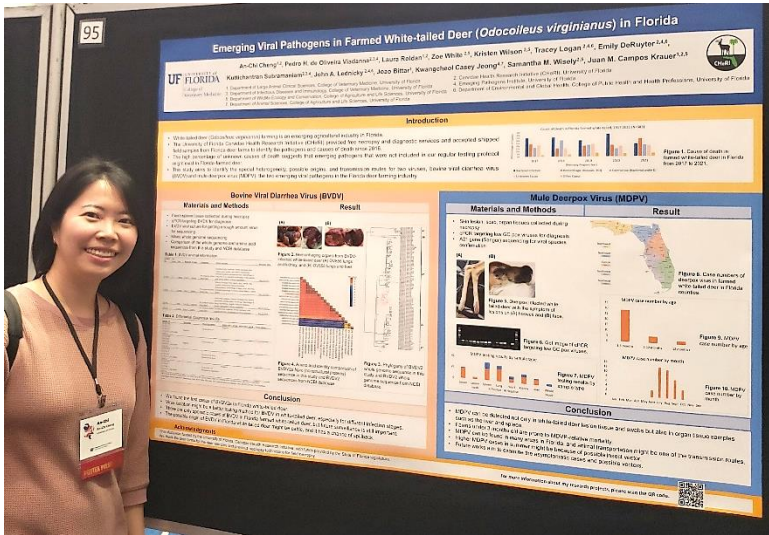
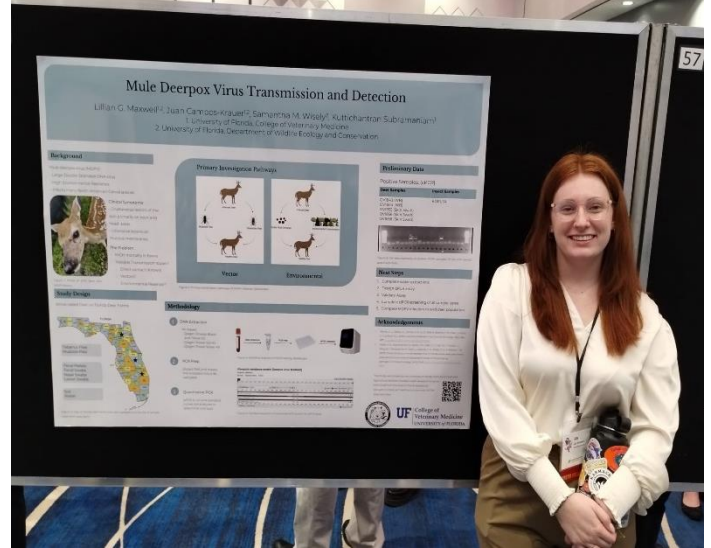
We had our annual CHeRI Researcher Retreat in St. Pete earlier this month. The Retreat gives the PIs, students, and staff an opportunity to meet in person and update everyone on current research, future research ideas, discuss farmer needs, and plan goals for CHeRI. Check out our Strategic Plan for 2024-2029 to see what we have in the works!



CHeRI Out and About

CHeRI researchers are busy sharing our research at conferences and participating in Extension events. We were recently at the Emerging Pathogens Institute's Research Day and shared our research.

Dual bachelor-master student, Lily Maxwell, presenting on the background behind her pox project at EPI Day.



PhD student, An-Chi Cheng, sharing some of her work in CHeRI- emerging viral pathogens at EPI Day.

Upcoming Spring Fling

It's that time of year again! The SeTDA Spring Fling is almost here and we can't wait to see and speak with farmers. We'll have our table up so come check out new research we're doing, grab some swag, and say hi!



FRIDAY NIGHT
 Meet & Greet Your
Florida Ag. Commissioner
WILTON SIMPSON
 Speaking on CWD Status/Updates in Florida!

MARCH 15&16, 2024
 SETDA'S
SPRING FLING
Nottin' But Good Vibes... Florida Strong!!

- THROUGHOUT BOTH DAYS -
RAFFLES & GIVEAWAYS!!
EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS!!
- AUCTION INCLUDES -
ANIMALS, EXOTICS, SEMEN, HUNTS,
SCI HUNTS, GUNS, FURNITURE,
& MUCH, MUCH MORE!

SCHEDULE of EVENTS

FRIDAY
 8am Set up
 Noon Doors Open
 5pm Supper & Raffles
 Meet and Greet Vendors,
 & SETDA Board of Directors

SATURDAY
 8am Expo Opens
 9-11:45 am Seminars
 Noon Lunch ~ on us
 2pm AUCTION STARTS!!

LOCATION
 Double Tree by Hilton Orlando Airport
 555 Hazeltine National Dr. | Orlando, FL 32812
 Call to Reserve Room: 407-856-0100
 Reservation Link On our Website!

Reservation
 Deadline will be
 announced on
 Website

CONSIGNMENT / AD / BOOTH FEES DUE...
JANUARY 12
 Download Consignment Forms Online
 Send ads to: whitetailmarketing@gmail.com
 Ads 5.75" x 8.75", 5x8 Live Area 300dpi, cmyk, .jpg or .pdf are accepted.

TO RESERVE YOUR BOOTH contact
 Smitty ~ 813.714.5045

Log onto SOUTHEASTTROPHYDEERASSOCIATION.COM for our Full Event Schedule & Updates!

New Website, Same CHeRI Crew

The CHeRI website has moved to a new [platform](#)! We got a new makeover, but our web address and information will stay the same. We believe the site is more accessible and easier to navigate. Let us know what you think and don't forget to check out our plethora of resources (or use our google form to ask us a question).

CHeRI Spotlights!

Austin Surphlis- M.S. Student

I earned my bachelor's degree from the University of Florida in Wildlife Ecology and Conservation. I'm currently a master's student in the Department of Infectious Diseases and Immunology where I focus on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and the resistome of farm raised white-tailed deer in Florida. Outside of the lab, I enjoy many outdoor activities from surfing and snowboarding to mountain biking and hiking.

Widespread use of antibiotics for disease prevention and growth promotion has led to antibiotic resistance which can reduce the effectiveness of our most common treatment regimes. As part of CHeRI, my focus is to understand the prevalence and characteristics of antibiotic resistance found in white-tail deer farms in Florida. I also aid in the diagnostic processing and virus detection in WTD samples.



CHeRI HD Cases Dashboard Map

2023 is in the books and now we look to the future. Check out how HD affected Florida in 2023 with our interactive Hemorrhagic Disease Case Map and stay up to date in 2024. This tool is particularly useful for planning vaccinations, both for animals that will be shipped or sold, and for resident animals.

Please check out our interactive Hemorrhagic Disease Case Map [here](https://bit.ly/2UQ8X1R) or click the picture.

CHeRI DASHBOARD

STAY UP TO DATE DURING EHDV SEASON

Website: wec.ifas.ufl.edu/cheri
Dashboard Map: <https://bit.ly/2UQ8X1R>

The graphic features a blue background with a map of Florida on the left. The map shows several counties highlighted in orange, indicating Hemorrhagic Disease (HD) cases. To the right of the map, the text 'STAY UP TO DATE DURING EHDV SEASON' is written in a large, bold, white font with a black outline. At the bottom right, there is a small globe icon followed by the website and dashboard map links.

Ship us your specimens!

Did you know that you can ship us specimens from your animals for disease testing? We accept biological samples from live and dead animals, but it's critically important that the samples are collected, stored, and shipped correctly. Improperly prepared samples yield poor or no results. Call us prior to collecting specimens to determine which sample(s) to collect and how to store it. We will work with your veterinarian or your farm manager to ensure that the right sample is collected. Proper shipping and notification will ensure your sample stays viable for testing and that no cost is incurred by the shipper.

Call **352-562-3337** if you have any questions about requirements when sending CHeRI a specimen.

Contact Us:

Email: ufifas.cheri@gmail.com

EHD Hotline Phone: 352-562-DEER

Website: <https://wec.ifas.ufl.edu/cheri/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UFIFAS.CHeRI/>

Twitter: [@UF_IFAS_CHeRI](https://twitter.com/UF_IFAS_CHeRI)

