



UF | IFAS
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

CERVIDAE HEALTH RESEARCH INITIATIVE

Volume 8, Issue 3, August 2023

Message from the Director

This summer Florida received the unwelcome news that chronic wasting disease (CWD) had reached our state. Our hearts go out to the deer farmers of Holmes County. While this development brings uncertainty to all Florida deer farmers, it is important to keep perspective. FDACS and FWC appear to be taking a measured approach compared to other state agencies, and for now the management zone is small. And the Florida deer farming industry remains strong! CHeRI has seen lower than average cases this fawning season, and only a handful of EHDV cases. Hopefully that trend continues. As CWD management and regulation continue to unfold in Florida, UF IFAS CHeRI will be there to help deer farmers navigate the uncertain road ahead.

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

Dr. Samantha Wisely
Director, CHeRI

2023 SETDA Summer Picnic

The 2023 SeTDA Summer BBQ is this weekend! UF IFAS CHeRI and SETDA are cohosting the BBQ which will be at the Austin Forest Teaching Center on August 12th from 9am-2:30pm. There will be presentations by CHeRI researchers, with topics on nutrition, pest control, and deer farming economics; and CWD updates from FDACS. We look forward to seeing y'all, enjoying some BBQ, and learning about ways we can improve in the deer farming industry. Below is the schedule of events for the Summer Picnic.

2023 SETDA Summer Picnic

Deer Farming Educational Seminar

Hosted by CHeRI



EVENT AGENDA

- Registration & Breakfast 9:00 AM - 9:55 AM
- Welcoming & Intro 9:55 AM - 10:00 AM
- Deer Nutrition Requirements 10:00 AM - 10:20 AM
- Pest Control in Deer Farms 10:20 AM - 10:50 AM
- USDA CWD updates 10:50 AM - 11:30 AM
- Lunch (4 Rivers Barbeque) 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM
- Questions, Round Table, & Dart Competition 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM
- Final Discussion 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Register here:



12 AUGUST SATURDAY

LOCATION




DOORS OPEN 9:00 PM

AUSTIN CARY LEARNING CENTER,
GAINESVILLE, FL 32609

For any questions please contact: Dr. Juan M. Campos Krauer at jmcampos@ufl.edu or (352) 363-0703

Pest control resources

The CHeRI entomology team has been working hard on some pest control resources, spear-headed by PhD student Vilma Montenegro-Castro and her mentor Dr. Nathan Burkett-Cadena. Vilma will be giving a presentation on her work so far at the Summer BBQ. Below is the next installment in educational pest control material from Vilma and Dr. Burkett-Cadena, which is also available on our website. Click the infographic below to get the pdf.



READ THE PESTICIDE LABEL



WHY SHOULD YOU READ THE PESTICIDE LABEL?



Labels are legal documents that provide information for the safe preparation and use of pesticides.



Research shows that not following directions from the label reduces the effectiveness of the pesticide (Bagheri et al. 2021)



Labels give you directions on what to do if you are exposed to the pesticide.

WHAT INFORMATION IS INCLUDED ON A PESTICIDE LABEL?

Product generalities:

- Product name
- Product type (i.e. pesticide)
- EPA registration number and establishment number: to indicate if the product has been approved for sale by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and to identify the facility where the product was produced
- Manufacturer name and address

What is in the product?

- Active ingredient: The chemical that is responsible for controlling the pest (i.e. permethrin)
- Common name
- Chemical name
- Inert ingredients

Storage and disposal

This section of the label will indicate how this product should be stored and what should you do with any leftovers, or with empty containers. Keep the products in their original containers, out of the reach of children, and domestic animals.


How can this product be used safely?

- Hazards to humans and domestic animals
- Environmental hazards
- Physical and chemical hazards
- First Aid: Always call the National Poison Center Hotline (1-800-222-1222) for medical instructions

Directions for use

- What pests the product is registered to control
- How to apply the product
- How much product to use
- When and how often do you need to apply
- When is safe to re-enter a treated area after application

How toxic is the product?




Did you know that...

The label should be read at least four times:

- Before purchasing
- Before mixing
- Before applying
- Before storage or disposal

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Reading and following the label's recommendations can protect your health

<p>Pesticides can enter your body through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your skin • Your eyes • Your nose • Your mouth 	<p>Health effects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skin/ eye irritation • Hormone imbalance • Cancer • Liver damage • Reproductive effects 	<p><i>Wear protective clothing and personal protective equipment to prevent exposure to pesticides</i></p> 
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Scan the QR code



to complete a 3-min survey

Contact us for more information:
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 Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory, University of Florida.

First Case of Chronic Wasting Disease in Florida

On June 20th, 2023 FWC announced that during routine surveillance they detected the first case of chronic wasting disease (CWD) in a road-killed white-tailed deer in Holmes County. Since 2002, >18,000 deer have tested negative for CWD in the state and 250 deer tested negative in Holmes County. FWC and FDACS have held one public meeting to update deer farmers, hunters and the general public about their response plan. The response plan includes a CWD Management Zone, certain activities are prohibited such as deer baiting and feeding, exporting whole deer carcasses and high-risk parts, and rehabilitating and releasing wild deer. In addition, captive deer within the zone will be under quarantine and intra-state transport of captive deer from the zone will be limited. CHeRI will update our social media and website as we get more information about the status of CWD in Florida. FDACS veterinarian and Bovine Program Manager, Dr. Diane Kitchen will give us the latest update on CWD in Florida and what it means for deer farmers at the Summer BBQ on August 12th.

For more information on CWD, please visit the [FWC webpage](#).

CHeRI Spotlights!



Amira Richardson

My name is Amira, and I graduated from the University of Florida with a bachelor's in Marine Science, and minors in Zoology and Health Disparities. My professional interests include disease ecology and medicine in marine animals/environments. Outside of the lab, I enjoy SCUBA diving, weightlifting, and playing the trumpet. I also enjoy volunteering my time in the Animal Welfare program at GRACE Marketplace, a low-barrier emergency shelter for people experiencing homelessness. In the future I would like to pursue a master's degree in Wildlife Forensics.

As a necropsy technician, my main role is to travel to farms around Florida and perform field necropsies on deer. I collect the samples and bring them back to UF for diagnostic testing to determine a cause of death.

Merrie Urban

I received my BS in Animal Science this past May from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. While at UT I worked in the Amphibian Disease Lab as a research technician studying chytridiomycosis in salamanders. I was also fortunate to be able to volunteer on other research projects investigating diseases in frogs, mussels, and waterfowl. I am interested in immunology, disease ecology, and zoonoses of wildlife. Outside of academic things I enjoy hiking, singing, fishing, and recently I have been exploring Gainesville.

My role in CHeRI and the Campos Lab involves taking calls, accessioning cases, and performing necropsies of deer. I take samples at necropsy, submit those samples for diagnostics when necessary, and prepare necropsy reports for the deer. I am excited to help provide results to deer farmers in Florida and assist with collecting data that can inform us about the status of deer diseases, especially hemorrhagic disease in the state.



PhD Position working with WTD

CHeRI collaborating scientist Dr. Marcelo Wallau is looking for a PhD student to work with WTD on a variety of topics within foraging and nutrition. Check out the information below for more.



PhD Recruitment - Whitetail Deer Research



The University of Florida/IFAS Forage Team is recruiting a PhD student to work on the interface between agronomy, animal sciences and wildlife management, focusing on forage production, nutrition and health of whitetail deer.

This position will be housed in the University of Florida's Agronomy department, Gainesville, FL, co-advised by Drs. Marcelo Wallau (Forages) and Diwakar Vyas (Ruminant Nutrition). The main research objectives to be pursued are to evaluate the use of different forages on the nutrition, behavior and health of whitetail deer in pens and preserves.

Work will include aspects of forage production, diet preferences, parasite and habitat management.

Candidate will be expected to develop a research project, review literature, conduct field work, process and analyze samples, analyze data and be proficient in scientific writing.

Experience in animal sciences and agronomy is desired, especially related to forage production, animal handling and laboratory procedures.

The candidate will be expected to travel for farm visits, and have endurance to tolerate field work during Florida's summer conditions. Is essential for the candidate to be independent, proactive and innovative, be curious and engaging, and have interpersonal skills to work in the interface of the different research groups.

This position will also include extension components, such as interaction with producers, implementation of on-farm demonstrations, and participation on field days and other extension events.

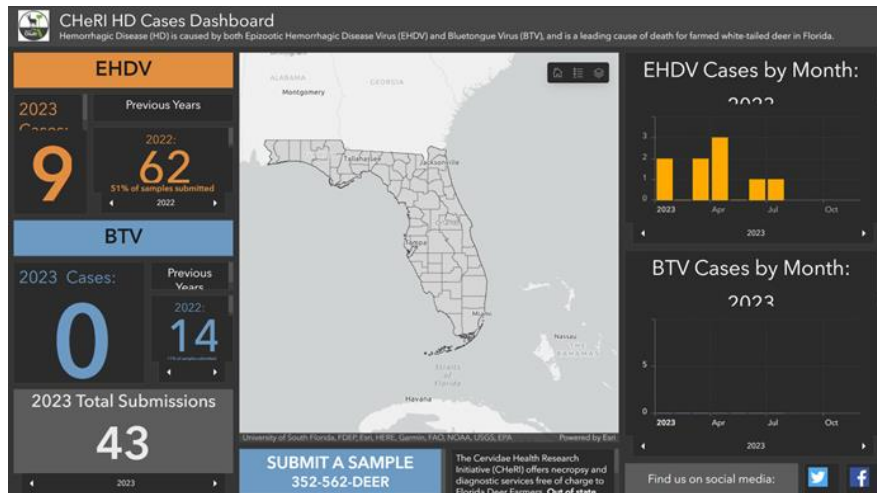


**For more information, contact us
at forages@ifas.ufl.edu**

CHeRI HD Cases Dashboard Map

Have you checked out our Interactive Hemorrhagic Disease Dashboard Map? We've updated it for 2023. You can change parameters to compare BTV and EHDV over time and location. This tool can help you plan for vaccinations and prepare your herds for the year.

Please check out our interactive Hemorrhagic Disease Case Map [here](#) or click the picture below.



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 its 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. To help facilitate the process we have updated our shipping address and requirements for sample shipment. These changes will ensure that your sample stays cold and that no cost is incurred by the shipper.

Call **352-562-3337** if you have any questions and please download this [pdf](#) and keep it for reference when sending CHeRI a specimen.

Contact Us:

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EHD Hotline Phone: 352-562-DEER
Website: <https://wec.ifas.ufl.edu/cheri/>
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