

Global Wildlife Disease News Map Putting wildlife health news on the map!

NBII Wildlife Disease Information Node Megan K. Hines

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Outline

- Background on NBII/WDIN
- Tools used to support/create the map
 - Collection process
 - WDIN Wildlife Disease News Digest
 - WDIN Cataloging Tool
- How the map works
- Other ways to get at the data
- Future plans





Background on the NBII

From the NBII Website (http://www.nbii.gov):

- The National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII) is a broad, collaborative program to provide increased access to data and information on the nation's biological resources.
- The NBII links diverse, high-quality biological databases, information products, and analytical tools maintained by NBII partners and other contributors...
- NBII partners and collaborators also work on new standards, tools, and technologies that make it easier to find, integrate, and apply biological resources information.
- Resource managers, scientists, educators, and the general public use the NBII to answer a wide range of questions related to the management, use, or conservation of this nation's biological resources.
- Managed by the USGS Biological Informatics Office (BIO)





Two types of NBII Nodes

Geographic/Regional

- California Information Node
- Central Southwest/Gulf Coast Information Node
- Mid-Atlantic Information Node
- Mountain Prairie Information Node
- Northeast Information Node
- Pacific Basin Information Node
- Pacific Northwest Information Node
- Southern Appalachian Information Node
- Southwest Information Node

Thematic

- Bird Conservation Information
 Node
- Fisheries & AquaticResources Node
- Invasive Species InformationNode
- Wildlife Disease Information Node





Background on the WDIN

- The Wildlife Disease Information Node (WDIN) is part of the National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII)
- Many collaborators and partners, supported mainly by:
 - USGS National Wildlife Health Center in Madison, Wisconsin
 - UW Madison Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies
- Provide a centralized web location where information on wildlife disease occurrence and background information can easily be browsed, searched and explored.
- Our tools are geared towards wildlife professionals, but by providing varying levels of information; they are useful and appealing to the general public, decision makers, students, wildlife rehabilitators, and many other professions.





Applications that support the map

- WDIN Cataloging Tool
- WDIN Website
- WDIN Wildlife Disease News Digest (blog)







Universe of resources/ Information on the web

WDIN News Digest

Information about disease occurrence, issues regarding wildlife as well as their interaction with domestic animal and human health

WDIN Cataloging Tool\db
Local warehouse of metadata on wildlife health

resources



Centralized, searchable catalog of biological information



Gateway to information on wildlife health, interact with info with a variety of tools

Global Wildlife Disease News Map

Explore recent news on wildlife health issues on a simple map





Wildlife Disease News Digest

A Community Network for Wildlife Health News and Information Supported by the NBII-Wildlife Disease Information Node (WDIN)

MAY 9, 2008

TOP STORIES



Saving Frogs Before It's Too Late

ScienceDaily - www.sciencedaily.com (Source: PLoS Biology) 06 May 2008

Area: Madagascar

With nearly one-third of amphibian species threatened with extinction worldwide, fueled in part by the widespread emergence of the deadly chytrid fungus, effective conservation efforts could not be more

urgent. In a new article, Franco Andreone and his colleagues argue that one of the best places to focus these efforts is Madagascar, a global hotspot of amphibian diversity that shows no signs of amphibian declines--or traces of the chytrid fungus. Protecting this amphibian treasure trove before it's too late, the authors argue, makes Madagascar a top priority for amphibian conservation efforts. "In Madagascar," the authors argue, "amphibian conservation efforts have the possibility of being pro-active, rather than reactive, or simply post-mortem."

Madagascar harbors "one of the richest groups of amphibian fauna in the world," write the authors, but this megadiversity faces significant threats. Ninety percent of the island's original vegetation has been destroyed by human activity. Amazingly, despite the ongoing habitat destruction, no Malagasy amphibian species have been reported as extinct, though a quarter of the 220 species evaluated by the World Conservation Union are listed as threatened. The conspicuous absence of the devastating chytrid fungus only serves to underscore the precariousness of the situation.

About WDIN

- About the Wildlife Disease Information Node (WDIN)
- About National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII)
- WDIN Home
- **™ WDIN RSS Feeds**

Contact Us

Send us an email

Get This News Delivered Automatically Via Email

Enter your email address:

Subscribe

Delivered by FeedBurner

More Email and RSS Delivery Options





Wildlife Disease News Digest

- "Blog" of wildlife disease/wildlife health news
- Authoritative news from reputable sources
 - Google Alerts, ProMed Mail, EurkAlert!, United States Animal Health Association (USAHA), and a variety of science news sites and blogs
- Tagged with keywords and geographic information
- Posts going back to December 2005
- Assists with the task of staying on top of wildlife health news





>>>FULL ARTICLE

Related News

>>>Priority Regions For Threatened Frog And Toad Conservation In Latin America

Watch

>>>Disappearing Frogs

>>>Web Extra: Interview with Professor Tyrone Hayes [Research into the effects of the pesticide Atrazine

on froasl

■ Watch

Richmond Chemical Spill Taking Toll On Area Fauna

KTVU News - www.ktvu.com 06 May 2008

Area: California United States -- Map It



Two mallard ducks and hundreds of small fish were found dead

Tuesday afternoon in an irrigation ditch near the site of a toxic chemical spill in Richmond's Parchester Village, the California Department of Fish and Game reported. The spill, now estimated to be about 3,300 gallons of the chemical solvent toluene, occurred sometime between Friday night and Monday morning when a thief cut through a fence surrounding Reaction Products Co., Inc., located at 840 Morton Ave., and stole brass fittings from five above-ground chemical storage tanks. The fittings would bring about \$10 at a recycling plant, but the cleanup of the chemical released by the theft is estimated to cost in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, Richmond police Lt. Mark Gagan said.



Topic Frequency List

Algal toxins American foulbrood Avian cholera Avian influenza Bovine brucellosis Bovine tuberculosis Chronic wasting disease Chytridiomycosis Climate change Colony collapse disorder Coral diseases DDT Toxins Devil Facial Tumour Disease (DFTD) Emerging and re-emerging diseases Footand-mouth Human/Wildlife conflict Invasive species Lead toxins Lyme disease Mercury toxins NWHC Wildlife Mortality Reports Oil SpillS Pharmaceutical toxins Plague (sylvatic) Plastic pollutants Platypus fungal disease (Mucomycosis) Rabies Squirrel pox TOXINS Undetermined incidents and die-offs Viral hemorrhagic septicemia west Nile virus White-nosed syndrome Wildlife trafficking Zoonoses

Blog Archive

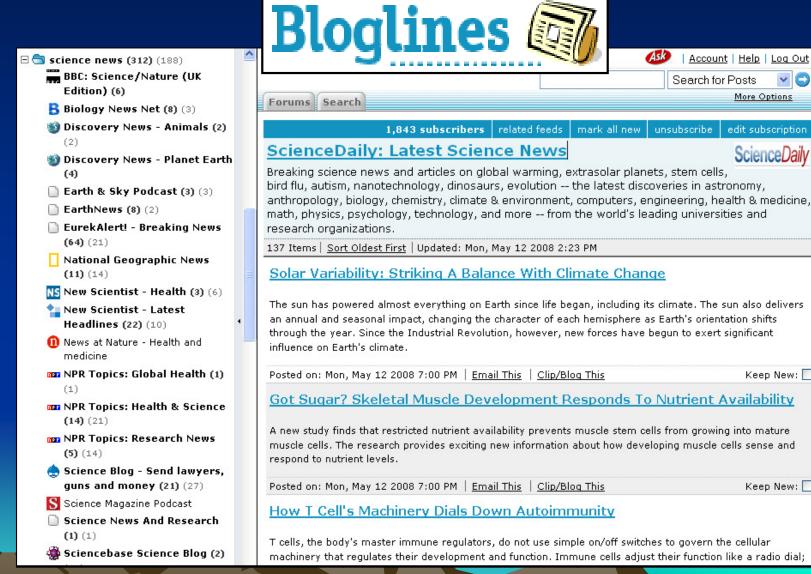
Blog Archive







Bloglines/feed readers used to aggregate RSS feeds





More Options

edit subscription

Science Daily

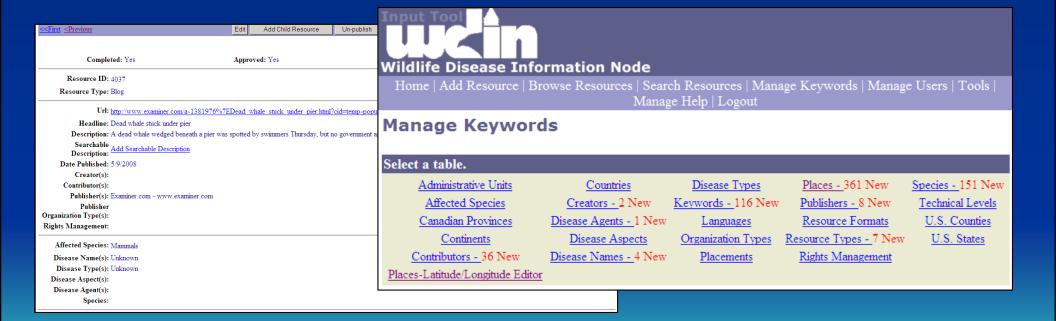
Keep New:

Keep New:



Back to the map...

 If an article has geographic information, this is catalogued in our database







WDIN Cataloging Tool/DB

- WDIN's local resource catalog database and Cataloging Tool
 - Collection of wildlife health specific resources, tagged with our local wildlife health terms
 - Collect authoritative news sources to populate our website and news to populate the Wildlife Disease News Digest
 - In a nutshell, our Cataloging Tool is a home made content management system

- NBII's resource catalog database
 - Collection of tagged resources in a centralized data repository, contributed to by all the NBII nodes, tagged with keywords from the Biocomplexity Thesaurus





Web-based tool to capture and standardize information

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Tagging resources

 All web/news items catalogued are given a number of standard tags (not all are required for news items)

Provider

Contributor

Publisher

Affected Species

Disease Name

Disease Type

Disease Aspect

Disease Agent

Species

Resource Types

Formats

Technical Levels

NBII Biocomplexity Thesaurus terms

WDIN topic keywords

Geographic Information

 Yellowed tags act like "hooks" to retrieve the information later with filters in the Map





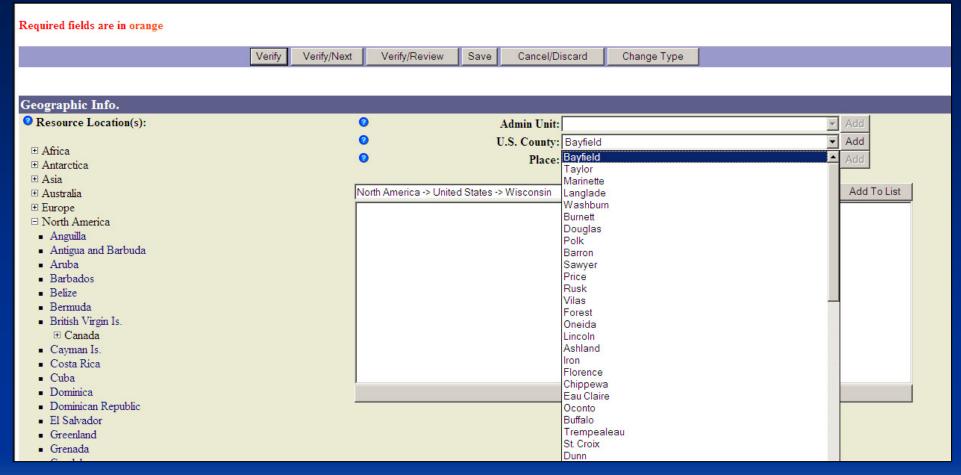
Adding geographic information

- Catalogers select from tiered levels of geographic information
 - Continent
 - Country
 - Administrative Unit
 - State/Province (US & Canada)
 - County (US)
 - "Places"





Adding geographic tags



 As catalogers expand/select a higher level selection, more specific related levels display beneath in a tiered format





How is the coordinate information attached?

 Coordinates are pre-determined for geographic areas (polygons) like Continents, Countries, Administrative Units, Counties; based on the geographic centroid for the shape

Geographic centroid shown for Georgia



Place coordinates

- No perfect standard for assigning coordinates to places
- Automated geocoding about 20% of locations are matched and marked (running our RSS feed info through a geocoding service), need to explore additional possibilities with better return
- Coordinates used from National Atlas, USGS GNIS, NGA GeoNet Names server (GNS); Google Earth or Google Maps





Then what?

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<markers>
- <marker lat="-36.6789880675" lng="-60.5585125886" label="Buenos Aires, Argentina, South America" icontype="adminunit">
             <div class="infodescription"><a href="http://www.promedmail.org/pls/otn/f?</pre>
            p=2400:1001:3064993689648790::NO::F2400_P1001_BACK_PAGE,F2400_P1001_PUB_MAIL_ID:1000,72420 " target="_blank">Rabies, feline - Argentina
             (Buenos Aires) ex bat - Archive Number 20080505.1530 </a><br/>br>Published by
              <![CDATA[ ProMED Mail - www.promedmail.org ]]>
            on 4/15/2008 <br/>
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    <marker lat="54.9263835925" lng="-97.430113808" label="Manitoba, Canada, North America" icontype="adminunit">
     - <infowindow>
             <div class="infodescription"><a href="http://news.gc.ca/web/view/en/index.jsp?articleid=397329&categoryid=1&category=News+Releases"</p>
            target="_blank">Bovine Tuberculosis Confirmed in Manitoba </a><br/>br>Published by
             <![CDATA[ Canada News Centre - news.gc.ca ]]>
            on 5/8/2008 <br/>
Manitoba, Canada, North America)<br/>
Bovine tuberculosis (TB) has been confirmed in a five-year-old beef cow from a h... <div>
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    <marker lat="54.4190203545" lng="-105.890056848" label="Saskatchewan, Canada, North America" icontype="adminunit">
     - <infowindow>
             <div class="infodescription"><a href="http://www.agweb.com/get_article.aspx?pageid=142634" target="_blank">Saskatchewan Considered Free of
            Bird Flu </a><br>Published by
             <![CDATA[ Agweb.com - www.agweb.com ]]>
            <div>
         </infowindow>
      </marker>
    <marker | lat="46.3478823547" | lng="-94.1990570584" | label="Minnesota, United States, North America" | icontype="adminunit">
             <div class="infodescription"><a href="http://www.duluthnewstribune.com/ap/index.cfm?page=view&id=D902LTOO2 " target=" blank">Sick moose in
            NE Minn. had brainworm </a><br>Published by
             <![CDATA[ Duluth News Tribune - www.dl-online.com ]]>
            on 4/16/2008 <br/>
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             <div> <br/> <a href="http://www.duluthnewstribune.com/politics/index.cfm?page=article bureau&id=42698&legislative tag=1"</p>
            target="_blank">Bovine TB objective: Don't be like Michigan </a><br/>>Published by
```

On demand, XML output files are created that the map can consume and parse to create markers





Anatomy of the XML file

- One marker per unique lat/long pair
- Loop through unique coordinate pairs and output corresponding information
 - Includes icon type for legend, label (onmouseover text), info window text, and links to source/full article





If we have many articles at one marker...

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<marker lat="38.8416162808" lnq="-95.8425705" label="United States, North America" icontype="country">
- <infowindow>
                <div class="infodescription"><a href="http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2008/04/080411-flowers-pollution 2.html"</p>
             target=" blank">Scentless Spring? Flower Smells Blocked by Pollution </a><br/>
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              on 4/8/2008 <br/>
Vunited States, North America) <br/>
Sean Strom, wildlife toxicologist for the Department of Natural Resources, said ... <br/>
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             href="http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2008/04/01/fighting_vhs_disease/" target="_blank">Fighting the VHS fish virus
              </a><br>Published by
               <![CDATA[ Minnesota Public Radio - minnesota.publicradio.org ]]>
              on 4/1/2008 <br/>
Vunited States, North America) <br/>
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             href="http://seattlepi.nwsource.com/local/357096" beaks31.html?source=mypi "target="blank">Deformed beaks mean slow starvation for region's
             birds; cause a mystery </a><br>Published by
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             on 3/31/2008 <br/>
Vunited States, North America) <br/>
Str> In his back yard in Fremont, Nikos Anton spotted a house sparrow that seemed to ... <br/>
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             answers in bat die-off across Northeast </a><br>Published by
              <![CDATA[ Times Argus - timesargus.co ]]>
             on 3/30/2008 <br/>
Verstates, North America)<br/>
They have plenty of company. In what is one of the worst calamities to hit... <br/>
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        </infowindow>
</marker>
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- Output all relevant stories for that location in <div> blocks in the info window
- Example shows five stories in the info window for the marker that represents United States



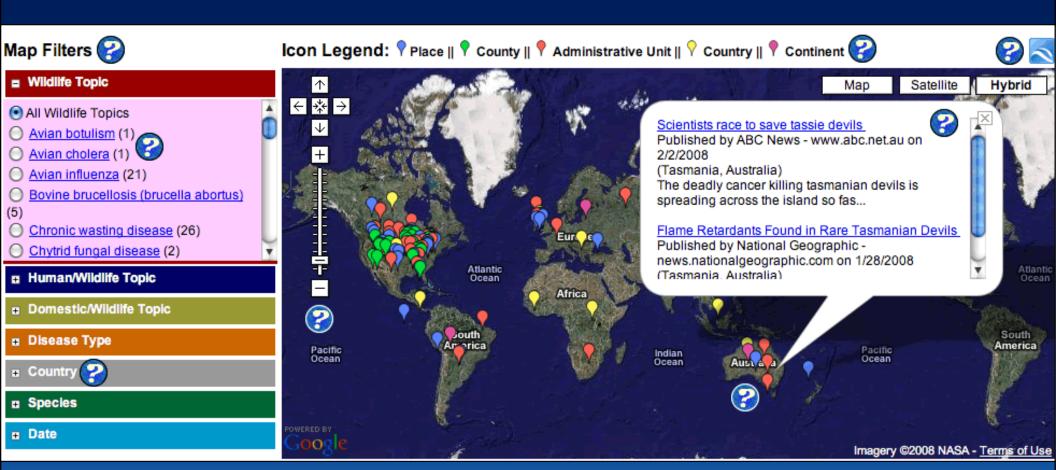


Map Application

- Map initially loads with an XML file of markers based on the articles added in the last 45 days with geographic information
- Topic lists are populated with tags from last 45 days of articles
- Map zooms to the max bounds of all the markers
- Awaits user interaction







http://wildlifedisease.nbii.gov/wdinNewsDigestMap.jsp





Topic Filters

- Click a radio button next to the filter to limit the display to that filter
- Filters passed to a stored procedure which returns the corresponding records to populate the XML file, which is then consumed and parsed by the map once the data are ready
- Total number of articles with the filter are tallied and displayed in parenthesis after the topic filter
 - Count based on last 45 days of news
- Currently users can only use one filter at a time, next release will allow users to combine filters





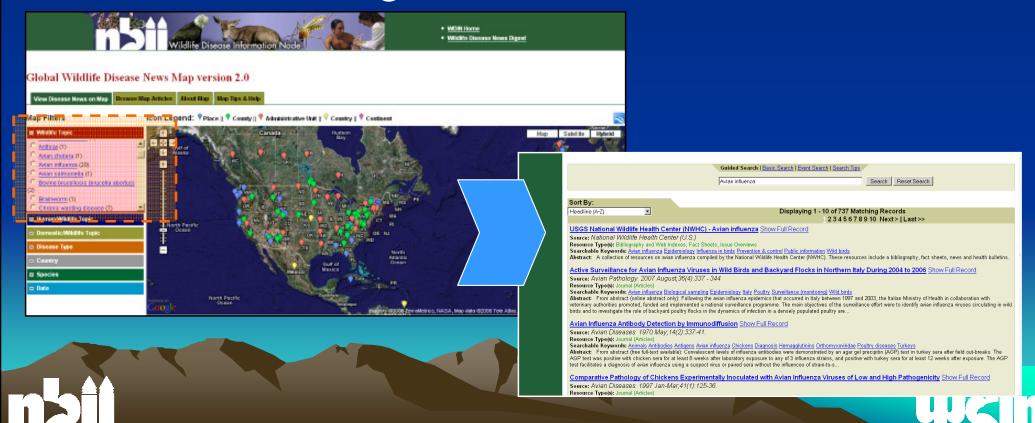






Topic hyperlinks

 Click on a topic hyperlink to be taken to the WDIN website to do a search of the WDIN Catalog Database



WDIN search output

Basic Output

Active Surveillance for Avian Influenza Viruses in Wild Birds and Backvard Flocks in Northern Italy During 2004 to 2006 Show Full Record

Source: Avian Pathology, 2007 August; 36(4): 337 - 344

Resource Type(s): Journal (Articles)

Searchable Keywords: Avian influenza Biological sampling Epidemiology Italy Poultry Surveillance (monitoring) Wild birds

Abstract: From abstract (online abstract only): Following the avian influenza epidemics that occurred in Italy between 1997 and 2003, the Italian Ministry of Heal veterinary authorities promoted, funded and implemented a national surveillance programme. The main objectives of the surveillance effort were to identify avian infl

birds and to investigate the role of backyard poultry flocks in the dynamics of infection in a densely populated poultry are.

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Full Record Output

Return to Search Results

Active Surveillance for Avian Influenza Viruses in Wild Birds and Backyard Flocks in Northern Italy During 2004 to 2006 Sh

Source: Avian Pathology, 2007 August; 36(4): 337 - 344

Resource Type(s): C Terregino, R De Nardi, V Guberti, M Scremin, E Raffini, A Moreno Martin, G Cattoli, L Bonfanti, I Capua Searchable Keywords: Avian influenza Biological sampling Epidemiology Italy Poultry Surveillance (monitoring) Wild birds

Abstract: From abstract (online abstract only): Following the avian influenza epidemics that occurred in Italy between 1997 and 2003, the Italian Ministry of Health in collaboration with veterinary authorities promoted, funded and implemented a national surveillance programme. The main objectives of the surveillance effort were to identify avian influenza viruses circulating in wild birds and to investigate the role of backyard poultry flocks in the dynamics of infection in a densely populated poultry are..

Headline: Active Surveillance for Avian Influenza Viruses in Wild Birds and Backyard Flocks in Northern Italy During 2004 to 2006

Url: http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03079450701488345

Description: From abstract (online abstract only): Following the avian influenza epidemics that occurred in Italy between 1997 and 2003, the Italian Ministry of Health in collaboration with veterinary authorities promoted, funded and implemented a national surveillance programme. The main objectives of the surveillance effort were to identify avian influenza viruses circulating in wild birds and to investigate the role of backyard poultry flocks in the dynamics of infection in a densely populated poultry area. Over 2 years (2004 to 2006), 164 backyard flocks and 4083 wild birds (mainly migratory Anseriformes and Charadriiformes) were sampled in three regions in the North of Italy. Samples collected were screened by means of real-time reverse

transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction and the positive samples were processed for attempted virus isolation in embryonated fowl's specific pathogen free eggs. At the end of the study period, 27 low-pathogenic avian influenza viruses had been isolated from backyard flocks and 49 strains obtained from wild birds. Of these, 26 belonged to the H5 or H7 subtype and were closely related to contemporary low-pathogenic strains of Eurasian lineage. The findings confirm that backyard free-range farming is at high risk for avian influenza virus introduction, and confirm the role of wild waterfowl in the introduction and perpetuation of low-pathogenic avian influenza viruses during the winter season in Southern Europe.

Date Published: August 2007

Source: Avian Pathology. 2007 August;36(4):337 - 344

Authors: C Terregino R De Nardi V Guberti M Scremin E Raffini A Moreno Martin G Cattoli L Bonfanti I Capua

Publishers: Taylor & Francis

Technical Level: Technical

Rights Management: Copyright held by Publisher

Disease Names: Avian influenza Disease Aspects: Epidemiology Resource Types: Journal (Articles) Resource Formats: URL Languages: English

Keywords: Avian influenza Biological sampling Epidemiology Italy Poultry Surveillance (monitoring) Wild birds

Continents: Europe Countries: Italy





Additional formats available



KMZ/KML Network link layer

 Users can click this icon to view the data in Google Earth; it adds a network link to a KML file on our web server that is auto-updated upon each user request.



GeoRSS feed

 Users can plop this URL into their own map applications or into other existing applications that consume geoRSS feeds

(I have a handout with these links if you're interested)



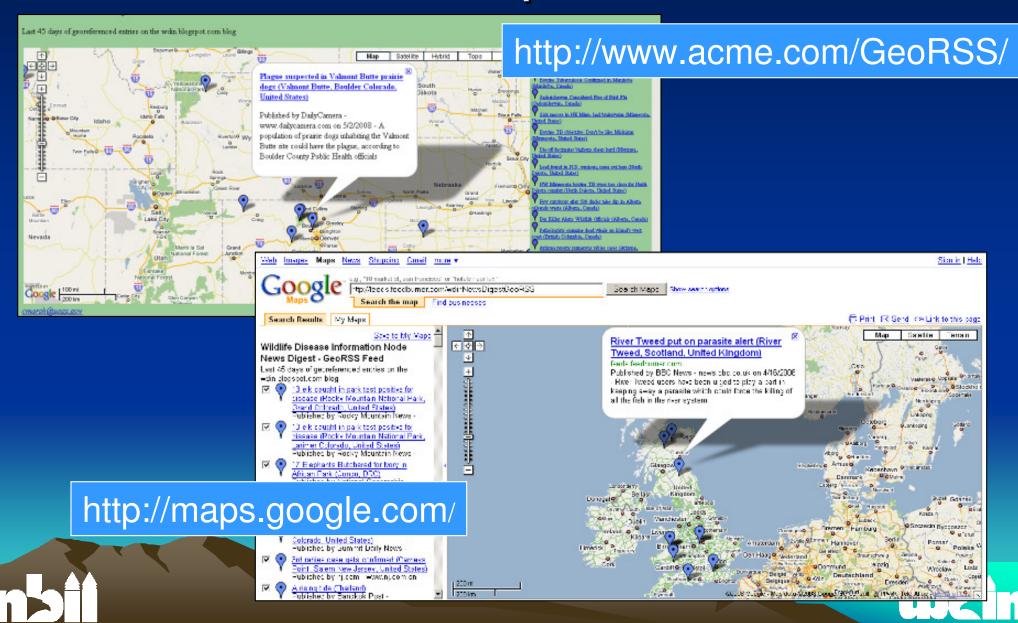


Within Google Earth, users can add other layers of interest easily





Acme GeoRSS reader, Google Maps



Future improvements

Collection process

- Automate geocoding!!
- Automate news harvest, with human approval (using something like Yahoo Pipes to combine all source feeds we can into one and have the Cataloging Tool parse through the info and precatalog saving time.. Cataloger would decide what to keep and add information that wasn't automatically found)

Application

- Allow users to combine multiple filters
- Allow exports of records
- Investigate SIMILE Exhibit framework as a potential interface rather than our home grown approach
- Allow users to use a custom date range they choose (anytime between 12/2005 and today)





Future improvements

 Include other streams or layers of data for exploring human and domestic animal health news, provide means to explore the interconnection between human, wildlife and domestic animal diseases.





Questions? Suggestions?

Grab me here or email me!
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