

## ***NCVEI Summer Project Winding Down***

ISVMA would like to thank Nick Guedet, Kelli Kramer and Jim Park for their extraordinary efforts in helping more than 100 Illinois veterinary practices utilize the benchmarking tools offered by the National Commission on Veterinary Economic Issues (NCVEI). These three UI-CVM students have spent the last 2 ½ months traveling the state and working with practitioners to teach them how to utilize the NCVEI tools in order to improve their practice's financial health and increase the quality of patient care. The participating practices have submitted evaluations of the student-led program and the feedback has been outstanding!

ISVMA would also like to thank the AVMA, IDEXX, Eastern Illinois VMA, Ft. Dodge Animal Health, Kankakee Valley VMA, Mississippi Valley VMA, Southern Illinois VMA and VCA-Antech Inc. for their financial support of the summer project offered by ISVMA and the Veterinary Business Management Association (VBMA) at the University of Illinois.

The NCVEI recently announced that the food animal tools have now been released on their live website, [www.ncvei.org](http://www.ncvei.org). There are still some tools that do not have enough data to show results, but hopefully that won't be a problem for long.

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## ***UI-CVM Students Request Your Assistance***

ISVMA has been contacted by students working on the Veterinary Career Resource Center website, <http://vcrcillinois.org> at University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. The website is a resource for people with an interest in veterinary medicine, veterinarians looking for a position or students looking for an externship.

The students are updating the website and are working on a section called "Explore Careers". In this section, veterinarians have been profiled in specific areas. However, they are lacking profiles in several areas. They would like to interview veterinarians employed in a number of specialized areas:

- Relief Vet
- Nontraditional/Exotics
- Anesthesia
- Emergency and Critical Care
- Epidemiology
- Microbiology
- Nutrition
- Pharmacology
- Poultry
- Preventative Medicine
- Radiology
- Surgery
- Media/Writing
- Industry
- Uniformed Services
- Government

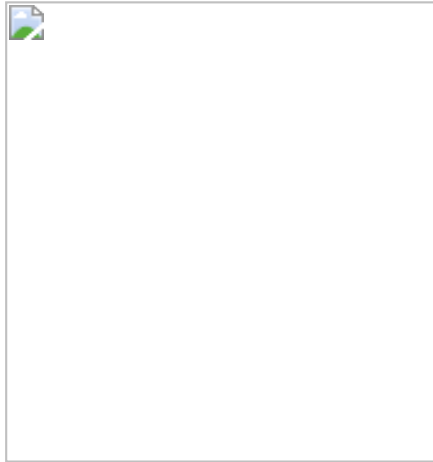
If you are willing to assist the students in their project by agreeing to be interviewed and profiled, please contact Erin Lindblad at [ehollim2@uiuc.edu](mailto:ehollim2@uiuc.edu).

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## ***Join us at the Event of the Year!***

Keep the weekend of November 4-6, 2005 open to attend the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association's 2005

Convention.



**Expect your Meeting Prospectus and Registration Form in the mail during the first week of September!**

**Come see what is new to this year's event!**

- § Full-day Practice Management Seminar on Friday
- § Keynote speaker Kevin Fitzgerald on Saturday evening
- § Outstanding speaker lineup
- § Expanded Job Fair
- § 25% more exhibitors
- § Ophthalmologic and Dental Radiography wet labs
- § Recent Graduate Program on Sunday
- § Expanded Practice Personnel Breakouts
- § President's Dinner at the new Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum - with full access!

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### ***Pesticide Repackaging: What Every Veterinarian Should Know to Avoid Steep Fines (from AVMA)***

Veterinarians who open spot-on flea-and-tick product packages to dispense single applications to clients, for example, must label those repackaged products in accordance with Environmental Protection Agency requirements.

The AVMA knows of at least one veterinarian who has received a complaint from the EPA about repackaging violations, and a steep fine hangs in the balance.

According to the EPA, the agency recognizes the benefits of allowing veterinarians the discretion to repackage pesticide products to meet their clients' individual needs, but also wants to ensure that consumers receive adequate product information. To reconcile those competing demands, the EPA has established, as a matter of policy, rules veterinarians must follow when repackaging pesticides.

Veterinarians prescribing, dispensing, repackaging, applying, or otherwise using pesticide products are subject to the regulations of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, which is administered by the EPA. The agency published a notice in the Nov. 1, 1979, issue of the Federal Register outlining how FIFRA applies to veterinarians.

To remind veterinarians of their responsibilities under FIFRA regarding repackaging and other pesticide use situations, the AVMA Council on Biologic and Therapeutic Agents and its staff worked cooperatively with the EPA to create a four-part series to educate veterinarians on this subject. Veterinarians are urged to read these articles

and integrate the information into their practices to ensure safe use by clients and avoid steep EPA fines.

The first article outlined the rules veterinarians must follow when repackaging any pesticide. The articles were published in *JAVMA* and can be found on the AVMA Web site at the following addresses:

[www.avma.org/onlnews/javma/jul04/040701f.asp](http://www.avma.org/onlnews/javma/jul04/040701f.asp)

[www.avma.org/onlnews/javma/jul04/040715tt.asp](http://www.avma.org/onlnews/javma/jul04/040715tt.asp)

[www.avma.org/onlnews/javma/aug04/040801f.asp](http://www.avma.org/onlnews/javma/aug04/040801f.asp)

[www.avma.org/onlnews/javma/aug04/040815i.asp](http://www.avma.org/onlnews/javma/aug04/040815i.asp)

## ***Lilly to Discontinue Four Insulin Products***

Eli Lilly and Company (NYSE: LLY) recently announced that it is discontinuing production of Iletin<sup>®</sup> II Pork Insulin (Regular and NPH<sup>®</sup> formulations), and Humulin<sup>®</sup>U Ultralente<sup>®</sup> and Humulin<sup>®</sup>L Lente<sup>®</sup> (Humulin U and Humulin L) insulin products. Given current inventories and patient demand, these products should be available in pharmacies through the end of 2005.

"Over the past few decades there has been a great deal of innovation in insulin therapy, such as rapid-acting analogs, analog mixtures, basal analogs and other human insulin products and formulations. As a result, we've seen a significant and steady decline in usage of the products we're discontinuing as doctors continue to move their patients towards newer therapies," said Dr. Scott Jacober, Medical Advisor, Diabetes Care, Eli Lilly and Company.

While over 3.5 million patients with diabetes in the United States currently use insulin, Lilly estimates that less than two percent of these patients will be affected by the discontinuations announced today.

"Lilly is providing information in advance of the discontinuations because our first priority is to make certain that patients transition as smoothly as possible to an alternative insulin therapy, whether a Lilly insulin or not." added Dr. Jacober.

Lilly and other manufacturers currently offer many alternatives to the insulin formulations that are being discontinued. Lilly recommends that patients who are currently using any of these insulin formulations see their physicians so that appropriate changes may be made to their insulin therapy.

Lilly will be providing doctors, pharmacists, nurses and diabetes educators with more detailed information about these product discontinuations, including alternative insulin options. In addition, Lilly is providing health care professionals with tools and information that they may share with their affected patients. Packaging of all impacted insulins shipped to pharmacies after mid-August 2005 will also notify patients of the discontinuation and provide Lilly's toll-free information number.

Changing insulin therapy should only be done under a doctor's supervision.

For more information, people should call Lilly's customer service line at 1-800 LillyRx (1-800-545-5979).

## ***About the Photo in This Issue...***

The meadowlark is one of the most characteristic birds of the North American grasslands. One of the two species, Western or Eastern (*Sturnella magna*), may be found in meadows and fields from one coast to the other and from the Canadian prairie to Mexico. The Western Meadowlark prefers drier grasslands and the Eastern chooses more moist situations. Only the Western is found west of the Great Plains. East of the Great Plains, the Eastern predominates although the Western has recently extended its summer range into the Great Lakes region and the

Ohio Valley.

Meadowlarks are members of the blackbird family. Other blackbird species may have non-black females, but meadowlarks are unique in not having mostly black colors on the male.

Just looking at them, the two meadowlark species are very difficult to tell apart. A key difference is the extent of yellow on the feathers below the eye. In the Western, the yellow feathers extend behind the lower jaw, while in the Eastern the yellow feathers stop on the throat below the lower line of the lower jaw.

The songs of the two are very different, however. The Eastern has a simple, clear, slurred whistle while the Western's song is complex, garbled and abrupt. Meadowlarks also make some short buzzy or cackling calls that are very easy to recognize once you learn to listen for them.

I photographed this Western Meadowlark near Moss Landing, California in the Spring of 2004.



## **Contact Us**

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