Salmonella



Salmonella:

Bacteria that can cause an intestinal illness in people and animals. The bacteria live in the intestinal tracts of infected animals and humans. There are over 2,500 known subtypes of salmonella bacteria. The major disease caused by Salmonella is Salmonellosis a form of gastroenteritis in humans.

Quick Facts:

- Salmonella bacteria have been known to cause illness for over 100 years
- Salmonella aids in cancer research
- Roughly 70,000 Americans contract salmonellosis each year from reptile contact.

Transmission:

The primary mode of transmission of salmonella strains are the fecal-oral route. Other modes of contact include direct contact with livestock, wildlife, or pets, especially cats and turtles. Animal to animal transmission primarily occurs at farms through food and water sources that are contaminated, or coming in contact with newly acquired affected animals.

Laboratory Hazard:

Salmonella may be present in feces, blood, urine, food and environmental materials. Ingestion or parenteral inoculation, (piercing of the skin or mucous membrane) are the primary laboratory hazards.

The best means of prevention is proper handwashing.

Recommended Work Practices & Procedures:

Most species are categorized at RG 2 (risk group level 2) and should be handled using Biosafety Level 2 practices and procedures.

Additional Information:

For strain specific information see the ABSA website @

http://www.absa.org/riskgroups/bacteria.html