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1960-1961

DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WASSERMANN LABORATORY SECTION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1961.

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During the calendar year 1960, the Wassermann Laboratory performed 479,507 tests. A total of 49,022 specimens were tested to comply with the premarital law, and 40,599 to comply with the prenatal law. Out-of-State premarital certificates were issued to one thousand and fifty applicants. o/c

The intrastate evaluation of serologic tests for syphilis were conducted for one hundred and thirty-four laboratories. Sixty-five of these laboratories applied for approval to perform tests for blood donor purposes, and eighty-two for approval to perform standard tests. Eight laboratories failed to meet the required standard of performance. 6/c

The Wassermann Laboratory participated again this year in the National Evaluation of Serologic tests for syphilis conducted by the U. S. Public Health Service. Qualitative and quantitative Hinton tests were performed on two hundred matched samples of serum. In this evaluation the laboratory received an excellent rating for sensitivity, specificity, and reproducibility of results of tests. 6/c

The laboratory served as control for the Hinton test in the Texas State Health Department intrastate evaluation of serologic tests, and tested two hundred and eighteen specimens. X

In cooperation with the Division of Communicable Diseases on

the use of the Latex Protein Complement Fixation test seven hundred and twenty-six specimens from patients who presented diagnostic problems due to positive reagin tests were performed. Also, a comparative study was conducted using this new treponemal test for syphilis, and the standard Hinton test on the blood of patients on whom discrepant results were obtained. A total of one thousand, five hundred and thirty specimens were tested in this study. 664

Seven hundred and three tests were performed on two hundred and fifty-nine specimens that were examined for rabies. Four bats were examined this year. All of the specimens were found to be nonrabid. OK
(replace last sentence)

Conferences, demonstrations, and practical work in the serology of syphilis were given to resident-pathologists from Boston hospitals, students from the Harvard School of Public Health, and hospital technologists. Twenty individuals were given this instruction. X replace.

Milk samples submitted by the Massachusetts Medical Milk Commission have been tested monthly for Brucella Abortus Agglutinating. X

It is recommended that the Fluorescent Tagged Antibody (FTA) Test for syphilis be added to the routine procedures in this laboratory as it has proved most satisfactory for diagnostic use in all stages of syphilis. Funds should be made available for the purchase of equipment used in this procedure. OK
(add some more)

DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY
WASSERMANN LABORATORY SECTION

SUMMARY

The Wassermann Laboratory Section of the Diagnostic Laboratory performed 479,507 tests this year on 472,977 specimens.

One hundred and thirty-four laboratories participated in the intrastate evaluation of serologic tests for syphilis. Eight of these laboratories failed to meet the standard requirements.

The Wassermann Laboratory participated in the Annual National Serologic Evaluation of serologic tests for syphilis, and obtained an excellent rating for sensitivity, specificity, and reproducibility of results of tests.

Two hundred and fifty-nine specimens (animal heads) were examined for rabies. Four bats were included in this group. All proved to be nonrabid.

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DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY
Table I — Tests and Specimens

WASSERMAN LABORATORY SECTION

Kind of Specimen		1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
		-	-	-	-	-
		1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Blood	Number of Specimens	492,586	463,099	453,053	468,275	463,501
	Tests					
	Hinton	468,420	440,794	434,302	452,848	449,313
	Quantitative Hinton	8,772	9,130	9,356	10,007	9,581
	Davies-Hinton Micro Flocculation	5,206	4,007	4,087	5,352	4,995
	Brucella Abortus Agglutination	10,177	9,505	4,505	68	—
	Glanders Complement Fixation	11	3	3	3	12
Spinal Fluid	Number of Specimens	8,807	8,692	9,175	9,769	9,217
	Tests					
	Davies-Hinton	8,807	8,692	9,175	9,769	9,217
	Globulin	3,486	2,782	2,979	3,144	2,598
	Total Protein	3,136	2,592	2,753	2,777	3,488
Rabies Diagnosis	Number of Specimens	198	207	229	255	259
	Tests					
	Impressions	198	207	229	255	259
	Sections	177	185	194	204	189
	Animal Inoculations	109	202	222	290	255
Total Tests		508,579	477,759	468,605	484,674	479,507
Total Specimens		501,591	471,998	462,457	476,299	472,977

Diagnostic Examinations for Division of Livestock Disease Control

DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY
TABLE XVII -- Specimens
January 1, 1960 --- December 31, 1960

WASSERMANN LABORATORY SECTION

<u>BLOODS:</u>	<u>Positive Results</u>	<u>Total Specimens</u>
Hintons	5878	} --- 463,501
Quantitative Hintons	"	
Devise-Hinton Micro Flocculations	26	
Glanders Complement Fixation	0	
<u>SERUM FLUIDS:</u>		
Devise-Hinton	123	} --- 9,217
Globulin	0	
Total Protein	0	
<u>BARBER:</u>		
Impressions	0	} --- 259
Sections	0	
Animal inoculations	0	
Total Wassermann Laboratory Section Specimens		--- 472,977

* We do not tabulate the results of quantitative Hinton tests.