

## Committee Report

### AAAP Committee on Avian Wildlife Diseases

Duck Virus Enteritis: Representatives of The Wildlife Society, The Wildlife Disease Association, The International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, The National Academy of Sciences and the North American Game Breeders Association drafted a report on "Duck Virus Enteritis (DVE) Discussions and Issues." Dr. Louis Leibovitz, a member of this Committee, represented the Wildlife Disease Association. Concern has been expressed in using DVE vaccine intended for domestic ducks in wild waterfowl. It was concluded that the Fish and Wildlife Service and game farm operators should develop cooperatively an acceptable plan to control DVE in private flocks such that financial losses are minimized while hazards to wild waterfowl are also minimized. The problem is complex and controversial and is not resolved at the present. The development of an inactivated DVE vaccine was suggested as a top priority item for all concerned and may well provide a partial answer.

Importation of Psittacine Birds from Mexico: Dr. Benjamin Lucio, of Mexico, and a member of the AAAP, has alerted us to massive imports of captured birds to the United States from Mexico. He has pointed out the potential problems, serious in nature, which are on the horizon. Decimation of numerous species might well occur. The transmission of Newcastle disease virus to poultry in our country may take place. Because of our mutual interests, but inability to convince Mexican officials to restrict exports, Dr. Lucio hopes that officials in the US will be cognizant of this situation and take appropriate action. Perhaps a definite stand should be taken by the AAAP as his communication suggests.

Disease Reporting: We again are emphasizing the need for reporting diseases of wild birds (and cage birds) as a separate entity in the AAAP Annual Diagnostic Report. This would certainly be helpful to all working with avian wildlife problems. When the Report is up-graded or revised, it should be considered.

R. W. Winterfield  
Chairman