

NATURAL DEER URINE AND CWD TRANSMISSION

FACT SHEET

Leading scientists on the subject of CWD transmission and natural deer urine provide their risk assessment.

THE CHANCE OF BOTTLED URINE* TRANSMITTING CWD IS VIRTUALLY ZERO.

*Urine bottled by ATA Deer Protection Program producers.

11 facilities in the **ATA Deer Protection Program** provide **95%** of commercial urine.

FACT: CWD in urine can not be detected without amplification.

Urine from even clinically sick deer must be highly concentrated in order to produce enough prions to test. The popularly referenced study for CWD in deer required a dosage of urine concentrated **TEN TIMES GREATER** than normal and had to be injected **DIRECTLY INTO THE BRAIN**.

FACT: Even under experimental conditions that were extremely unnatural, **ONLY 1 IN 10** subjects proved infected.

Haley NJ, Seelig DM, Zabel MD, Telling GC, Hoover EA (2009) Detection of CWD Prions in Urine and Saliva of Deer by Transgenic Mouse Bioassay. PLoS ONE 4(3): e4848. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0004848

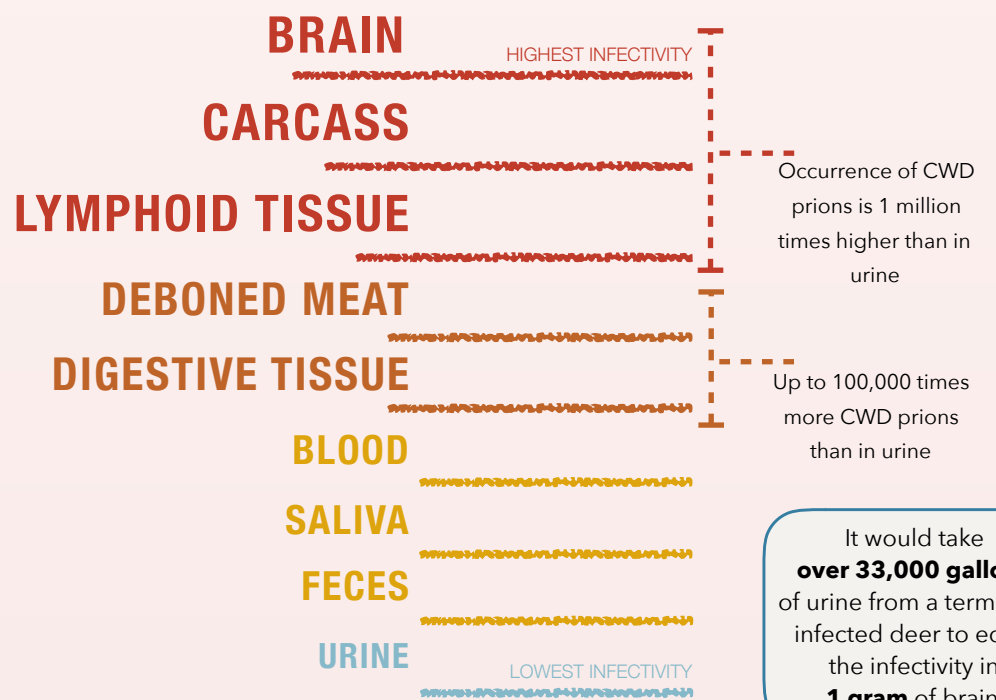
RANKING THE INFECTIVITY

Barely detectable levels of CWD prions have been found in whitetail deer urine, requiring million-fold or more concentration methods to identify experimentally. The volumes of urine required for experimental infection and detection make the likelihood of urine serving as a natural route of transmissibility infinitely small.

Research shows that urine is the **least** likely carrier of CWD prions.

The experts believe deboned meat and tissues of the digestive system (stomach, intestines) contain up to 100,000 times more CWD prions than found in urine. The brain, carcass (particularly if the carcass contains a brain), and lymphoid tissue contain an exponentially higher number of CWD prions, believed to be 1 million times more.

FACT: The experts, with **over 50 years** of collective research knowledge in whitetail health, consider **urine the lowest risk** for transmitting CWD.



THE EXPERTS



HARRY JACOBSON, PhD

Professor Emeritus
Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Aquaculture
Mississippi State University

Dr. Jacobsen has over 40 years of experience researching captive and free-ranging deer.



DAVIN M. HENDERSON, PhD

Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Pathology
Colorado State University

Dr. Henderson developed the next-generation tests to detect and quantify CWD prions in the saliva, urine and feces of deer and elk. He has authored or co-authored over 13 studies on CWD prions.



NICHOLAS HALEY DVM, PhD

Department of Microbiology and Immunology
Midwestern University - Glendale Campus

Dr. Haley authored the seminal study which first reported CWD prions in urine. He currently works with wildlife and agricultural agencies on developing live animal testing strategies for CWD in deer and elk as well as methods to identify CWD-resistant animals.

FACT: ATA DEER PROTECTION PROGRAM EXCEEDS USDA STANDARDS

- Greater monitoring for more thorough testing
- Closed to animal importation / severely restricted exportation
- Double fences to prevent interaction between captive and wild herds
- Annual facility and herd inspections

Participating urine providers must be whole herd certified participants in good standing in the Federal APHIS CWD program and/or related state programs. This ensures that the participating providers have at least a 5-year history of no positive CWD findings within their herds.

FACT: The 11 participating facilities have been in business much longer than five years and **none** have ever had a positive CWD finding.

FACT: Participating urine providers undergo annual inspections from an accredited veterinarian. This includes a review of animal records, state and federal documents, an inspection of the perimeter fencing and physical review of 20% of the herd. Additionally, every third year will include a 100% physical inspection of the herd.

FACT: Urine-based scents from ATA Deer Protection Program participants are essentially **triple-insulated from CWD:**

1. Due to the inherently low risk of urine transmitting CWD.
2. 100% monitoring for CWD at the urine collection facilities further reduces any possible risk.
3. Additional requirements of the ATA Deer Protection Program that go beyond USDA standards takes the risk to **VIRTUALLY ZERO**.



All major manufacturers participate in the program and use this seal on product packaging.