## Section B

## Section B

## Diseases and Parasites of Birds



Lung


Liver

Aspergillosis

| Photo Credit:D. Campbell |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Common Eider | Section B-1.1 |
| Ross's Goose | Section B-2.1 |
| Lesser Snow Goose | Section B-3.1 |

## Avian Cholera

| Photo Credit: WCVM |  |
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| Common Eider | Section B-1.2 |
| Ross's Goose | Section B-2.2 |
| Lesser Snow Goose | Section B-3.2 |

## Section B

## Diseases and Parasites of Birds



Gizzard

Gizzard Worm


Photo Credits: James Runningen

Common Eider
Section B-1.3
Ross's Goose
Section B-2.3

Section B-3.3

## Renal Coccidiosis

|  |  |
| :--- | :--- |

## Section B

## Diseases and Parasites of Birds



## B-1. 1

## Aspergillosis




## 1. Where is it found?



- Thick fungal areas may be found in the lungs, covering the air sacs or on other surfaces in the body.
Photo Credit: D. Campbell


## 2. What is it?

- Aspergillosis is a disease of the lung caused by the growth of a fungus. Fungus is similar to mould found on bread.
- The fungus grows in the air sacs, the lung or other surfaces in the body.
- This fungus is picked up by the birds from the ground or from mouldy grain.



## Aspergillosis

3. Is it safe to handle the eider?

Throw away infected lungs
and other infected body parts.
4.

Is it safe to eat the eider?


## It is recommended to cook the bird well.

5. Is it safe to feed to dogs ?

It is not recommended to
feed dogs any infected parts.

For more information go to H-B. 1

## B-1.2

## Avian Cholera



## 1. Where is it found ?

Photo Credit: WCVM


- Small white or yellowish spots scattered throughout the liver is the most common evidence of this disease.


## 2. What is it ?

- Avian cholera is a disease caused by a bacteria which is picked up from the water.
- Birds die a short time after being infected.
- Birds often appear tame prior to death.
- Massive die-offs will occur.



## Avian Cholera

3. Is it safe to handle the eider?

Wear gloves (or plastic bags) over your hands when handling birds suspected to have avian cholera.
Wash tools, hands and outer clothing in hot soapy water.
4. Is it safe to eat the eider ?


It is not recommended to eat the bird if many small white spots are seen throughout the liver as in photo on the previous page.
5. Is it safe to feed to dogs ?

It is not recommended to feed
 dogs anything that is not safe for humans to eat.

For more information go to H-B. 2

## B-1.3

## Gizzard Worms



## 1. Where are they found ?

- Gizzard worms are found in the gizzard of birds.

damage
- Worms move through the gizzard causing damage.


## 2. What are they ?

- Gizzard worms are small, parasitic, thread-like roundworms (1-3 cm long) often found coiled.



## Gizzard Worms

3. Is it safe to handle the eider?
4. Is it safe to eat the eider ?

It is safe to eat the eider.
If the gizzard looks unhealthy, throw it away. Otherwise, it is advised to cook the gizzard before eating it.
5. Is it safe to feed to dogs ?

> If the gizzard looks unhealthy, throw it away. Otherwise, it is advised to cook the gizzard before feeding it to dogs.
> The rest of the bird is OK to feed to dogs.

For more information go to H-B. 3

## B-1.4

## Renal Coccidiosis

1. What does it look like ?


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Photo credit: WCVM


- Normal kidneys can become enlarged when infected.
- Kidneys often contain small white or yellowish spots scattered throughout.


## 2. What is it ?

- Renal coccidiosis is an infection of the kidneys with a tiny, invisible parasite.
- Parasite eggs leave the bird in the bird's droppings; another bird can pick up the infection while grazing.



## Renal Coccidiosis

4. Is it safe to eat the eider ?
5. Is it safe to feed to dogs ?

## B-1.5

## Thorny-headed Worms



Common Eider

## 1. Where are they found?



- Thorny-headed worms live in the intestine of birds.
- Sometimes they can be seen poking through the intestine.

Photo Credit: J. Christian Franson

## 2. What are they ?

- Thorny-headed worms are short and fat and attach themselves to the intestine of the eider using a set of hooks on their heads.

Thorny-headed worms attached to the inside of the intestine.



## Thorny-headed Worms

## 3. <br> Is it safe to handle the eider ? <br> SAFE

4. Is it safe to eat the eider ?
5. Is it safe to feed to dogs ?

## B-2.1

## Aspergillosis



Ross's Goose

## 1. Where is it found ?


-Thick fungal areas may be found in the lungs, covering the air sacs or on other surfaces in the body.
Photo Credit: D. Campbell

## 2. What is it ?

- Aspergillosis is a disease of the lung caused by the growth of a fungus. Fungus is similar to mould found on bread.
- The fungus grows in the air sacs, the lung and other surfaces in the body.
- This fungus is picked up by the birds from the ground or from mouldy grain.


## Aspergillosis

3. Is it safe to handle the goose?

CAUTION

Throw away infected lungs and other infected body parts.
4.

Is it safe to eat the goose?

It is recommended to cook the bird well.
5. Is it safe to feed to dogs ?

It is not recommended to feed dogs any infected parts.

## B-2.2

## Avian Cholera

## 1. Where is it found?



- Small white or yellowish spots scattered throughout the liver is the most common evidence of this disease.


## 2. What is it ?

- Avian cholera is a disease caused by a bacteria which is picked up from the water.
- Birds die a short time after being infected.
- Birds often appear tame prior to death.
- Massive die-offs will occur.



## Avian Cholera

3. Is it safe to handle the goose ?

Wear gloves (or plastic bags) over your hands when handling birds suspected to have avian cholera. Wash tools, hands and outer clothing in hot soapy water.
4. Is it safe to eat the goose ?


It is not recommended to eat the bird if many small white spots are seen throughout the liver as in photo on the previous page.

## 5. Is it safe to feed to dogs ?

It is not recommended to feed dogs anything that is not safe for humans to eat.

## B-2.3

## Gizzard Worms




Ross's Goose

## 1. Where are they found?

- Gizzard worms are found in the gizzard of birds.

damage
- Worms move through the gizzard causing damage.


## 2. What are they ?

- Gizzard worms are small, parasitic, thread-like roundworms ( $1-3 \mathrm{~cm}$ long) often found coiled.

Gizzard Worms
3. Is it safe to handle the
goose?

4. Is it safe to eat the goose ?

It is safe to eat the goose.
If the gizzard looks unhealthy, throw it away. Otherwise, it is advised to cook the gizzard before eating it.
5. Is it safe to feed to dogs ?

If the gizzard looks unhealthy, throw it away. Otherwise, it is advised to cook the gizzard before feeding it to dogs.
The rest of the bird is OK to feed to dogs.

For more information go to H-B. 3

## B-2.4

## Renal Coccidiosis



Ross's Goose

## 1. What does it look like?



- Normal
kidneys can become enlarged when infected.
- Kidneys often contain small white or yellowish spots scattered throughout.


## 2. What is it ?

- Renal coccidiosis is an infection of the kidneys with a tiny, invisible parasite.
- Parasite eggs leave the bird in the bird's droppings; another bird can pick up the infection while grazing.

Renal Coccidiosis
3. Is it safe to handle the goose ? SAFE
4. Is it safe to eat the goose ?

5. Is it safe to feed to dogs ?

For more information go to H-B. 4

## B-2.5

## Thorny-headed Worms



Ross's Goose

## 1. Where are they found?



- Thorny-headed worms live in the intestine of birds.
- Sometimes they can be seen poking through the intestine.


## 2. What are they ?

- Thorny-headed worms are short and fat and attach themselves to the intestine of the goose using a set of hooks on their heads.

Thorny-headed worms attached to the inside of the intestine.



## Thorny-headed Worms

4. Is it safe to eat the goose ?

5. Is it safe to feed to dogs ?

## B-2.6

## Heartworm



Ross's Goose

## 1. Where are they found ?

Photo Credit: G. Wobeser
 similar.

- Worms
are found in the heart and may cause damage as they move.


## 2. What are they ?

- Heartworms are small (1-3 cm), parasitic, thread-like roundworms, often found coiled.



## Heartworm

3. Is it safe to handle the goose?

4. Is it safe to eat the goose?
5. Is it safe to feed to dogs?

## B-3.1

## Aspergillosis


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Lesser Snow Goose

## 1. Where is it found ?



- Thick fungal areas may be found in the lungs, covering the air sacs or on other surfaces in the body.

Photo Credit: D. Campbell

## 2. What is it ?

- Aspergillosis is a disease of the lung caused by the growth of a fungus. Fungus is similar to mould found on bread.
- The fungus grows in the air sacs, the lung and other surfaces in the body.
- This fungus is picked up by the birds from the ground or in mouldy grain.



## Aspergillosis

# 3. Is it safe to handle the goose? 

Throw away infected lungs and other infected body parts.
4. Is it safe to eat the goose?


It is recommended to cook the bird well.
5.

Is it safe to feed to dogs?


It is not recommended to
feed dogs any infected parts.

For more information go to H-B. 1

## B-3.2

## Avian Cholera



## 1. Where is it found ?

Photo Credit: WCVM


- Cholera is most clearly seen in the liver.
- Small white or yellowish spots scattered throughout the liver is the most common evidence of this disease.


## 2. What is it ?

- Avian cholera is a disease caused by a bacteria which is picked up from the water.
- Birds die a short time after being infected.
- Birds often appear tame prior to death.
- Massive die-offs will occur.



## Avian Cholera

## 3. Is it safe to handle the goose?



Wear gloves or plastic bags over your hands when handling birds suspected to have avian cholera. Wash tools, hands and outer clothing in hot soapy water.
4. Is it safe to eat the goose ?

It is not recommended to eat the bird if many small white spots are seen throughout the liver as in photo on the previous page.
5. Is it safe to feed to dogs ?

It is not recommended to feed dogs anything that is not safe for humans to eat.

For more information go to H-B. 2

## B-3.3

## Gizzard Worms



## 1. Where are they found ?

- Gizzard worms are found in the gizzard of birds.

worm

damage
- Worms move through the gizzard causing damage.


## 2. What are they ?

- Gizzard worms are small, parasitic, thread-like roundworms (1-3 cm long) often found coiled.



## Gizzard Worms

> 3. Is it safe to handle the goose?
4. Is it safe to eat the goose ?

It is safe to eat the goose.
If the gizzard looks unhealthy,
throw it away. Otherwise, it is
advised to cook the gizzard before eating it.
5. Is it safe to feed to dogs ?

If the gizzard looks unhealthy,

throw it away. Otherwise, it is
advised to cook the gizzard
before feeding it to dogs.
The rest of the bird is OK to feed to dogs.

For more information go to H-B. 3

## B-3.4

## Renal Coccidiosis



Lesser Snow Goose

## 1. Where is it found?

Photo credit: WCVM


- Normal kidneys can become enlarged when infected.
- Kidneys often contain small white or yellowish spots scattered throughout.


## 2. What is it ?

- Renal coccidiosis is an infection of the kidneys with a tiny, invisible parasite.
- Parasite eggs leave birds in the bird's droppings; another bird can pick up the infection while grazing.



## Renal Coccidiosis

3. Is it safe to handle the goose? SAFE
4. Is it safe to eat the goose?
5. Is it safe to feed to dogs ?

## B-3.5

## Thorny-headed Worms



Lesser Snow Goose

## 1. Where are they found?

Photo Credit: J. Christian Franson


- Thorny-headed worms live in the intestine of birds.
- Sometimes they can be seen poking through the intestine.


## 2. What are they ?

- Thorny-headed worms are short and fat and attach themselves to the intestine of the goose using a set of hooks on their heads.

Thorny-headed worms attached to the inside of the intestine.



## Thorny-headed Worms

3. Is it safe to handle the bird ? SAFE
4. Is it safe to eat the bird ?

SAFE
5. Is it safe to feed to dogs ?

## B-3.6

## Heartworm



Lesser Snow Goose

## 1. Where are they found?



## 2. What are they ?

- Heartworms are small (1-3 cm), parasitic, thread-like roundworms, often found coiled.


Heartworm
3. Is it safe to handle the goose?
4. Is it safe to eat the goose?
5. Is it safe to feed to dogs?

