



BioResponse Action Team Diane Barden, BT Lab liaison Tim Brennan, Principal micro Gary Budnick, Supervising micro Gene Gaynor, Micro 2 Stacey Kinney, Micro 2 Donald Mayo, Director Mike Ridley, Micro 2 (Mary Vance, Principal micro) (Chip Beckwith, Principal micro)

BT samples tested at CT State Lab



TYPES AND NUMBER OF SAMPLES TESTED (est.)

- 435 Nasal Swabs
- 850 Environmental Swabs
- 190 Envelopes or Letters
- 140 Powders
- 115 Vacuum Bags or Vacuum Socks
- 65 Blood Agar Plates (environmental)
- 35 Swipes or Filters
- 250 Miscellaneous items e.g. cans, jars, magazines, animals,

clothes, toys, phones, vials, cigarettes,

soil, water, money, liquids, bags, etc.

2200 TOTAL



Staffing Levels



1

Stand Down 8-5 10-12 if necessary

CT STATE LAB: EXPERIENCE WITH ISOLATION OF <u>B. ANTHRACIS</u>

- 1, PATIENT
- 3, SINGLE LETTER
- 4, POST OFFICE MACHINES IN CT
- 1, POST OFFICE MACHINE IN NY
- 2, COW ISOLATES FROM LOCAL UNIV

WHAT WORKED FOR US (ADMINISTRATIVELY)

- 1. Close, regular contact with FBI
- 2. Prescreening & decoming samples by FBI,
- DEP or State Police HAZMAT
- 3. Intake (and rejection), delivery, chain of custody person
- 4. Cell Phones
- 5. Evidence Room (locked, log book)
- 6. Daily BRAT (i.e. team) meetings

WHAT DID NOT WORK FOR US (ADMINISTRATIVELY)

- 1. Communication
- 2. Data production
- 3. Beepers

WHAT WORKED FOR US (IN THE LAB)

- 1. Cellular Fatty Acid Analysis via MIDI
- 2. Smart Cycler (Real Time) PCR
- 3. Settle plates in hoods & on bench tops & posting results for all to see
- 4. Working in pairs..1in hood, 1taking notes
- 5. HEPA filters/socks best sample method
- 6. Cooperation/communication with local labs for borrowing media, reagents

WHAT DID NOT WORK FOR US (IN THE LAB)

- 1. FA for Capsule and Cell Wall (wet)
- 2. Wet Mounts (spores?)

WHAT BENCH LEVEL WORKERS SHOULD KNOW:

- 1. There are many gram +, nonhemolytic,
- nonmotile rods out there (not in-ees or out-ees)
- 2. There are strains of <u>B.</u> thuringiensis that
- 'look, feel, taste & smell' exactly like <u>B.</u>
- <u>anthracis</u>
- 3. ANY inhibition or abnormal <u>Bacillus sp.</u>
- growth due to gamma phage should be
- carefully examined (use light & heavy growth)