

The Kentucky Laboratory Sentinel

October 2005

Thank You...

Thanks to all of the labs that sent back the September survey. This information will help us keep our records up to date so we can provide timely correspondence.

Ciders and Spiders



The fall cider season is underway and here is a tip to remember:

Most cider and juices are pasteurized or otherwise treated to destroy harmful bacteria. Unpasteurized cider must have a warning on the label.

Help Stop Foodborne Outbreaks

Isolates that are received quickly at the state lab, are a great asset in stopping foodborne illness. Pulsed Field Gel Electrophoresis can be performed quickly to link isolates in patients and thus aid in the epidemiological outcome.

If your laboratory finds shiga-toxin producers, please send the isolate, stool, and broth sample **directly** to the state lab. This aids in the recovery of the organism. Epidemiology requires us to identify the organism that is producing the shiga-toxin to be a positive case.

Some people believe that if you see a spider on Halloween, it is a loved one looking over you.

Happy Halloween!

LPS 2006

The CAP Laboratory Preparedness Survey for 2006 has been ordered. If you did not return your September survey and you participated in 2005, your lab was automatically signed up. If this needs to be changed, please contact me as soon as possible.

The first LPS will be released January 30, 2006.

Suggestions or comments, please email leighann.bates@ky.gov