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PRV in Indiana: Where are we today?

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Introduction

Today we are within six months of the January 1, 2000 deadline that was established to be free of pseudorabies in the United States. When this goal was set in the late 1980s, it seemed like a long way off. Now, as we are within six months of that time, I will look at our current status in the state of Indiana.

History

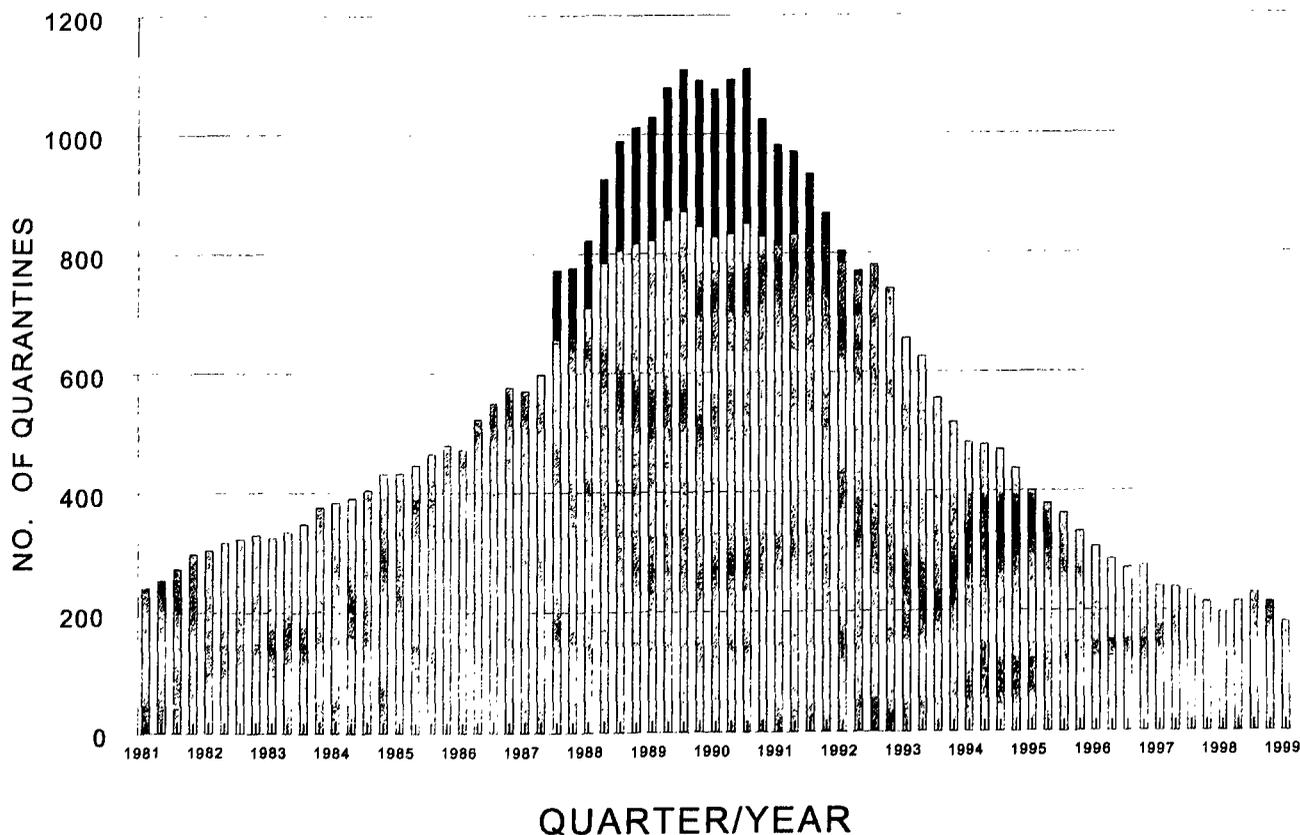
As one can see from the accompanying data (Figure 1), the state of Indiana peaked in number of infections in 1989–1990 at approximately 1100 herds. Since that time, there has been a steady decrease in the number of quarantined herds in the state. The exception was in the winter

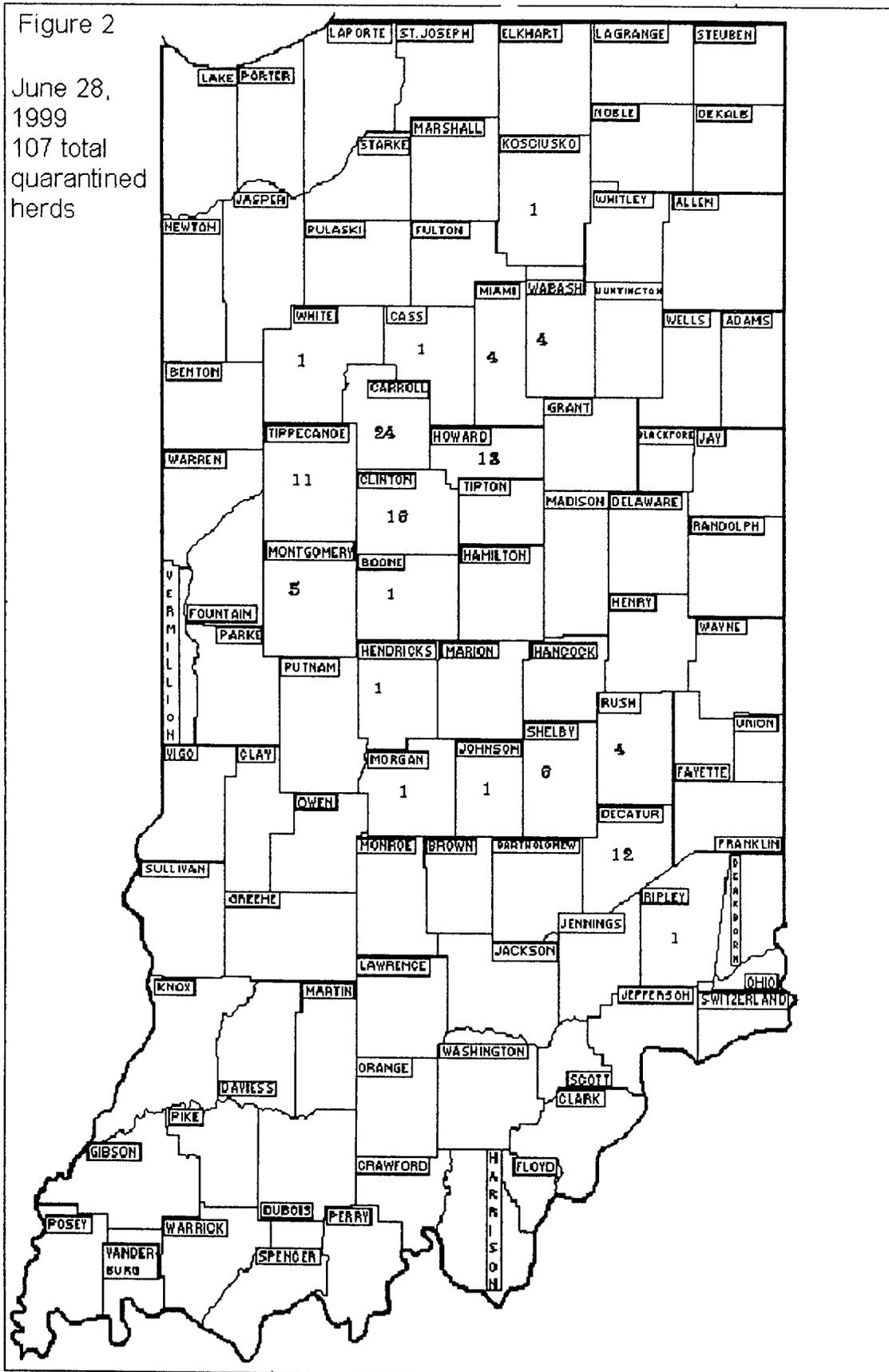
of 1997 and 1998 when there was an increase in the number of quarantined herds. These appeared in three different parts of the state and appeared to be area spread. In the past year the number of herds has decreased due to the following reasons:

- Participation in the Accelerated PRV Eradication Program
- Low hog prices which forced some liquidation
- Increased pressure in the past year to vaccinate finishing pigs and test and remove positive sows as this deadline approached

As illustrated in Figure 2, as of June 1, 1999 the number of quarantined herds is now down to 107. In addition to the above mentioned actions that reduced old quarantines,

Figure 1
INDIANA PSEUDORABIES QUARANTINES





one other major action was applied beginning January 1, 1999. Circle vaccination around quarantined herds was implemented. This required any producer within two miles of a quarantined herd to vaccinate all of their breeding stock and finishing herds. The state legislature in Indiana allotted funding to provide this vaccine free to producers who fell within these two mile circles. I feel this has significantly helped reduce the amount of area spread due to aerosol that could have happened this past winter. These measures should continue to tighten the rope on the quarantined herds.

Will we make it?

Based on conversations with regulatory officials and other practitioners in Indiana, it would appear that Indiana has a good chance of having less than 40 herds still under quarantine on January 1, 2000. I am hopeful that with the continued assistance of legislative funds, the final push to have these herds released from quarantine can be realized within the first six months of the year 2000.

