

SALMONELLA AND...
REPTILES, AMPHIBIANS,
RODENTS, POCKET PETS

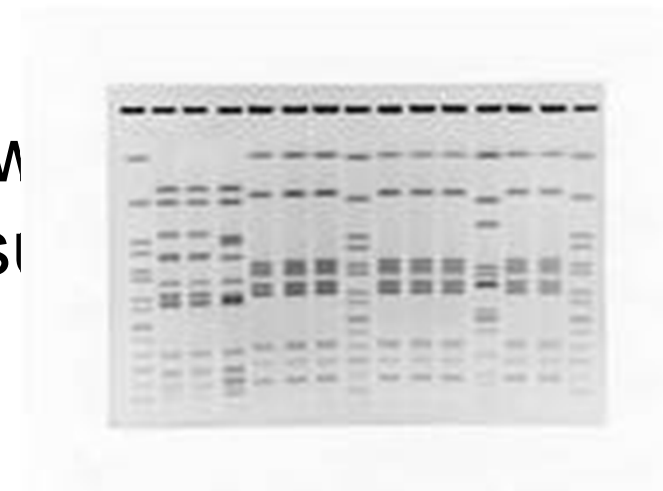
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Salmonellosis

- Diarrhea, fever, and abdominal cramps 12 to 72 hours after infection
- Lasts 4 to 7 days, most recover without treatment
- 42,000 cases reported each year
 - ▣ Estimated 1 million illnesses and 400 deaths per year
- Elderly, infants, and those with impaired immune systems are more likely to have a severe illness
 - ▣ Rate of diagnosed infections in children <5 years old is higher than the rate in all other persons
- Reptiles, amphibians, birds, and others - known to shed *Salmonella* asymptotically

Outbreaks 101

- Person with illness goes to doctor and culture performed
- *Salmonella* isolated and PFGE performed
- PFGE uploaded to PulseNet
- Identify cluster of identical PFGE patterns
 - ▣ Location or temporal
- State/local authorities interview cases to look for similar exposures



Recent Outbreaks



Amphibians

- 2008 – 2011
- 241 illnesses in 42 states
- 30% hospitalized
- 69% ≤ 10 years old (median 5 years)
- 63% of cases had frog contact in week before illness
 - ▣ 65% of those reported African Dwarf Frogs
 - ▣ Many purchased frog because knew turtles associated with illness
- Traced to single breeder in CA
 - ▣ Worked with industry experts to develop interventions
 - ▣ Stopped shipments for several months
- Seen just a few cases since resumed shipping
 - ▣ Not associated with newly purchased frogs



<http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/water-frogs-0411/>

Hedgehogs



- 14 cases in 6 states since December 2011
- 3 hospitalized
- 50% \leq 10 years old
- 10/10 (100%) interviewed cases reported hedgehog exposure
- Ongoing investigation – tracebacks still pending

Frozen Rodents

- 500 cases in U.K. – traced to Georgia facility
- 2010 U.S. outbreak ~77 cases; median age 12 years; same facility as U.K. outbreak
- Cases more likely to have handled frozen rodent in week before illness than well persons
- Issues: bulk packaging, often repackaged at pet store – no lot codes, no warning labels (stored and prepared alongside human food)
- Should be treated as raw meat
- WI did environmental testing
 - ▣ Bearded Dragon fed rodents shed bacteria

Turtles



- <4" banned for sale (with exceptions*) in US since 1974
- Estimated 280,000 illnesses in 1972 publication
- 11 multistate outbreaks since 2006
 - ▣ >500 illnesses and one death in a 3 week old infant

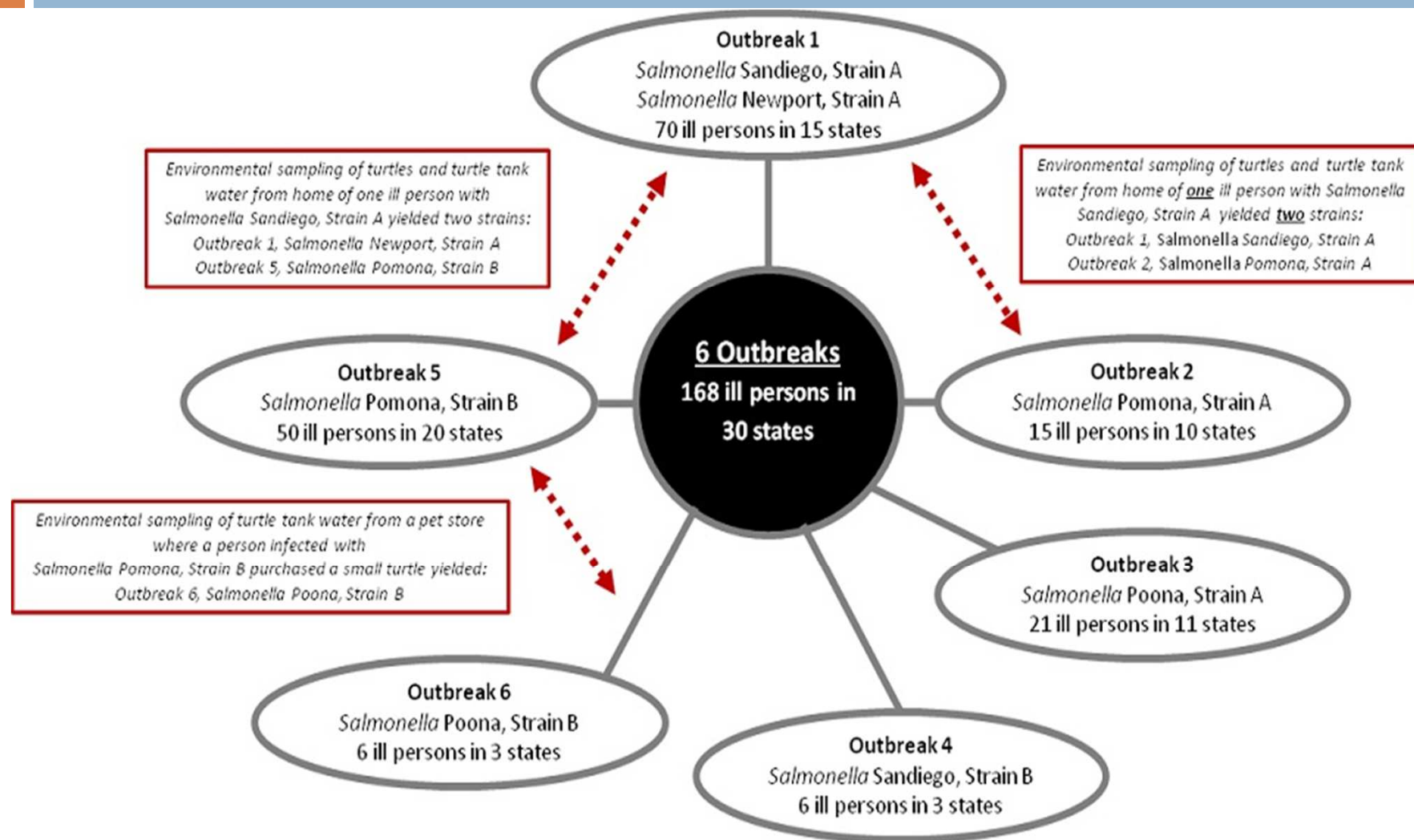
*for bona fide scientific, educational, or exhibitional purposes, other than use as pets

Turtles – September 20, 2012

- Currently*
 - ▣ 196 persons from 31 states; 36 hospitalized
 - ▣ 63% ≤ 10 years; 29% ≤ 1 year
 - ▣ 55% Hispanic
- *S. Poona, S. Pomona, S. San Diego*
- 72% of ill persons reported turtle exposure
 - ▣ 92% turtles < 4 "
 - ▣ 40% from street vendors, 17% from pet stores
 - Also gifts and internet sales

*<http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/small-turtles-03-12/index.html>

Current Outbreak(s)



Loopholes?



- Internet sales with “buried” disclaimers and “adoption” fees
- No proof of profession (teacher, research) required
- “Buy the cage and get the turtle free”

Turtles : Tur

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Internet Explorer cannot d... Web Slice Gallery Bank of America Home P... Joint Symposium Partners... Oak Grove Child Develop... Super Suppers


Turtles : Turtles for sale and Turtle Pro...


Turtles->
_ Baby Turtles
_ Rare Turtles
_ Juv. Turtles
_ Pond Turtles
_ B Grade Turtles
_ Clearance Animals
Box & Wood Turtles
Tortoises->
Habitat Packages
Pond Products
Tanks
Stands
Lighting->
Screen Covers
Filters->
Heating->
Basking Platforms
Decorations->
Substrate
Food
Treats
Books
Care Sheets
Health Care->
Maintenance->
Gift Certificates


Turtles


Our turtle experts breed, raise and care for hundreds of species of turtles and tortoises to ensure that they are as happy and healthy as possible! All turtles and tortoises are shipped via UPS Next Day Air with our Live Arrival and 7-Day Health Guarantee. Be sure to check our Policy page for more details.


Baby Turtles

[CLICK HERE](#)
Baby Turtles

Rare Turtles

[CLICK HERE](#)
Rare Turtles

Large Turtles

[CLICK HERE](#)
Juv. Turtles


[CLICK HERE](#)


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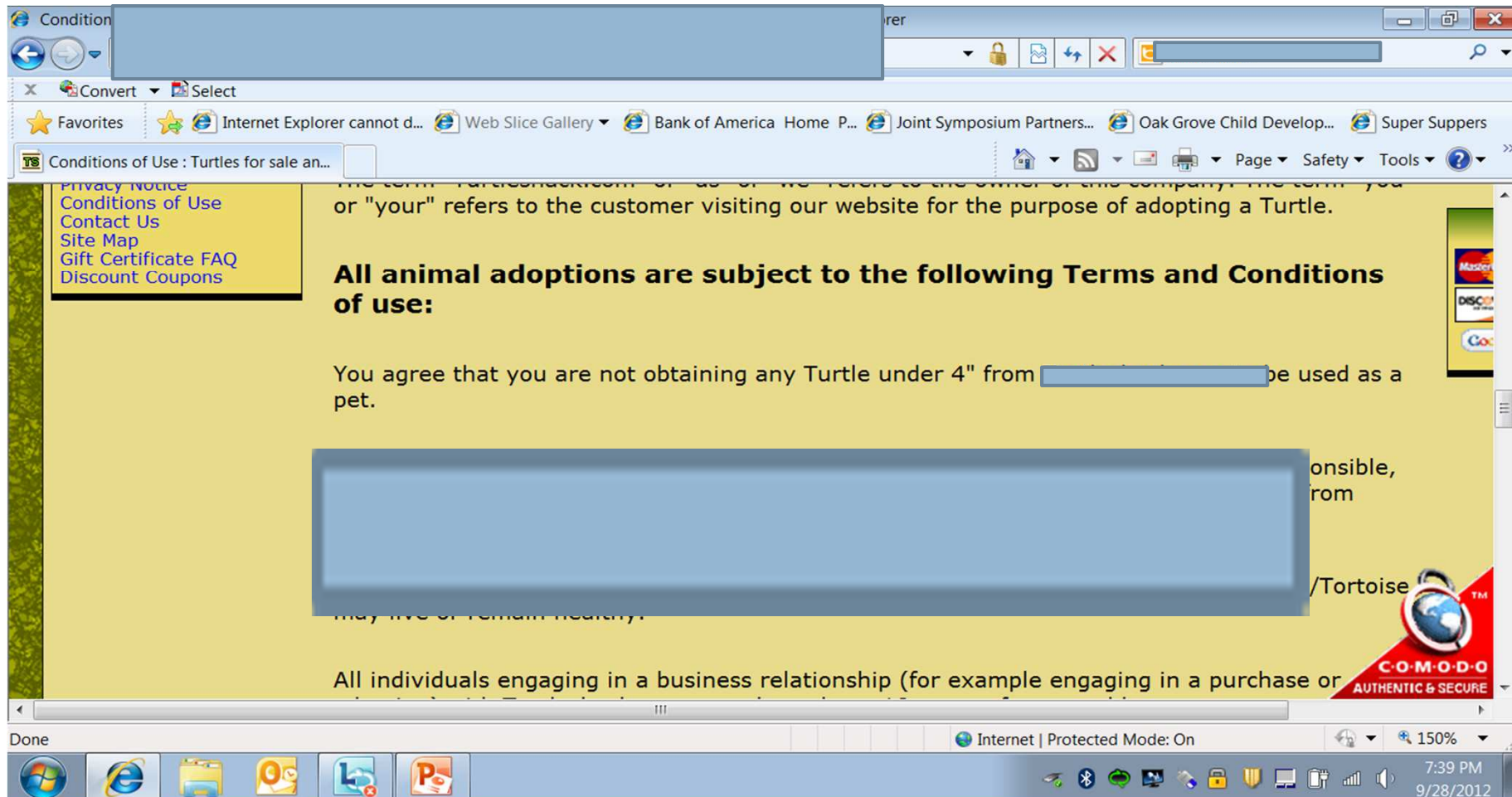

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After signing in to purchase, get link

- Text is more than halfway down the page



Conditions

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Internet Explorer cannot d... Web Slice Gallery Bank of America Home P... Joint Symposium Partners... Oak Grove Child Develop... Super Suppers

Conditions of Use : Turtles for sale an...


You agree that you understand that turtles, as well as, many other animals have the ability to carry and transmit salmonella.

You agree to use your Turtle that you receive from [redacted] a bona fide scientific, educational, export or exhibit purpose only.

You agree that you understand that salmonella is a serious disease and that Turtles even if they are free of [redacted] are intended to allow children to [redacted] from or anyone associated [redacted] used by any Turtle containing salmonella.

You agree that a Turtle that is not properly cared for (timely water changes, proper filtering of the water etc.) can pick up the salmonella disease.

You agree that we don't imply that your Turtle cannot have salmonella now or that it will not get it in the future.


C O M O D O
AUTHENTIC & SECURE

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9/28/2012

Yet...



- Testimonials on same page reflect use as “pets”
 - “just received my three baby sliders along with food. they are so cute and cool looking! They’re a little shy but will get used to their cage and habitat! thanks so much turtle shack! You’ve made my dream of having a **pet turtle** come true! will be buying from this site very soon!”*

Educational Flyer



The screenshot shows a Windows Internet Explorer browser window. The address bar contains the URL <http://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/resources/amphibian-reptile-poster.pdf>. The browser's Favorites bar shows several links, including "Internet Explorer cannot d...", "Web Slice Gallery", "Bank of America Home P...", "Joint Symposium Partners...", "Oak Grove Child Develop...", and "Super Suppers". The main content area displays an educational flyer with a green header and a photograph of a turtle.

After you touch amphibians or reptiles, wash your hands so you don't get sick!



- Contact with amphibians (such as frogs and toads) and reptiles (such as turtles, snakes, and lizards) can be a source of human *Salmonella* infections.
- Small turtles, with a shell length of less than 4 inches, are a well known source of human *Salmonella* infections, especially among young children. Because of this risk, the Food and Drug Administration has banned the sale of these turtles since 1975.
- Salmonella* germs can cause a diarrheal illness in people that can be mild, severe, or even life threatening.
- Amphibians and reptiles can carry *Salmonella* germs and still appear healthy and clean.

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<http://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/resources/amphibian-reptile-poster.pdf>

Help educate



- Successful partnership with NPIP and hatcheries
- Flyer shipped with every box of live baby chicks
- Could we do something similar with turtles and other reptiles?