

Introducing Juan Sanhueza, the Swine Health Monitoring Project's New Associate Postdoctoral Researcher

Emily Geary

Juan Sanhueza joined the Swine Health Monitoring Project mid January of this year. In just his few weeks here he has already gotten his feet on the ground and begun working with several of the SHMP participants on progressing SHMP side projects.

Juan originates from Santiago, Chile and trained as a veterinarian at the University of Chile located in Santiago. Afterward he worked for four years for the Registry of Veterinary Compounds department within the Chilean Veterinary Service. His specialty was assessing the efficacy and safety of veterinary medicines prior to their market release.

In 2009-2010 he then went on to earn a masters in veterinary epidemiology at Massey University in Palmerston North, New Zealand. He worked with the beef cattle industry on a project designed to improve cattle fertility by assessing the association between pathogens and abortions or low pregnancy rates. He went on to gain experience working at the EpiCenter (epidemiology center) of Massey, assisting with a variety of research projects and data analysis.

From 2013 to 2016 Juan worked on his PhD at Massey University where he focused on the issue of occupational leptospirosis, a zoonotic disease, in New Zealand. His PhD project required close contact with veterinarians and farmers. He worked with multiple industries including beef cattle, sheep, and deer. His work focused on assessing the prevalence of leptospirosis in these occupationally at risk groups, identify risk factors, and assess the efficacy of vaccines meant to prevent urinary



shedding in cattle, sheep and deer. The final component of the project was to assess the burden of leptospirosis on the industry in the form of disability adjusted life years (DALYs) and its monetary costs. Juan continued to work on leptospirosis with the EpiCenter after finishing his PhD until joining us here in Minnesota.

Juan's background makes him uniquely qualified to work in the intersection of industry and research that SHMP focuses on. We are extremely excited to have the opportunity to work with him.

Included below are some of Juan's publications

Publications from Juan Sanhueza

Prevalence and risk factors for *Leptospira* seropositivity in beef cattle, sheep and deer farmers in New Zealand, *Zoonoses and Public Health*, October 2016, Ahead of print.

A case-control study to identify risk factors for acute salmonellosis in New Zealand dairy herds, 2011–2012, *Epidemiology and Infection*, 144(10):2154–2164, 2016.

Prevalence and risk factors for *Leptospira* exposure in New Zealand veterinarians, *Epidemiology and Infection*, 143(10):2116–2125, 2015.

Pregnancy rates of beef cattle are not affected by *Campylobacter fetus venerealis* real-time PCR-positive breeding sires in New Zealand, *New Zealand Veterinary Journal*, 62(5):237–243, 2014.

Contribution of *Leptospira*, *Neospora caninum* and Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus to fetal loss of beef cattle in New Zealand, *Preventive Veterinary Medicine*, 66(10):330–333, 2013.