

David Forshaw BSc BVMS MACVSc

I have worked at the Western Australian Department of Agriculture's animal health laboratory in Albany since 1991 where I am the sole pathologist and officer in charge.

This is one of the smaller veterinary laboratories in the country with three veterinary staff; myself, a parasitologist and a trainee parasitologist. The laboratory provides necropsy, histopathology, microbiology and parasitology services for the southern agricultural region with the South Perth lab providing serology, biochemistry, toxicology and virology services. The case load through the lab consists entirely of livestock, mostly sheep and cattle but there are local poultry and pig farms that we also service and I see the occasional wildlife and exotic animal case.

All final year veterinary students from Murdoch spend a week in Albany undertaking the state veterinary medicine unit that involves a sizeable lab component.

My ancient past includes stints in private veterinary practice, private pathology practice, short stints at Weybridge and Hong Kong government laboratories and an internship at Murdoch.