

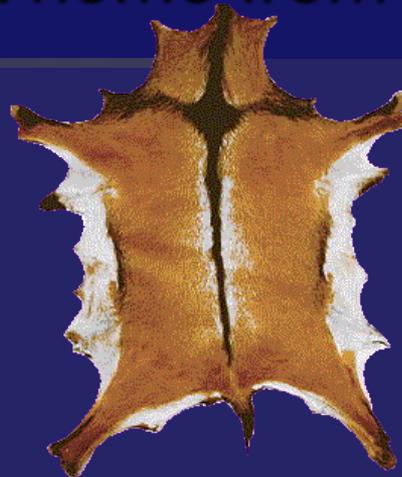
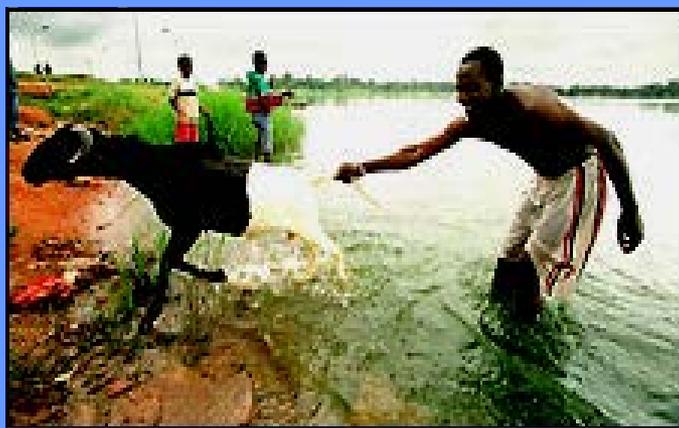
Investigational Findings

- Travel to Côte d'Ivoire clarified



Investigational Findings

- Extensive work with cow and goat hides
 - Process described
 - Suppliers identified – one New York dealer for hides
 - Four brought home from Côte d'Ivoire



Investigational Findings

- Environmental sampling conducted



- Surface wet swab, wet wipe, & vacuum samples



Investigational Findings

- Workspace in Brooklyn
 - All samples positive for *B. anthracis*, genotype 1
 - Surfaces and inactive vents 12 feet above the floor



Courtesy of B. Tsoi, NYCDOHMH



Investigational Findings

- Apartment in Manhattan
 - Some positive samples
 - Shoes, clothing, and entryway



Investigational Findings

- Van
 - Some positive samples
 - Floorboard



Investigational Conclusions

- Naturally occurring anthrax related to occupational exposure
 - Aerosolized *B. anthracis* spores from scraping of contaminated hide
- Workspace heavily contaminated
- Home and van cross-contaminated
- Risk for contacts exposed to aerosolized hair
 - Four contacts identified and given prophylaxis

Lessons Learned in Joint Investigation

- Communication with Patient
 - Arrange for translator with security clearance
 - Consider medical condition of patient
 - Minimize number of interviewers, especially in hospital room
- Communication among Field Investigators
 - Share contact information immediately
 - Share information from all sources, when possible
 - Share and review interview notes immediately after interviews