

- 4) Eight fatal cases of amyloidosis were diagnosed in 1987. We have noted a significant number of cases of amyloidosis in Field Station animals since 1975 when 7 cases were diagnosed. The number of cases during subsequent years included 7 in 1976, 2 in 1977, 4 in 1978, 9 in 1980, 5 in 1981, 4 in 1982, 7 in 1983, 9 in 1984, 13 in 1985, and 10 in 1986. Amyloidosis continues to be a significant disease problem in animals housed in the Field Station facilities. Studies are being done to further characterize the pathogenesis of the disease, to evaluate experimental treatment protocols, and to attempt to develop nonhuman primates as animal models for the study of amyloidosis.
- 5) An additional 86 cases of yersiniosis occurred during 1987; this included 70 clinical cases and 16 necropsy cases. This infection continues to be a significant problem in our Field Station colony; we have isolated Yersinia spp. from a total of 140 necropsy cases and had 270 additional clinical isolates since the disease was first noted in 1968 (only 5 cases noted from 1968-1975). Most of the cases have been due to either Yersinia enterocolitica or Y. pseudotuberculosis infection, although a small number of Y. intermedia, Y. fredericksonii, and Y. kristensenii organisms have been isolated. Multiple Yersinia species have been isolated from some cases. Infection with these organisms has been widespread throughout the Field Station facilities, with most compounds affected. Eleven different species of nonhuman primates have been involved, with clinical and fatal cases occurring predominantly in winter and spring months. Ages of affected animals have ranged from stillbirths to adults. When the problem first became evident, we suspected that wild rodents in the environment might be the source of infection. We have subsequently trapped 732 wild rodents (458 mice and 274 rats) and cultured their cecal and colon contents by the cold enrichment technique. One hundred ninety-three of the 732 (26.3%) rodents cultured were positive for Yersinia organisms (13.1% of mice and 48.5% of rats). It is, therefore, obvious that we have an endemic Yersinia problem in our Field Station colony; that the organisms are carried by wild rodents in the environment; and that the wild rodent population must be adequately controlled to minimize the number of cases in the nonhuman primate population.
- 6) Only two animals (0.9% of necropsies) were found to have neoplasms in 1987. These included one hemangioma of the skin in a 32-year-old rhesus and a hepatoma in a 20-year-old chimpanzee. In addition, a colon carcinoma was diagnosed by biopsy in a rhesus monkey.
- 7) Six additional cases of listeriosis were diagnosed in 1987. These included five rhesus abortuses or stillbirths and one pig-tailed macaque abortus. This brings the total number of cases of listeriosis seen in our colony to 25. Eight cases