

# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

*"The Basis of All Wealth is Agriculture"*



*The Information Technology (IT) Division provides technical support for the West Virginia Department of Agriculture, including network administration, end-user support, and supports Department information systems.*

Major accomplishments of IT Division during the past year include the purchase and installation of a new 45,000-watt, natural gas-fueled electrical generator (pictured above) that will be used to power critical computer systems in the event of a commercial power outage. Because the generator has its own natural gas line, the generator can run indefinitely without refueling, ensuring Department operability during a civil crisis or prolonged power outage.

The Division also facilitated the implementation of the USA Laboratory Information Management System (USALims), which allows WVDA labs to share data on disease outbreaks with other laboratories across the country in near-real time.

One of the major benefits of USALims is that it provides a means to archive data and produce ad-hoc reports. When coupled with the Department's geographic information systems capabilities, staff can generate up-to-the-minute maps of disease outbreaks, providing an invaluable incident management tool.

**Right (upper right):** In June of 2008, the entire network server infrastructure was moved into a new server room. This new location provides many benefits to the department including, ease of access for IT Staff, better security, a cleaner and more organized environment, more stable electrical power and more options for adequate cooling of equipment. All servers are now installed in locked racks in one central room, providing a consolidated server environment.

