

State Veterinarian's Office: Emerging Disease - Seneca Valley Virus

Colleagues;

Some of you may not be aware of an emerging disease called Seneca Valley Virus which has been seen in various states across the country. It causes vesicular lesions in pigs and mimics foreign animal diseases such as foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), swine vesicular disease, vesicular stomatitis, and vesicular exanthema of swine. It is not listed on the Colorado Reportable Disease List but all vesicular diseases are reportable. We have put together some information on the disease that you could share with your clients if you so choose.

Thanks for reporting any disease of unusual morbidity or mortality or any disease that does not fit a normally expected clinical picture!

Seneca Valley Virus

What is it?

Sencavirus A or Seneca Valley Virus (SVV) is a vesicular disease that can affect swine of all ages. The disease has been reported in many countries including the United States, Canada, Australia, Italy, New Zealand and Brazil. This virus is not commonly seen in the U.S. and prior to the current outbreak the disease has only been reported in North Carolina and Illinois in the last five years. Currently the disease has been identified in a number of states in the U.S.

The reason the disease is a reportable disease is because it is in the same family as Foot and Mouth Disease Virus (FMDV) and swine vesicular disease virus (SVDV) and therefore exhibits similar symptoms and can only be determined by diagnostic testing.

What are the symptoms?

SVV can cause lesions or blister-like sores on the snout and around the hooves of pigs. Due to the sores around the hooves severe lameness can occur as well as lethargy and/or lack of appetite. High fevers of up to 105°F have also been reported.

What prevention steps can you take?

SVV is a new disease and unfortunately there has not been a lot of research conducted. There has been no clear determination of how the disease spreads or survival of the

virus in the environment. However, with any disease, the best methods of prevention and control are good biosecurity practices. Some examples would include, but are not limited to, ensuring that transportation vehicles are cleaned and disinfected prior to arrival at the premises, shower in/shower out of personnel before entering and exiting of facilities, clean/dirty lines, and utilizing all in/all out processes.

Because vesicular diseases are clinically indistinguishable, disinfection protocols for FMDV should be followed even if SVV is suspected. This includes use of: sodium hydroxide, sodium carbonate, 0.2% citric acid, aldehydes, and oxidizing disinfectants including sodium hypochlorite.

What do you need to do?

If you notice any of the symptoms listed above please call the State Veterinarian's Office at the Colorado Department of Agriculture at 303-869-9130 or the USDA APHIS-Veterinary Services Colorado Office at 303-231-5385 to report the case. State and federal animal health officials will determine if an investigation is necessary. In the event an investigation is needed, the premises will be placed under a hold order by the State Veterinarian which means that premises will not be able to move any animals on or off of the facility. A veterinarian from either the State Veterinarian's Office or from USDA will come out to the facility and take samples of the affected animals and submit them to the Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory in Plum Island New York. When the results from the testing have determined it is not Foot and Mouth Disease and the lesions have healed, the hold order will be lifted from the premises. The goal of the State Veterinarian's Office is to work quickly to avoid prolonged interruptions in business as well as to reduce the spread of disease and ensure the livestock industry is safe from future disease outbreaks

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