

Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2012 3:15 PM
Subject: STATE VETERINARIAN'S OFFICE - VS Update

Vesicular Stomatitis (VS) Update Summary:

There are still only 2 VS-positive horses in two Colorado counties and both premises are under quarantine; they are located in Las Animas and Conejos County.

- No new VSV-infected premises have been identified in Colorado or in the U.S. since the last national situation report of 8/14/12. For the full report go to the following USDA APHIS webpage: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/equine/vsv/vsv2012.html>
- Premises are eligible for quarantine release 21 days after lesions have healed in all affected animals on a premises.
- A total of 2 equine premises in 2 Colorado counties and 27 equine premises in 9 New Mexico counties have been VSV-positive in 2012. All 2012 VSV cases have been New Jersey serotype.

For more information on VS, go to the webpage of the Animal Industry Division of the Colorado Department of Agriculture, it can be accessed at: www.colorado.gov/ag/animals

Important Points for Veterinarians:

1. Any vesicular disease of livestock is reportable to the State Veterinarian's Office in Colorado – to report call 303-239-4161. If after-hours, call the same number to obtain the phone number of the staff veterinarian on call.
2. Since VS is considered a foreign animal disease, any case with clinical signs consistent with VS will warrant an investigation by a state or federal foreign animal disease diagnostician (FADD).
3. When VS is suspected, the FADD will gather the epidemiological information, take the necessary blood samples, collect the necessary fluid or tissue from the lesions, and inform the owners and the referring veterinarian as to necessary bio-security and movement restrictions.
4. Contact the state of destination when moving livestock interstate to ensure that all entry requirements are met. A list of contact information for all state veterinarians' offices is available at: <http://www.colorado.gov/ag/animals>.

Tips for Livestock Owners

1. Strict fly control is an important factor to inhibit the transmission of the disease.
2. Avoid transferring feeding equipment, cleaning tools or health care equipment from other herds.
3. Colorado fairs, livestock exhibitions, and rodeos may institute new entry requirements based on the extent and severity of the current VS outbreak. Be sure to stay informed of any new changes concerning event requirements.

For additional information, contact the Colorado State Veterinarian's office at 303-239-4161 or visit <http://www.colorado.gov/ag/animals>.