State Veterinarian's Office Update - VSV

Vesicular Stomatitis (VS) Update:

As of 1/26/2016, the Colorado Department of Agriculture’s State Veterinarian’s Office has 2 locations in 1 county (Rio Blanco) under quarantine after horses, mules, and cattle herds tested positive for Vesicular Stomatitis (VS).

Now that all areas of the state have had freezing temperatures, the insect populations have become dormant. This has translated into rapidly decreasing case numbers, although the last newly reported positive case was just this past week on January 15, 2016. We are releasing quarantines based on the time from when the last new case of VS was recognized on a facility. At this time it is anticipated we will be releasing the remaining quarantines in early February.

Important Points for Veterinarians:

- Any vesicular disease of livestock is reportable to the State Veterinarian’s Office in Colorado – to report call 303-869-9130. If after-hours, call the same number to obtain the phone number of the staff veterinarian on call. Reportable disease suspects should be reported within 24 hours of seeing the case.
- As this outbreak slows down with the winter weather, we have still received reports of suspect cases, both equine and bovine. Any new suspect case, equine or bovine, will need to be sampled and tested to confirm VSV. Two of three reported cases during January have been positive; it underscores the importance of laboratory testing in this phase of the outbreak.
- CSU will still be able to run testing for VSV until 21 days after the final quarantine has been released. After that time, all samples would have to go to the National Veterinary Services Laboratory - either in Ames, IA or Plum Island, NY. Accredited veterinarians will still be able to sample and test equine suspect cases; but bovine suspect cases will need a State or Federal Animal Health Official to take samples and investigate.

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to change your email address or even unsubscribe if you so wish. Please see the link and details at the end of this email. For further information, assistance, or to give us feedback, please contact Cristy Dice at cristy.dice@state.co.us - alternately, you may contact Dr. Nick Striegel at nick.striegel@state.co.us.