

Date: Saturday, August 9, 2014 at 11:23 AM
Subject: STATE VETERINARIAN'S OFFICE - Vesicular Stomatitis Outbreak Update – August 6, 2014

Vesicular Stomatitis Outbreak Update – August 9, 2014

There are currently 104 confirmed VSV-positive premises in Colorado; the quarantines are located in Adams, Boulder, Douglas, El Paso, Jefferson, Larimer, and Weld Counties. There are still many investigations being conducted on livestock that are exhibiting clinical signs consistent with VSV and samples on those cases are still pending. All of the positive VS cases have been in horses except for one VS-positive bovine case in Weld County and one VS-positive cow in Boulder County.

Important Points for Veterinarians:

Any vesicular disease of livestock is reportable to the State Veterinarian's Office at 303-869-9130 or to the USDA APHIS VS Colorado office at 303-231-5385. If after-hours, call the State Veterinarian's Office at 303-869-9130 to obtain the phone number of the staff veterinarian on call.

When the collection of samples is deemed prudent by the attending veterinarian, here are some suggestions:

1. If vesicles present - draw up vesicular fluid with a TB syringe and leave in syringe
2. If epithelium tag/tissue flap present from a vesicle or oral lesion, collect tissue tag (preferred) or swab the area - place in Whirlpac and put on ice until it can be transferred to TBTB solution by an FADD veterinarian
3. Collect 10 ml of whole blood, preferably in a serum separator tube and centrifuge or collect 10 ml of whole blood, spin it down and separate serum
4. Keep refrigerated not frozen
5. Information needed for sample submission:
 - Horse name, age, sex, breed - label tube name with horse name
 - # of horses affected and # of total horses on the property/premises
6. The State or Federal veterinarian will be in contact and pick up the samples from your clinic, fill out the necessary forms, and ship to NVSL.

CSU Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (CSU-VDL) has graciously offered to accept the VS samples that you hand-deliver to the CSU-VDL, spin them down, transfer the serum, and label the samples. The foreign animal disease diagnostician (FADD) will then pick up the samples and finish the submission and packaging for shipment to NVSL in Ames, IA.

If it would be more convenient for the practicing veterinarian to drop off VSV samples at CSU-VDL instead of taking samples back to their clinic, please use that option.

Soon many VSV-positive cases will be needing the lesions rechecked for signs of re-epithelization. Once there is a new cell layer across the lesion, the 21-day countdown can be started for release of the quarantine. If you are rechecking your client's animals for signs of healing and there is appropriate epithelization covering the lesions, please contact our office so we can record the date and schedule the final lesion-check for release of quarantine. The final lesion check after 21 days to release the quarantine must be done by a state or federal veterinarian.

Colorado veterinarians and livestock owners should contact the state of destination when moving livestock interstate to ensure that all import requirements are met. A list of contact information for all state veterinarians' offices is available at www.colorado.gov/ag/animals and click on "Import Requirements." Some states are requiring a statement on the health certificate that states that the animals are not from a premises that is closer than 10 miles to a VSV-quarantined premises. In those situations, contact our office and we will

be able to determine the proximity of your clients to a VSV-positive premises.

If moving livestock internationally please contact the USDA APHIS VS Colorado office at 303-231-5385 to determine if there are any movement restrictions or testing requirements for VSV.

For additional information, contact the Colorado State Veterinarian's Office at 303-869-9130. To view other epidemiological information on the VSV outbreak, visit the USDA Veterinary Services site at the link:
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wps/portal/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth?1dmy&urile=wcm%3apath%3a%2Faphis_content_library%2Fsa_our_focus%2Fsa_animal_health%2Fsa_animal_disease_information%2Fsa_equine_health%2Fsa_vesicular_stomatitis%2Fct_vesicular_stomatitis

Thanks for all your collaborative work in this VSV outbreak, we appreciate your efforts!!