

Disease Alert

Disease: Equine Herpesvirus

Species Affected: English sport horses

Location: Langley Township

Date(s): December 2023/January 2024

Description: There have been two confirmed cases of equine herpesvirus 1 (EHV-1) at a boarding/training facility. Facility managers are implementing voluntary movement restrictions as well as biosecurity measures under veterinary supervision.

Disease information: Equine herpesviruses are very common viruses in horse populations worldwide. EHV-1 causes respiratory disease, abortion, and neurologic disease. The virus is spread through horse-to-horse contact or through contaminated environments, clothing, or equipment.

Recommendations:

- Make sure all horses under your care are up to date on their vaccinations.
- Monitor horses for signs of EHV-1 (particularly fever, nasal discharge, lethargy) and contact you veterinarian if illness is detected.
- Practice biosecurity when bringing horses or people onto your premises or while travelling with your horse.

Resources:

- Equine Disease Communication Center EHV-1 factsheet
- HCBC Biosecurity for the Equine Industry
- American Association of Equine Practitioners EHV Guidelines

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