

## Phase II Recommendations for Horse Show/Event Managers Regarding EHV-1 Biosecurity Procedures

These biosecurity guidelines have been developed by CDFA veterinarians and the faculty at the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California, Davis, CA, to minimize the risk of transmission of infectious diseases at public equestrian events.

Based on what is known today, **June 8, 2011**, regarding the current neuropathogenic EHV-1 outbreak, we are suggesting that managers of horse shows or events occurring in California during the month of June 2011 incorporate the following biosecurity measures to minimize the risk for all participants:

1. **Non-exposed horses:** Event managers should create a short document for participants to sign upon arrival at the show grounds to confirm that their horses, mules, and burros attending the show/event have not been exposed to a clinical case\* of the neuropathogenic strain of EHV-1 and have not been on premises with a confirmed positive case within the prior 28 days.

\* Clinical case is defined as a horse testing positive on a laboratory test for the neuropathogenic strain of EHV-1 and having exhibited compatible clinical signs for EHV-1 which may include fever, abnormal nasal discharge and/or neurologic signs.

2. **For exposed horses\*:** Event managers should create a short document for participants to sign upon arrival at the show grounds to confirm that their horses, mules, and burros attending the show/event have not demonstrated clinical signs compatible with EHV-1 for the preceding 28 days and no other horses on the premises where they reside have shown clinical signs (fever, abnormal nasal discharge and/or neurologic signs) for the preceding 28 days. Additionally, it is recommended that the owner/trainer of an exposed horse showing residual neurological deficits provide evidence of two negative tests for the neuropathogenic strain of EHV-1 within the prior 14 days.

\* Exposed horse is defined as a horse which has resided on a premises with a confirmed positive EHV-1 horse or on a property which has had horses that have displayed clinical signs compatible with EHV-1 in the prior 28 days.

3. Establish a "No Fever" policy for horses attending the event. Give the participants prior notice of the new "No Fever" policy before they arrive at the show grounds. Provide instructions for obtaining the horse's temperature and an index card on which to record temperature readings for each horse.

- All horses will have temperatures taken twice daily and results will be posted on front of the stall/pen for inspection.
- Any horse will be subject to random temperature check by the show veterinarian or designated member of the veterinary staff during the event.
- Any horse with a fever of 102°F or greater will be removed from the event and premises immediately (i.e. within 2 hours of detection of fever).
- If the owner cannot move the horse off the premises, a professional horse hauler contracted by the event will remove the horse to a designated isolation area at the owner's expense.

4. It is understood that some (most) horses with a fever will not have EHV-1; however, in the interest of conducting a safe event under the current circumstances, we recommend event managers use the non-fever policy. Participants who choose not to comply with these safety measures should be advised to not attend the event.