Final EHV-1 Outbreak Update
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The outbreak of EHV-1 infection and EHM (paralysis) has been fully contained according to the latest and last update from the USDA (6-23-11). Since the last new case (two weeks ago in Washington State), no new operations have reported. One death has been reported since our last update (6-6-11) but there were no new EHM (EHV with paralysis) cases and only two cases of EHV infection without paralysis. No new EHV cases of any kind have been reported in the last week. All four of these new cases occurred among horses that were in contact with horses that were at the Ogden cutting event; no new cases have been reported among the horses who have returned from that event.

In summary, there is evidence of infection in 10 states (Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, Nevada, Oklahoma, Oregon, Utah, and Washington). 90 EHV infections have now been confirmed in these 10 states, with 33 being cases of paralysis (EHM) and 57 are infections with fever but without paralysis. 13 of the EHM cases have died from the disease or been euthanized. Of the 421 horses that were at the Ogden, Utah cutting horse event at the beginning of May there have been no new cases since the last report leaving a revised total of 54 confirmed infections (13% of the horses at the event), of which 26 are EHM (paralysis) cases. Another 46 horses (11%) are suspect cases; 24% of horses at that event are confirmed or suspected infected; 10 of them have died. Fortunately, there were no Florida horses at that event.

Another 1,685 horses were potentially exposed when these 421 horses returned home. Of these, 36 have been confirmed infected with 7 being EHM cases; another 26 horses are suspected to be infected. No case has been confirmed in Texas yet and the most eastern state affected in the outbreak is Oklahoma.

This outbreak has been effectively contained and brought under control by policies of identification of infected and suspect animals and strict quarantine. The risk to horses within Florida is essentially zero. Our advice to owners is to continue normal activities within the southeastern region while continuing to monitor updates.


We at the UF Large Animal Hospital have discontinued screening of travel histories for our patients and consider this outbreak over.