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Equine Disease

Last Modified:



APHIS protects and improves the health, quality, and marketability of our Nation's equines, equine products, and veterinary biologics. We do that by preventing, controlling, or eliminating equine diseases and monitoring and promoting equine health and productivity.

African Horse Sickness

African horse sickness is a disease of equids (horses, mules, donkeys, and zebras) that is spread primarily by biting midges.

Contagious Equine Metritis

Contagious equine metritis is a highly contagious venereal disease of horses that can be difficult to detect.

Equine Herpesvirus

Equine herpesvirus is a family of contagious viruses found in horses worldwide. Three herpesviruses pose a high disease risk to U.S. horses.

Equine Infectious Anemia

Equine infectious anemia is a viral, and sometimes fatal, disease that only affects horses, ponies, zebras, mules, and donkeys.

Equine Piroplasmosis

Equine Piroplasmosis is a blood-borne disease spread by either certain species of ticks or the use of blood-contaminated equipment between animals.

Equine Viral Arteritis

Equine viral arteritis is a contagious disease of horses. It can severely impact breeding and the international movement of horses and semen.

Vector-Borne Equine Encephalitides

Equine encephalitis viruses (Eastern, Western, and Venezuelan) are spread by infected mosquitos and can cause severe brain inflammation in horses and people.

Vesicular Stomatitis Virus

Vesicular stomatitis is a contagious disease of livestock, mainly affecting horses and cattle with blister-like lesions.

Disease Prevention and Management Programs

- National Animal Health Monitoring System Equine Studies
- Surveillance Reports: Equine Arbovirus Interactive Dashboard

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