



2025-26 Vesicular Stomatitis Virus (VSV) Situation Report – Feb. 23, 2026

Information current as of 10:00 am MDT, 2/23/2026

Since the last situation report (2/19/2026), there has been **one (1) new confirmed VSV-positive equine premises identified in Arizona (Gila County)**. All confirmed cases in the 2025-26 outbreak have been vesicular stomatitis New Jersey virus (VSNJV) serotype. Updates are as follows:

Arizona

- **Gila County** – 1 new equine premises confirmed VSV-positive
- Since the last situation report (2/19/2026), no additional VSV-affected premises have been released from quarantine

Classification of Cases

Premises that have diagnostic laboratory confirmation of VSV are categorized as confirmed positive premises. Once a county is confirmed as VSV-positive, new equine premises presenting with clinical signs of VSV in that county are not required to be tested for confirmation of the disease, but the premises will be quarantined and classified as a presumptive positive premises. Premises may also be classified as presumptive positive if clinical animals on the premises fail to meet confirmed case definition, but there is diagnostic laboratory evidence of recent VSV infection.

Quarantines

Confirmed and presumptive positive premises are quarantined for at least 14 days from the onset of lesions in the last affected animal on the premises.

Epidemiology and Disease Control

Vesicular stomatitis virus circulates annually between livestock and insect vectors in southern Mexico and only occasionally results in incursion to the U.S. when climatic and ecological factors support movement of VSV-infected insect vectors northward. Known competent vectors for transmission of VSV include black flies, sand flies, and biting midges (*Culicoides spp.*), but other insect vectors may also be involved. Susceptible species are primarily equids (horses, donkeys, mules) and cattle, but can also include camelids (llamas, alpacas), swine, sheep, and goats. Control measures on VSV suspect and confirmed positive premises include quarantine of all susceptible species, isolation of lesioned animals, enhanced biosecurity, and vector mitigation measures to reduce within-herd spread.

Summary of the Outbreak. [New information in blue](#)

The 2025-26 VSV outbreak began on October 31, 2025, when the National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) in Ames, Iowa, confirmed the first VSV-positive premises in Cochise County, Arizona.

Since the start of the outbreak, **11 VSV-affected premises have been identified (11 confirmed positive, 0 presumptive positive) in 1 state, Arizona.** All **11** premises have had only equine species clinically affected in five counties (Cochise, Gila, Maricopa, Pinal and Santa Cruz Counties). There were other susceptible species also present on VSV premises (cattle on 4 premises, goats on 1 premises) in Cochise, Gila, Maricopa, and Santa Cruz Counties, but they were not clinically affected.

Summary and Status of VSV-Affected Premises

Table 1. Location, number, and status of VSV-affected premises. [New information in blue.](#)

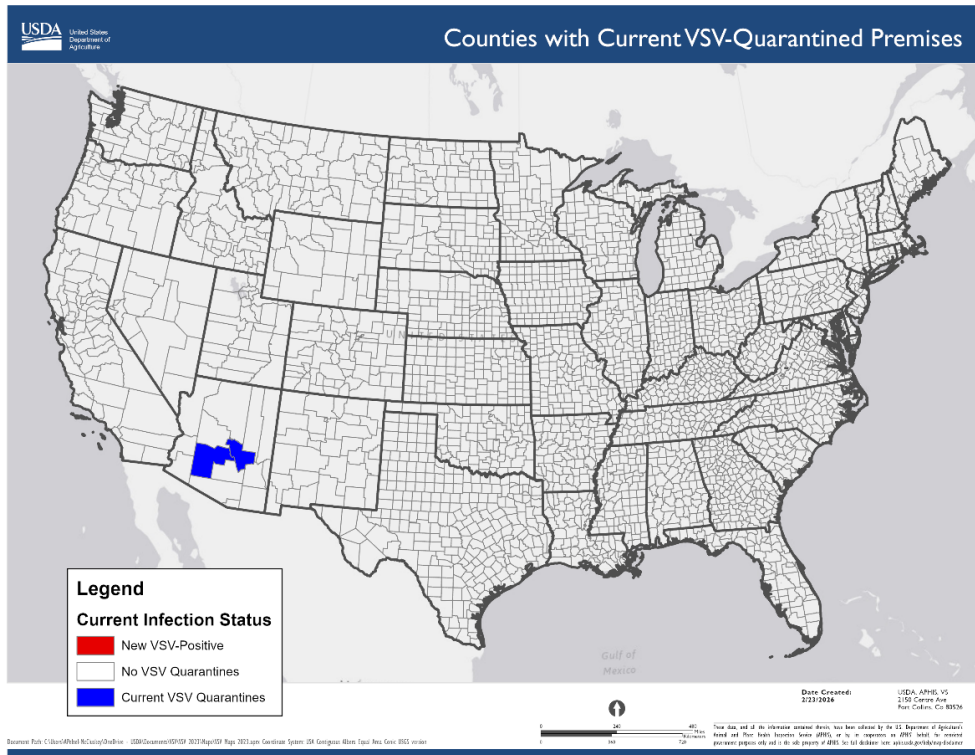
ARIZONA	Confirmed Positive Premises	Presumptive Positive Premises	Premises Released from Quarantine	Current Premises Quarantined
Cochise County	2	0	2	0
Gila County	2	0	1	1
Maricopa County	4	0	3	1
Pinal County	1	0	1	0
Santa Cruz County	2	0	2	0
TOTAL: 5 COUNTIES	11	0	9	2

Table 2. Cumulative count of species clinically affected on VSV-quarantined premises. [New information in blue.](#)

State	Premises with clinically affected equine species	Premises with clinically affected bovine species	Premises with clinical signs in both equine and bovine species	Premises with clinical signs in other susceptible species	Total affected premises
ARIZONA	11 *	0	0	0	11
TOTAL	11	0	0	0	11

*Includes wild horses in the Salt River Wild Horse Management Group located in the Tonto National Forest as 1 premises (affected area).

Map 1 (Current). Counties with Current VSV-Quarantined Premises



Map 2 (Cumulative). Counties with Premises Quarantined for VSV in 2025-26

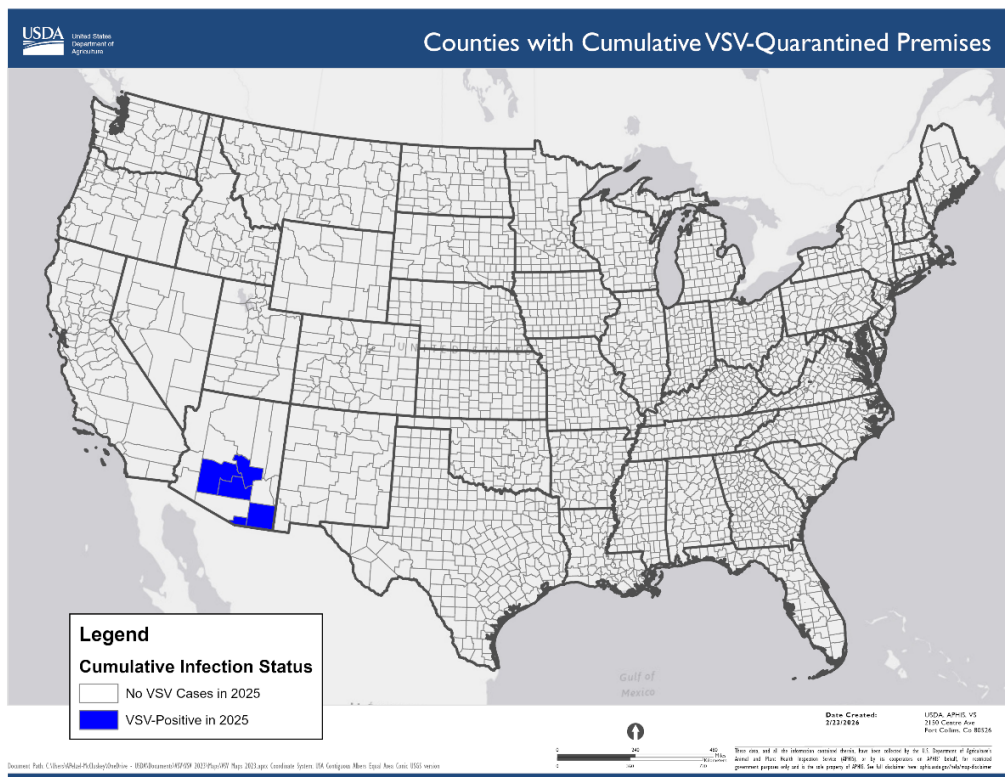


Figure 1. Epidemic Curve of VSV-Affected Premises by Lesion Onset Date

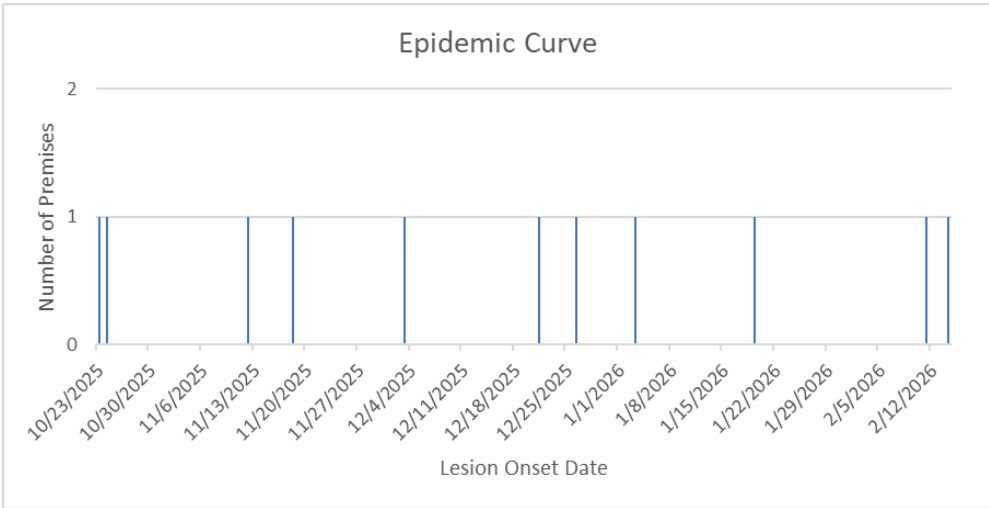


Table 3. Timeline of Events

Date	Event
October 31, 2025	VSV Index Cases for the U.S. confirmed at NVSL – Cochise County, Arizona
November 12, 2025	All affected premises released in Cochise County, Arizona
November 24, 2025	New affected county confirmed – Gila County, Arizona
November 25, 2025	New affected county confirmed – Santa Cruz County, Arizona
December 9, 2025	New affected county confirmed – Maricopa County, Arizona
January 8, 2026	New affected county confirmed – Pinal County, Arizona
January 26, 2026	All affected premises released in Santa Cruz County, Arizona
January 30, 2026	All affected premises released in Pinal County, Arizona