

Vesicular Stomatitis Virus Confirmed in Oklahoma Equine

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK, - JULY 22,2020 - Any livestock (cattle, horses, swine, sheep, goats, camelids) coming from an affected County in Oklahoma must have a CVI written within 5 days with a statement that says, "All animals identified on this certificate of veterinary inspection have been examined and found to be free from signs of vesicular stomatitis and have not originated from a premise which is under quarantine for vesicular stomatitis."

Any livestock coming from an affected County in another state must have a CVI written within 5 days with a statement that says, "All animals identified on this certificate of veterinary inspection have been examined and found to be free from signs of vesicular stomatitis and have not originated from a premise which is under quarantine for vesicular stomatitis."

If the event is not in an affected County the livestock may go home the way they always have except some other States require a shortened CVI for livestock from an **entire** State if they have any quarantined premises. If the event is in an affected County all livestock should have a CVI from the event to go home. It's always a good idea in times like this to call the state of destination because most, if not all, other states will put restrictions on livestock that have been in Oklahoma.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. – On July 7, 2020, the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry confirmed the finding of vesicular stomatitis virus, also known as VSV, at a premise in Washington County. This horse showed lesions in its mouth and on its muzzle.

VSV is a viral disease of horses, donkeys, mules, cattle and swine. Initial symptoms include excessive salivation and reluctance to eat or drink. Clinical signs include vesicles, erosions and sloughing of the skin on the muzzle, tongue, ears, teats and coronary bands of their hooves. Lameness or weight loss may follow. Body temperature may rise immediately before or at the same time lesions first appear.

So far in 2020, VSV has been reported in Kansas, Nebraska, Arizona and Texas.

Health papers dates within how many days of arrival?

- Animals coming from an affected county should have a CVI within 5 days with the following **veterinary statement:**
- All animals identified on this certificate of veterinary inspection have been examined and found **to be free from signs of vesicular stomatitis and have not originated from a premise which is under quarantine for vesicular stomatitis**
- If animals are leaving the event to return home in another state, owners need to check with **those states to see if there are any restrictions/requirements for re-entry coming from a state with a confirmed VSV positive. They may not be able to return on the same CVI.**

What Livestock Owners Need to Know:

- VSV affects primarily horses and cattle.
- VSV normally has an incubation period of 2-8 days before the infected animal develops blisters that swell and burst, leaving painful sores.

- The virus can be transmitted through direct contact with infected animals or by blood-feeding insects.
- If VSV is confirmed, infected animals are quarantined for 14 days after clinical signs of lesions are observed. This short-term quarantine helps prevent the movement of animals and the spread of the disease to other premises, fairs or markets.
- Humans can also become infected with VSV, but it is a very rare event.

Recommended Actions:

There is currently no USDA-approved vaccination for VSV. Even with the best defensive measures, VSV could infect a herd.

However, these tips could help protect livestock:

- Control biting flies
- Keep equine stalled or under a roof at night to reduce exposure to flies
- Keep stalls clean
- Feed and water stock in individual buckets
- Don't visit any premise that is under quarantine

Veterinarians and livestock owners who suspect VSV in their animals should immediately contact the OK State Veterinarians office at (405) 522-6141.