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Equine Herpesvirus Update

April 4, 2019

The ISDA has received confirmation of a second case of equine herpesvirus (EHV-1) in Idaho this year.

A mare at a private equine training facility in Bannock County aborted a pregnancy in late March. On April 4, 2019, the ISDA received laboratory confirmation the abortion was caused by EHV-1 infection, despite the mare being current on her vaccinations.

The horse has not traveled to any events or locations since fall 2018 and is currently under veterinary care at the private facility, which is under quarantine. The horse had been in direct contact with two other horses at her home facility. No respiratory or neurological symptoms have been observed in any of the three horses, and they do not have regular contact with horses in training at the facility. The facility offers private training and does not host equine events.

There is no evidence to suggest this case is in any way connected to the EHV-positive horse diagnosed last week in Ada County.

ISDA urges horse owners to avoid transporting their horses unless absolutely necessary. At this time, the decision to cancel upcoming equine events and competitions remains with the event coordinators at each host facility. Should horse owners elect to participate in events, they are strongly urged to implement enhanced biosecurity.

ISDA will provide an update if more details develop.

Do not hesitate to call the ISDA office with any questions or concerns.

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