

# 64<sup>th</sup> National Championship Show

## World Championship Appaloosa Youth Show

### BIOSECURITY

While EHV outbreaks are not new to the equine industry, the most recent cases highlight the importance of practical management policies that will help limit the spread of *any* transmittable equine disease. Though EHV is primarily spread horse to horse by aerosol transmission (airborne), horses can shed the virus and it can live on surfaces for 7 days or longer. So essentially, anything that touches your horse including tack, brushes, the stall, shavings and people (and their clothes) can unknowingly spread the virus horse to horse.

The good news is that there are easy, economical and effective ways to minimize the transmission of this and any infectious disease.

Because we are concerned for the welfare of Appaloosa horses attending the upcoming National/World Youth show, we're making changes to our procedures to help prevent the spread of any infectious disease.

And, we've also included some tips for you in managing your herd, both at the show and at home, to minimize the spread and impact of any transmittable disease.

#### **ApHC Show Officials:**

It's still important that we thoroughly check each animal and their tack/equipment for compliance with the rules. However, in doing so:

1. We will do our best to minimize any contact between our officials (inspectors and equipment judges) and your horses and/or tack.
2. When we do have to touch your horse or equipment, we'll use disposable gloves and will dispose of them in closed, lidded dumpsters in between each horse. Or, we'll use hand sanitizer after touching a horse or piece of equipment and before touching another horse or equipment.
3. If we have to measure a bit or another piece of equipment, we'll disinfect the bit gauge before using it on another piece of equipment.
4. You can help us by handling your horses and tack in a way to minimize any contact we have to have with either.
5. All stalls will be disinfected by Tulsa Expo Square facility personnel before we move in and after the show at the facility the previous weekend.
6. There are State-approved quarantine protocols in place at Tulsa Expo Square.

#### **What You Can Do at the Show:**

Anything that touches an infected horse or carries secretions or manure from sick horses has the potential to transfer pathogens to other horses. So to minimize risk,

1. Don't travel with or bring horses that appear to be ill. If your horse exhibits a temperature of more than 101.5 degrees, please isolate the horse and seek veterinary care. And confirm test findings before bringing any horses in your barn that have had contact with any sick barn mates.

## **What You Can Do at the Show (cont.):**

2. Properly vaccinate all horses that will be attending the show. ApHC-associated veterinarians recommend that horses be vaccinated for influenza, rhinopneumonitis and West Nile virus.
3. Don't let your horse touch noses with any other horses.
4. Bring disinfectant and have it available to use on your stalls (if you choose), equipment, boots etc.
5. Equipment (buckets, halters etc.) should be clearly labeled for each horse and used only on that horse.
6. Wash your hands with soap & water and/or use an antibacterial solution after handling a horse and before touching another horse.
7. Do not submerge water hoses when filling buckets.
8. Wheel barrows should be designated for feed OR manure removal but not for both.
9. Disinfect equipment between horses if using on more than one horse.
10. Equipment that cannot be disinfected should be used only on the same horse.
11. Ointments/creams/liniments should be moved from large containers to smaller individual containers labeled for each horse and not shared between horses.
12. Multi-dose medicines (like phenylbutazone or banamine) should not be shared between horses.

## **RESOURCES**

For additional measures that you can take at home and while traveling, please access the following web sites. Both have extensive information on EHV and other transmissible sicknesses along with biosecurity measures to minimize the spread of infectious diseases.

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/equine/ehv/>

<http://www.aaep.org>

## **TRAVEL**

As you prepare to travel (in many cases cross-country) to the National/World Youth Show, you'll need to know if there are any entry/exit requirements specific to horse transport in any of the States you traverse. Because these requirements can change rapidly in response to any outbreak concerns, we recommend that you check periodically with the Department of Agriculture or office of the State Veterinarian for each State through which you travel to determine if there are specific requirements that must be met in order to travel through that State.

And if you lay-over along the way, call ahead and discuss the biosecurity measures that the facility employs to ensure that your horses will be cared for in a place that actively applies best practices for the safety of all horses passing through.



We look forward to seeing you in Tulsa. If we all do our part, we can expect to have a great show filled with exciting competition, fun activities and most of all, beautiful and healthy Appaloosa horses!