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**Equine Herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1) Update
June 3, 2011**

AUSTIN - The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) is wrapping up the investigation of one confirmed case of the neurologic form of EHV-1 in Ector County. Information gathered indicates that the affected horse had not attended a public event in several months, making this most likely an isolated case. Other horses on the premises are under movement restrictions and are being closely monitored for signs of the illness.

Regarding the Ogden, UT event, 9 of the 26 horses in Texas that attended the event remain under movement restriction. The number of cohorts (stabledmates), under movement restriction has dropped from 323 to 150. Currently, there are a total of 6 premises that have been exposed. The affected counties include: Randall, Parker, and Jack counties. No Texas origin horse from the Ogden, Utah event has been confirmed to have the neurologic form of EHV-1, at the present time.

In other situations where horses have either shown signs consistent with EHV-1 or tested positive for EHV-1, movement restrictions have been put in place while additional diagnostic work is conducted by the attending veterinarian. Positive test results or clinical signs alone do not necessarily mean that an animal is confirmed of being infected with the neurologic form of EHV-1.

The TAHC urges horse owners to practice good biosecurity when traveling to equine related events. The following are links that provide basic biosecurity information.

http://www.aep.org/pdfs/control_guidelines/Biosecurity_instructions%201.pdf

http://www.aep.org/pdfs/control_guidelines/Instructions%20to%20grooms.pdf

USDA's third EHV-1 situation report is available at

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/equine/ehv/ehv_2011_sitrep_060211.pdf

The TAHC will continue posting EHV-1 updates twice a week, unless new confirmed cases arise. For information regarding EHV-1, visit www.tahc.state.tx.us. You can also keep up with EHV-1 information through our Facebook (www.facebook.com/TexasAHC) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/TAHC) sites.

**Note* To be consistent with reports from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and other states, the TAHC is following USDA guidelines for clinical and suspect cases which have very specific criteria to meet the case definition. Currently "suspect" and "confirmed" cases will be the two types of cases that the TAHC reports. The following USDA link outlines the specific definition for what is classified as a "suspect" and/or "confirmed" case:*

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/equine/ehv/ehv_ehm_recommendations_051611.pdf

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Equine Herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1) Update
June 8, 2011 (Final Release)

AUSTIN - The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) has no new developments to report regarding the one confirmed "isolated" case of the neurologic form of EHV-1 in Ector County or the 26 horses in Texas that attended the National Cutting Horse Association (NCHA) Western National Championships event held in Ogden, Utah, April 30-May 8. Barring unforeseen circumstances, movement restrictions remaining on the last 9 of the 26 horses are expected to be lifted, Friday, June 10.

Final Texas stats:

- 2 "confirmed cases"
 - Horse from New Mexico that attended the cutting event that sought treatment at a Texas vet clinic (horse returned to premises of origin and is recovering)
 - Quarter Horse racehorse stabled in Ector County (unrelated to Utah event)

TAHC officials advise Texas equine owners that they should feel free to participate in horse shows, rodeos, and other equine related events as "confirmed" and "suspect" cases of the neurological form of EHV-1 appear to have been contained.

"Sufficient time has passed for most horses that may have been exposed to the virus traced to the cutting event held in Ogden, Utah, last month. Though none showed symptoms of the disease, the few horses in Texas that tested positive will remain quarantined on their premises and monitored closely until the virus shedding period has passed," Dr. Dee Ellis, State Veterinarian, said.

TAHC officials have maintained good communication with owners of the affected horses and their stablemates. The horses have been isolated and monitored closely the past few weeks by their owners and their veterinarians.

TAHC emphasizes the continued need for horse owners to practice good biosecurity. Herpes viruses are common in horse populations just as they are with humans. As a general rule of thumb, all horse owners should always be vigilant in practicing good biosecurity and hygiene to minimize the threat of disease.

Tips to help prevent the spread of EHV-1 include:

- Don't share equipment among horses. The virus can be spread through objects such as water, feed buckets or bridles.
- Prevent spreading the virus from horse to horse via hands and clothing. People should thoroughly wash hands after handling one horse and before handling another.

USDA's EHV-1 situation report is available http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/equine/ehv/ehv_2011_sitrep_060811.pdf

This update will be the final EHV-1 report unless new situations arise. For general EHV-1 biosecurity measures and suggestions for horse owners and event organizers, visit www.tahc.state.tx.us.

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Equine Herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1) Update May 17, 2011

Currently there are no confirmed cases of Equine Herpesvirus (EHV-1) in Texas. The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) has no plans to change entry requirements for equine animals or to cancel any equine events at the present time. There has been no indication of spread outside of horses that attended the National Cutting Horse Association's (NCHA) Western National Championships in Odgen, UT on April 30 - May 8, 2011.

For information regarding EHV-1, visit www.tahc.state.tx.us . Several useful links can also be accessed through our website. You can also keep up with EHV-1 information through our Facebook (www.facebook.com/TexasAHC) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/TAHC) sites.

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**Equine Herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1) Update
May 19, 2011**

Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) officials are continuing to trace exposed horses that attended the National Cutting Horse Association (NCHA) Western National Championships event that ended on May 8 in Ogden, Utah. There are currently 26 known horses in Texas that attended the event. Those 26 horses and a total of 323 more cohorts (stablemates) of the 26 are currently being held under movement restrictions across the state.

Texas has currently only detected one confirmed case. That horse sought treatment at a veterinary clinic in far West Texas and has subsequently returned to New Mexico where it originated. A second horse located in Jack County has been classified as "suspect" and is pending further diagnostic testing. The TAHC is following the U.S.D.A. guidelines for clinical and suspect cases which have very specific criteria to meet the case definition, and for now suspect and confirmed cases will be the two types of cases reported.

The epidemiological investigation of all 300+ plus horses that reportedly attended the event continues nationwide, and the number of Texas horses identified as exposed may increase in the following days. Although mandatory cancellation of future events is not anticipated, the TAHC suggests that horse owners consider the risk of participating in upcoming events scheduled for this weekend and/or comingling their horses with other horses and equipment (trailers) of unknown history. Because the incubation period is usually about 4-6 days or less, even a one week voluntary stop movement may be enough to nip the cycle of transmission between horses before it grows in scope. Horse owners should contact event organizers in advance to ensure that scheduled events have not been cancelled. Some other states have established emergency rules for entry as a result of this situation, so if interstate travel is planned, owners and/or veterinarians writing health certificates should check in advance to ensure they meet all entry requirements. Finally, it is recommended that all newly purchased horses or introduced horses to a premise should be isolated to help prevent the accidental introduction of EHV-1 (and other diseases) onto the premise.

For the latest and most current information, visit www.tahc.state.tx.us and/or www.facebook.com/TexasAHC or www.twitter.com/TAHC

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Equine Herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1) Update
May 20, 2011

Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) officials are continuing to trace exposed horses that attended the National Cutting Horse Association (NCHA) Western National Championships event that ended on May 8 in Ogden, Utah that were potentially exposed to Equine Herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1). There are now 25 known horses in Texas that attended the event and 336 more cohorts (stablemates) of the 25 that are currently being held under movement restrictions across the state. **The good news is that no new cases have been reported today.** Texas still only has one confirmed case and one suspect case reported. The epidemiological investigation continues however, and Texas horse owners must be vigilant of the possibility that exposed horses may still be incubating the disease.

TAHC continues to suggest that horse owners closely evaluate the risk of participating in upcoming events scheduled for this weekend and/or co-mingling their horses with other horses and equipment (trailers) of unknown history. Because the incubation period is usually about 4-6 days or less, even a one week voluntary stop movement may be enough to nip the cycle of transmission between horses before it grows in scope. The TAHC will re-evaluate this position after analyzing new case data or other epidemiological information that may be disclosed over the weekend.

Horse owners should contact event organizers in advance to ensure that scheduled events have not been cancelled. Some other states have established emergency rules for entry as a result of this situation, so if interstate travel is planned, owners and/or veterinarians writing health certificates should check in advance to ensure they meet all entry requirements. Finally, it is recommended that all newly purchased horses or introduced horses to a premise should be isolated to help.

Another EHV-1 update will be sent out Monday evening. For information regarding EHV-1, visit www.tahc.state.tx.us. Several useful links can also be accessed through our website. You can also keep up with EHV-1 information through our Facebook (www.facebook.com/TexasAHC) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/TAHC) sites.

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Equine Herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1) Update
May 23, 2011

Currently, there are still 25 known horses in Texas that attended the event and 336 cohorts (stablemates) of the 25 that are currently being held under movement restrictions. The single confirmed case which was a horse from New Mexico that sought treatment in a veterinary clinic in Texas is now recovering. The horse returned to its original premises of origin. The single "suspect" case that was reported Thursday, May 19, from Jack County tested negative for EHV-1, however was euthanized due to the severity of its unrelated illness. TAHC continues to evaluate other unrelated horses with clinical signs, but no additional cases have been confirmed at this time.

To be consistent with reports from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and other states, the TAHC is following USDA guidelines for clinical and suspect cases which have very specific criteria to meet the case definition. Currently "suspect" and "confirmed" cases will be the two types of cases that the TAHC reports.

The following USDA link outlines the specific definition for what is classified as a "suspect" and/or "confirmed" case:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/equine/ehv/ehv_ehm_recommendations_051611.pdf

To view the May 19, 2011 EHV-1 nationwide situation report compiled by USDA, visit

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/equine/ehv/ehv_2010_sitrep_051911.pdf

TAHC officials urge Texas horse owners to be vigilant of the possibility that exposed horses may still be incubating the disease. Horse owners should contact event organizers in advance to ensure that scheduled events have not been cancelled.

The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) has no plans to change entry requirements for equine animals or to mandate cancelling any equine events at the present time. The TAHC will re-evaluate this position after analyzing new case data or other epidemiological information that arises.

For information regarding EHV-1, visit www.tahc.state.tx.us. Several useful links can also be accessed through our website. You can also keep up with EHV-1 information through our Facebook (www.facebook.com/TexasAHC) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/TAHC) sites.

Daily EHV-1 updates will be provided/posted at the end of business day throughout this week.

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Equine Herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1) Update May 24, 2011

The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) has no "confirmed" or "suspect" cases of the neurologic form of EHV-1 to report today. As a reminder, the TAHC is following USDA guidelines for reporting "confirmed" and "suspect" cases.

TAHC officials have started releasing primary traced horses and their cohorts (stablemates) that attended the Ogden, Utah, NCHA event.

Currently 18 known horses in Texas that attended the event and 189 cohorts (stablemates) remain under movement restrictions.

TAHC and Texas veterinarians continue to investigate new situations statewide where horses are displaying symptoms consistent with that of the neurologic form of EHV-1.

The TAHC will post another Texas EHV-1 update tomorrow, Wednesday, May 25 at 5:30 p.m.

A national report from USDA will be available Thursday afternoon.

For information regarding EHV-1, visit www.tahc.state.tx.us . Several useful links can also be accessed through our website. You can also keep up with EHV-1 information through our Facebook (www.facebook.com/TexasAHC) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/TAHC) sites.

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Equine Herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1) Update
May 25, 2011

The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) has no "confirmed" or "suspect" cases of the neurologic form of EHV-1 to report today. TAHC officials continue releasing primary traced horses and their cohorts (stablemates) that attended the Ogden, Utah, NCHA event.

Currently 16 known horses in Texas that attended the event and 185 cohorts (stablemates) remain under movement restrictions. There are a total of ten premises that have been exposed and those premises are in the following counties: Randall, Parker, Jack, Kerr and Mills counties.

TAHC and Texas veterinarians continue to investigate new situations statewide where horses are displaying symptoms consistent with that of the neurologic form of EHV-1.

If traveling out of state, TAHC officials urge horse owners to check with the state of destination before traveling . A downloadable list of contact information for all 50 state animal health agencies may be found on the U.S. Animal Association website

(<http://www.usaha.org/Reference/FederalStateAnimalHealth.aspx>) or on the USDA website (http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/animals/animal_import/animal_imports_states.shtml).

The TAHC will post another Texas EHV-1 update tomorrow, Thursday, May 26 at 5:30 p.m. A new national report from USDA will also be available Friday, May 27.

For information regarding EHV-1, visit www.tahc.state.tx.us or Facebook (www.facebook.com/TexasAHC) or Twitter (www.twitter.com/TAHC)

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Equine Herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1) Update
May 26, 2011

The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) has no "confirmed" or "suspect" cases of the neurologic form of EHV-1 to report today. TAHC officials continue releasing primary traced horses and their cohorts (stablemates) that attended the Ogden, Utah, NCHA event. The TAHC and Texas veterinarians continue to investigate new situations statewide where horses are displaying symptoms consistent with that of the neurologic form of EHV-1.

Currently 15 known horses in Texas that attended the event and 174 cohorts (stablemates) remain under movement restrictions. There are now a total of nine premises that have been exposed and those premises are in the following counties: Randall, Parker, Jack, Kerr and Mills counties.

As a reminder, for out of state travel, TAHC officials urge horse owners to check with the state of destination before traveling. A list of contact information for all 50 state animal health agencies can be found on the U.S. Animal Association website at

<http://www.usaha.org/Reference/FederalStateAnimalHealth.aspx> or on the USDA website at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/animals/animal_import/animal_imports_states.shtml.

The TAHC will post another Texas EHV-1 update tomorrow, Friday, May 27. For information regarding EHV-1, visit www.tahc.state.tx.us or Facebook (www.facebook.com/TexasAHC) or Twitter (www.twitter.com/TAHC)

**Note* To be consistent with reports from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and other states, the TAHC is following USDA guidelines for clinical and suspect cases which have very specific criteria to meet the case definition. Currently "suspect" and "confirmed" cases will be the two types of cases that the TAHC reports. The following USDA link outlines the specific definition for what is classified as a "suspect" and/or "confirmed" case: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/equine/ehv/ehv_ehm_recommendations_051611.pdf*

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**Equine Herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1) Update
May 27, 2011**

AUSTIN - The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) has one confirmed case of the neurologic form of EHV-1 to report today. Preliminary investigation indicates no connection to the Ogden, Utah NCHA event. A Quarter Horse racehorse stabled in Ector County, TX displayed neurologic symptoms consistent with the disease, and ultimately tested positive for EHV-1. All horses on the premises are under quarantine and will be managed according to USDA recommendations for confirmed cases. Additional information is being gathered to determine if any other horses were exposed.

Regarding the Ogden, UT event, there are currently 12 known horses in Texas that attended the event and 174 cohorts (stabledmates) remaining under movement restrictions. There are now a total of 8 premises that have been exposed and those premises are in the following counties: Randall, Parker, Jack, Kerr and Mills counties.

Horse owners should contact event organizers in advance to ensure that scheduled events have not been cancelled. Some other states have established emergency rules for entry as a result of this situation. A list of contact information for all 50 state animal health agencies can be found on the U.S. Animal Association website at <http://www.usaha.org/Reference/FederalStateAnimalHealth.aspx> or on the USDA website at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/animals/animal_import/animal_imports_states.shtml

The May 26 EHV-1 nationwide situation reported compiled by USDA can be viewed at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/equine/ehv/ehv_2011_sitrep_052611.pdf USDA's report shows cumulative data submitted from all involved states. TAHC's daily updates report the current in-state data.

For information regarding EHV-1, visit www.tahc.state.tx.us . You can also keep up with EHV-1 information through our Facebook (www.facebook.com/TexasAHC) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/TAHC) sites.

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**Equine Herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1) Update
May 31, 2011**

AUSTIN - The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) continues to investigate one confirmed case of the neurologic form of EHV-1 in a Quarter Horse racehorse, stabled in Ector Co., that is not connected to the Ogden, Utah National Cutting Horse Association (NCHA) event. The affected horse displayed neurologic symptoms consistent with the disease, and ultimately tested positive for EHV-1. All horses on the premises are under quarantine and will be managed according to USDA recommendations for confirmed cases. Additional information is being gathered to determine if any other horses were exposed.

Regarding the Ogden, UT event, 11 of the 26 horses in Texas that attended the event remain under movement restriction. The number of cohorts (stablemates), under movement restriction has dropped from 323 to 171. There are now a total of seven premises that have been exposed in the following counties: Randall, Parker, Jack, and Mills counties. No Texas origin horse from the Ogden event has been confirmed to have the neurologic form of EHV-1, so far.

In other situations where horses have either shown signs consistent with EHV-1 or tested positive for EHV-1, movement restrictions have been put in place while additional diagnostic work is conducted by the attending veterinarian.

The TAHC has transitioned from daily updates on EHV-1 to twice weekly updates, unless new cases are confirmed in the future.

For information regarding EHV-1, visit www.tahc.state.tx.us. You can also keep up with EHV-1 information through our Facebook (www.facebook.com/TexasAHC) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/TAHC) sites.

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