

AgNews

DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
2320 South DuPont Highway, Dover, DE 19901



To: Newsroom Directors and Assignment Editors

For Immediate Release: **Contact** **Anne Fitzgerald**
December 18, 2008 **800.282.8685 (DE only)**
 302.698.4520
Number of pages: 1 **302.242.4092 (Cell)**

Delaware Equine Herpesvirus (EHV-1) update

Today, Dr. Heather Hirst, Delaware State Veterinarian announced that test results on the four barnmates of the second EHV-1 neurologic horse were received from the University of Kentucky this morning. Three tested negative for the blood/nasal swab PCR tests and one tested positive. The positive horse is not showing clinical signs of illness. The positive test was pathotyped as non-neuropathogenic EHV-1 by Kentucky.

The second horse with neurologic disease was euthanized yesterday. During the current EHV-1 event in Delaware, 2 horses have developed neurologic disease and both have been euthanized based on decisions made by the owners of the horses and their private veterinarians. No other horses in the quarantined barns have come down with neurologic disease. One horse developed a fever of short duration but tested negative on two consecutive days. All other animals to date are asymptomatic.

The barn on the second premise will remain quarantined for 21 days.

Both farms were visited today, December 18, by Animal Health personnel from the Delaware Department of Agriculture who documented that the barns under quarantine still have caution tape and KEEP OUT signs and that farm personnel were following biosecurity procedures at the time of the visit.

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