Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Adam H. Putnam, Commissioner

EP Subcommittee Report
Infectious Diseases of Horses Committee

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October 2014
EP Subcommitteee Report Summary

- EP National Situation Report (October 2014)
- EP Surveillance
- Tick Surveillance
- *T. equi* Strain Typing
- New Strain of *T. equi* Detected
EP National Situation Report
Summary

- > 268,000 horses tested since November 2009
- 22,395 tested in 2014
- Since 2009 there have been 247 EP positive horses
- 33 were detected in 2014
  - 25 QH racing, 3 previous Imports, 3 tied to illegal imports

All of the positive EP horses have been in one of two high risk categories (4 exceptions)
  - Horses imported prior to August 2005 using the CFT test
  - Those involved in QH racing
    - Of the 247 positives, 198 were directly connected to QH racing (80%)
**EP National Situation Report Summary**

- 9 States currently have 51 EP positive horses in quarantine
  - CA, CO, FL, GA, IL, MA, NC, OH, TX

- 41 horses have been enrolled in the approved treatment program
  - 22 have been released after being successfully treated
On Going EP Surveillance

- Surveillance has decreased since 2009
  - >75,000 horses tested in 2010 and 2011
  - > 22,000 tested YTD 2014

- States that currently have import requirements
  - GA, FL, NC, MI, PA, WA

- Sanctioned race tracks in 3 states are currently requiring EP testing
  - CA, TX, NM

- Texas is writing a rule that will require EP testing at non-sanctioned tracks and training facilities
Tick Surveillance and Research

There is a need for more tick research and comprehensive tick surveys
  - CEAH, SCWDS, ARS

Need to development a tick submission reporting system and central repository for historical and ongoing tick collection information
The Parasitic Disease Committee requested that CEAH determine:

- The risk of *A. canjenennse* being transported from TX to other states
- The natural range and current distribution of *A. cajenennse* be determined

CEAH conducting a feasibility study for *A. cajenennse* risk assessment, which includes 3 primary aims:

- Define the geographic distribution of the *A. cajenennse* tick in the U.S., based on tick survey data.
- Characterize the habitat associated with the *A. cajenennse* in the U.S.
- Evaluate the interstate movements of horses, cattle, and feral swine within the defined tick habitat.
Current and Potential Distribution of the Cayenne Tick, *Amblyomma cajennense*, in the Continental United States

United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Veterinary Services
Science, Technology, and Analysis Services
Center for Epidemiology and Animal Health

September 2014
Research is ongoing at NVSL and ARS, Pullman to develop genetic strain typing of *T. equi* organisms
USDA, ARS, Pullman, has found a novel, Mexican strain of *T. equi*

- The new strain is less virulent than the current strain detected in the US
- The significance of the new strain is unknown and research is continuing
Questions