Veterinary Services

National Animal Health Monitoring System
Equine 2015

Josie L. Traub-Dargatz DVM, MS, DACVIM
Professor of Equine Medicine at CSU-CVMBS and
Equine Commodity Specialist at Center for Epidemiology and Animal Health
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Veterinary Services
Previous NAHMS Equine Studies: 1998 & 2005
Equine 2015

Needs Assessment Survey Results for the Upcoming NAHMS Equine 2015 Study

April 2014
NAHMS Equine 2015 Objectives

• Describe trends in equine care and health management for study years 1998, 2005, and 2015
• Estimate the occurrence of owner-reported lameness and describe practices associated with the management of lameness
• Describe health and management practices associated with important equine infectious diseases
• Describe animal health related costs of equine ownership
• Evaluate control practices for gastrointestinal parasites
• Evaluate horses for presence of ticks and describe tick-control practices used on equine operations
• Collect equine sera along with equine demographic information in order to create a serum bank for future studies
Selected 28 States for NAHMS Equine 2015 Study

– Represent 71.5% of U.S. equids based on 2012 Ag Census
– Represent 71.7% of U. S. equine operations based on 2012 Ag Census
– Selected based on number of equids or equine operations (n=21)
– Selected based on equine population or operation density (n=6)
– Geographic representation and available resources (n=1)
NAHMS Equine 2015 study regions

Regions
- West
- South central
- Northeast
- Southeast
Time Table for NAHMS Equine 2015

• Federal Register Notice (FRN) announcing plan for study was open for public comment for 60 days. Closed September 5, 2014

• FRN, including details of NAHMS Equine 2015 study were posted October 7, 2014. Public comment period 30 days
  – Draft questionnaires, biologic sample forms, biosecurity assessment form, participant packet materials
Time Table for NAHMS Equine 2015

- NASS Visit July 2015
  - NASDA enumerators trained by NASS and VS will make initial contact with potential participants to set up a face-to-face interview and to complete the NASS questionnaire
NASS Questionnaire

• Questionnaire emphasis is questions related to general equine health and management practices.

• Equine health and management data from 1998, 2005, and 2015 will be summarized in a trends report.
Time Table for NAHMS Equine 2015

• Veterinary Medical Officer (VMO) visit
  – VMO interview with owners who agree to have names turned over after NASS visit
  – Second questionnaire
  – Collection of biologic samples
  – VMO phase to begin in September 2015
VMO Questionnaire

• 6 sections
  – Inventory
  – Vaccine practices
  – Parasite problems and parasite control practices
  – Tick diseases and tick control practices
  – Lameness occurrence and management practices
  – Economics of equine health care
VMO Visit

• Inspection of equids for presence of ticks by VMO
  – Scratch examination performed, training video of procedure
  – Collect a representative sample of ticks, if present
  – Ship to NVSL for identification

• Biosecurity assessment
  – Conducted by VMO based on visualization of equine management practices during on-site visit

• Blood collection
  – Create serum bank for future research studies

• Fecal collection
  – Culture for *Salmonella* sp. and non-type specific *E. coli* and subsequent antimicrobial susceptibility testing
Anthelmintic Resistance of Strongyles

- Proposed study plan similar to that employed in cow-calf study
- Sample kits will be provided by VMO during visit, and sampling protocol will be explained to participant by VMO
  - Participant will collect and submit pre- and post-deworming fecal samples
- NAHMS can provide kits and shipping
  - Still exploring options for funding to pay for fecal testing
Status of NAHMS Equine 2015

• Needs assessment-completed
• Study objectives developed-completed
• Proposed States to be part of study completed
• Presentation about needs assessment and objectives of NAHMS Equine 2015 study at AHC-HRC and Coalition of State Horse Councils-June 2014
• Presentation to Equine Committee of American Feed Industry Association-Sept 2014
Planned Activities NAHMS Equine 2015

• Form a working group with a designee from each of the six VS districts and equine core team from NAHMS
• Field pretest of data-collection instruments planned in each of the six VS districts
• Refine plan for several aspects of biologic phase of study by late 2014
  – Parasite resistance—exploring funding options for fecal testing
  – Serology for future research; exploring option for funding of EHV-1 multiplex antibody testing and SN titer determination
Planned Activities NAHMS Equine 2015

• Finalize questionnaires
  – Early 2015

• Develop and distribute stakeholder announcement to make industry and potential participants aware of upcoming study
  – Early 2015

• Conduct enumerator and VMO training late spring/summer 2015
Questions?