Equine Piroplasmosis Update

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Equine Piroplasmosis
Timeline of Events

• Fall 2009 – Diagnosis of index case
• 2010 – Epidemiological investigation
  – Population 1 – Tick Associated
  – Population 2 – Racing Horses
  – Population 3 – Imported Horses
• June 2011 – Rule requiring testing of horses entering sanctioned racing facilities for both *T. equi* and *B. caballi*
EP Testing for Racing Facilities

- June 2011 to December 2014
- 118 positive horses disclosed
- All *T. equi*
- All racing quarter horses
Equine Piroplasmosis
Timeline of Events (cont’d)

• January 2015 – Amendment of rule
  – Require *T. equi* testing only
  – Redefine racing facility - grounds used to conduct live horse racing events and is not limited to facilities licensed by the Texas Racing Commission

• Thoroughbreds – rule held in abeyance at sanctioned racing facilities
EP Testing for Racing Facilities (Unsanctioned)

- Outreach
- Enforcement
  - Collaborative effort with multiple LE entities
EP Testing for Racing Facilities (Unsanctioned)

- Van Zandt County – La Estrella
  - 33 equine inspected
  - 32 had no piroplasmosis test
  - 31 had no EIA test
  - 63 complaints filed
EP Testing for Racing Facilities (Unsanctioned)

• Rockwall County – Cinco Estrella
  – 34 equine inspected
  – 32 had no piroplasmosis test
  – 31 had no EIA test
  – 39 complaints filed
EP Testing for Racing Facilities (Sanctioned)

• Cluster 1 – 3 positive horses
  – Illegal entry from Indiana
  – Horses tested for entry into sanctioned track
  – 2 horses had no ties to TX – reportedly originated in IL and MD
  – Positive horses have common trainer
  – Led to discovery of large stable with racing facility
  – Tested total of 66 horses; multiple owners, multiple trainers
EP Testing for Racing Facilities
(Sanctioned)

• Cluster 2 – 11 positive horses
  – Horses tested for entry into sanctioned tracks in Texas and New Mexico
  – 9 positive horses in south Texas training facility
    • 6 of the 9 have ties to racing in LA
    • Common trainer that admits re-use of IV equipment
  – 2 positive horses in two west Texas locations tied to common LA trainer; both raced in LA
  – 1 additional trace-out horse – status unknown
South Texas Tick Related EP Update
Kleberg Co: Feb-June 2013
358 premises
1239 total equine tested
1220 negative
19 positive
6 positive premises
Prevalence 1.93%

Kenedy: Mar-June 2012
15 premises
182 equine tested
165 negative
17 positive
3 positive premises
Prevalence 9.34%

218 premises
689 total equine tested
689 negative
Prevalence 0.00%

Source: Texas Water Development Board.
“Because Livestock and Poultry Health Matters”

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