



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY
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COMMISSIONER



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Declaration of Emergency
Department of Agriculture and Forestry
Board of Animal Health
Equine Piroplasmosis (LAC 7:XXI.537)

In accordance with the emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, specifically R.S. 49:953 (B), and under the authority of R.S. 3:2093, 3:2095, and 3:2097 the Louisiana Board of Animal Health declares an emergency to exist and adopts by emergency process the attached regulations for restrictions on the entry into this state of horses and other equine infected with Equine Piroplasmosis (*Theileria equi*), the testing of equine for Equine Piroplasmosis and the movement of Equine testing positive for the disease.

Equine Piroplasmosis or babesiosis is a disease caused by a blood-borne parasitic infection and is primarily spread by ticks. The disease can cause severe debilitation in equine, including anemia, fever, and jaundice. Infected animals can remain carriers of the disease agent for long periods and can act as a source of infection.

The disease was confirmed in a horse in Kleberg County, Texas. Subsequent testing has confirmed that numerous other horses in that area have the disease. Although the location where these horses are located is under quarantine there is a substantial risk that other horses that are currently outside the quarantine area may have been exposed to and are currently infected with the disease. During the months of December, January and February there are numerous events in the State of Louisiana in which equine from Texas and other states are used or are present.

In order to prevent the introduction of the disease into this state the Board of Animal Health has determined that restrictions on the movement of equine into this state are necessary. The threat posed by the disease is real and immediate and creates an imminent peril to the public welfare of the citizens of this state, the viability of Louisiana's equine industry and to the health and safety of the equine in this state, thereby requiring the promulgation of these emergency regulations. These emergency rules become effective upon the signature of the Commissioner and shall remain in effect for 120 days, unless renewed or until the permanent rules and regulations become effective

Title 7, Agriculture and Animals
Part XXI. Diseases of Animals

§537. Equine Piroplasmosis; Prevention and Control in Equines

A. No equine that has tested positive for Equine Piroplasmosis or that is originally from or coming from any location or premises under quarantine for Equine Piroplasmosis shall be brought into or transported through this state for any purpose.

B. Equines originally from or coming from a foreign country, or a county of another state that has a premises or location within the county that is under a quarantine for Equine Piroplasmosis, or from a county that is contiguous to a county with a quarantined location may enter Louisiana if accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection prepared and signed by an accredited veterinarian within ten (10) days prior to the equine entering this state.

C. The Certificate of Veterinary Inspection shall be accompanied by or contain the following:

1. All documents and information required by LAC 7:XXI. §§107, 501 and 507.

2. A Louisiana entry permit number, complete identification for each animal listed, complete name, address and telephone number of the consignor, consignee, and accredited veterinarian, the physical addresses of all places where the equine has been kept for the last 21 days and the address of the Louisiana destination.

3. A negative Piroplasmosis cELISA test performed by the National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL) at Ames, Iowa or by a NVSL approved laboratory.

a. The test must have been performed no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the equine's entry into this state.

b. The test results must be an original copy of the test or provide a NVSL accession number.

4. The following statement by the accredited veterinarian signing the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection, "I have personally inspected the equine identified on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection and certify that within the last 21 days the equine has not originated from, resided at, or been kept in an Equine Piroplasmosis-quarantined premises or location. The equine do not display clinical signs of Equine Piroplasmosis. At the time of the inspection the equine was both inspected for ticks, including ear ticks, and treated for ticks."

a. If this statement is not contained in the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection then the statement shall provide the same identifying information for each equine as is contained in the certificate.


D. An equine shall be treated for ticks by use of any topical pyrethroids or any pesticide product registered with the United States Environmental Protection Agency which is labeled for use on equines as a treatment for ticks.

E. Equines originally from or coming from a foreign country, or a county of another state that has a premises or location within the county that is under a quarantine for Equine Piroplasmosis, or from a county that is contiguous to a county with a quarantined location shall not be comingled with or placed into contact with any other equine until a physical examination has been conducted by an authorized agent of the Board and written authorization to release the equine has been given by the Board or its authorized agent.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 3:2093, 3:2095, and 3:2097.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, Board of Animal Health, LR 35:

Signed and attested to this 22nd day of December, 2009.



MIKE STRAIN DVM, COMMISSIONER OF
AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY