



Horse News and Views

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- ◆ With the heavy rains of the last few weeks, horse owners are reminded to discuss vaccination needs with your veterinarian to determine the risks for mosquito-borne diseases, such as West Nile Virus (WNV) and Eastern/Western Equine Encephalitis (EEE and WEE). Both types of viruses can cause severe disease and be fatal to horses. Mosquitoes thrive in wet weather and live in stagnant water all summer long. (Dr. Dan Kenney, Ontario Veterinary College)
- ◆ What can trainers, assistants, and owners do to prevent diseases entering the barn?
 - Keep records of body temperature and determine abnormal patterns.
 - Encourage information feedback from all staff (grooms, etc.), even the bad news.
 - Don't let horses share water buckets at shows/events.
 - Wash hands between horses, where possible.
 - If you suspect a horse is sick, consult your stable veterinarian.
 - Federally reportable disease (rabies, EIA) must be reported to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.
 - Diseases should be prevented and/or dealt with at their onset to minimize their effect on the horse and stable mates. Changes in disease status should be monitored. (Woodbine Entertainment Group)

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