July 26, 2019

Subject: Vesicular Stomatitis Virus Outbreak - TX, NM, CO, WY

To: Category II Accredited Veterinarians

Dear Colleague,

As you may already know, vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV) has once again been detected in the U.S. Many countries have placed restrictions on the import of VSV-susceptible species. Prior to issuing an export health certificate for animals, please check the International Regulations for Animals (IREGS) on the USDA website for any such prohibitions:


This site will provide you with current import requirements for the selected country, species, and production category. Canada, for instance, prohibits the importation of horses, cattle, and swine that have resided in states affected with vesicular stomatitis 21 days prior to export. See the statement below from horse protocol.

7. Regarding Vesicular stomatitis (VS), all states in which the animal(s) have resided in the past twenty-one (21) days were free from clinical and epidemiological evidence of vesicular stomatitis during the twenty-one (21) days immediately prior to export to Canada.

Please be diligent in researching the requirements and travel histories for the animals for which you are asked to issue health certificates. We are hopeful that VSV will not continue to spread. To stay abreast of the current disease outbreak and for more information regarding the disease, use the link below for the Vesicular Stomatitis page on the APHIS website.


As always, feel free to contact your local USDA Veterinary Services office (https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/endorsement-offices) for more information.

Sincerely,

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