## West Nile Virus (WNV)



## What it is –

- West Nile Virus is transmitted between mosquitoes and birds.
- Mosquitoes spread the virus to mammals, most commonly horses and humans, where infection may cause swelling of the brain and spinal cord.
- Horses in the U.S. experienced a large outbreak of West Nile Virus in 2002.
- Today, a small number of WNV cases continue to be diagnosed in the horse population.
- Vaccination is effective in preventing this disease.

## **Additional Resources:**

WNV Fast Facts
WNV Technical Factsheet