



SD ANIMAL INDUSTRY BOARD

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**For Immediate Release:
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VESICULAR STOMATITIS VIRUS CONTINUES TO BE FOUND IN SD

PIERRE, S.D. – Vesicular Stomatitis Virus (VSV) has been found at 29 locations in five counties in Western South Dakota since July 28, 2015. The disease causes painful blisters and sores on the mouth, nostrils, teats and feet of horses, cattle, swine and other livestock. To date, 27 of the premises have affected horses, while two cattle herds have also been infected.

State Veterinarian, Dr. Dustin Oedekoven* is recommending owners monitor their livestock, especially horses, closely. Animals traveling for shows, exhibitions or events need especially diligent observation. Horses traveling to Huron for events associated with the SD State Fair are required to have a CVI (certificate of veterinary inspection) issued by their veterinarian within 48 hours of arrival.

Flies and midges are the insect vectors responsible for transmitting VSV. The virus can also be spread through direct contact with infected livestock and indirectly through contact with contaminated equipment and tack. Isolation of affected and exposed animals, as well as fly and insect control are the most important steps in preventing the disease. Good sanitation and bio-security measures can help avoid exposure.

If you suspect VSV in your animals, contact your veterinarian immediately. Vesicular stomatitis should be immediately reported to the South Dakota state veterinarian at 605-773-3321. Affected premises are quarantined to prevent the spread of this disease. People who are in close contact with affected animals may develop an influenza-like illness with symptoms including fever, muscle aches and headache.

For further information regarding this press release, please visit the SD AIB website at: <http://aib.sd.gov/diseasecontrol.shtm#horses>.

*OEDEKOVEN (OH' dih koh ven)