



State of Indiana Indiana Horse Racing Commission

Mitchell E. Daniels, Governor

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Indiana to Require Piroplasmosis Testing for Racehorses

The Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) voted at their January meeting to approve an emergency rule requiring all equines entering Indiana Downs and Hoosier Park during the Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse race meets to first test negative for equine piroplasmosis. The emergency rule is effective March 1, 2011.

“It is important for trainers and veterinarians to note that every equine entering association grounds during the Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse race meets will need to have a negative equine piroplasmosis test result dated within the last 12 months,” stated Dr. Angela Demaree, Equine Medical Director for the Indiana Horse Racing Commission. *“A horse will be required to leave association grounds, and therefore be unable to race, if the negative test result expires before another negative test result is obtained.”*

The blood sample must be drawn by a licensed and federally accredited veterinarian.

A C-ELISA test must be performed for both *Theileria equi* and *Babesia caballi* strains of piroplasmosis and the sample must test negative for both strains by a laboratory certified and approved by the United States Department of Agriculture to conduct such testing.

Each equine entering association grounds during the Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse race meets must be accompanied by an official copy of the laboratory test result to include the animal's identification (tattoo), the date the sample was drawn, and the test result. This is in addition to the current requirements of a negative Coggin's test for equine infectious anemia within the last 12 months and proof of equine herpes virus vaccination within the last 6 months.

The BOAH concurrently issued a veterinary advisory for veterinarians treating horses intending to be stabled on association grounds or race at the Indiana Downs Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse race meet opening on April 18, 2011. The advisory and additional information can be found on the BOAH website, www.boah.in.gov.

Veterinarians with questions can contact Dr. Angela Demaree, Equine Medical Director, at ademaree@hrc.in.gov or Dr. Tim Bartlett, Director of Equine Programs for the BOAH at tbartlett@boah.in.gov.

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