

Equine Herpes Virus

Fargo, N.D. - Carrie Hammer, an associate professor of equine science at North Dakota State University, said there have been many cases of Equine Herpes Virus in North Dakota. ~~In~~ fact, ²two cases have already been reported within the past three months. Bowman County and Stutsman County have both had a case where the horse ^{was} ~~has been~~ diagnosed and euthanized.

This virus is ~~very~~ contagious. "Equine Herpes Virus is very common and it can be present in all breeds of horses at any time," Hammer said. It spreads through the air and infected materials such as tack and feed. She recommends ~~to keep~~ ^{ing} your materials away from other horses and disinfect with bleach regularly.

The herpes virus can affect either their respiratory system or neurological system. Respiratory symptoms include nasal discharge, short fever, depression, ~~and~~ loss of appetite. Neurological symptoms, although rare but most fatal, include staggering, stumbling, head tilting ~~and~~ and behavior changes. Abortion in mares and early death in foals is common.

Since this disease spreads so quickly, many event managers have cancelled their event because of the risk of transmission of ~~this~~ ^{the} disease. The virus can survive for seven days. Its mortality rate in the form of neurological symptoms is 50 percent in the first strain and 70 percent mortality rate in mutated strains. Vaccinations are available against this virus.

If your horses gets this herpes virus, it should be quarantined for 21 days. Its rectal temperature should be checked twice daily for fever. The fever is usually short lived and may be missed. Disinfection ^{ing} should happen in the barn, on tack, feeding items, transport vehicle and diagnostic tools.

Mikayla Lacher; Richland 44

For more information on Equine Herpes Virus, ~~you can~~ contact Carrie Hammer at
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Very good!

Good composition - Keep writing
no quoted commas
in AP style