




COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
OFFICE OF THE STATE VETERINARIAN  
100 FAIR OAKS LANE, SUITE 252  
FRANKFORT, KY 40601

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Dr. Bob Hillman  
Texas State Veterinarian

**THROUGH:** Robert Stout, DVM  
State Veterinarian

**FROM:** E.S. Rusty Ford   
Equine Programs Manager

**CC:** State Veterinarians

**DATE:** October 29, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Equine Piroplasmiosis  
Entry Into KY – Testing Required

Following notification released earlier today by the TAHC that demonstrates *Theileria equi* has been detected in a group(s) of horses not known to have had direct contact with the previously identified group of infected 'working ranch horses', and recognizing the source of introduction and probable mode of transmission has not yet been determined; The Kentucky Department of Agriculture's Office of State Veterinarian is amending the order issued on October 23 that prohibited entry of horses into Kentucky from Kleberg County Texas.

Under the Authority found in KRS257.020, effective immediately and until further notice: In addition to our normal requirements established for equine entering Kentucky, all equids (horses) originating from Texas, or horses that have been resident in Texas during the 30 day period preceding their entry into Kentucky, are required to be tested and found negative for Equine Piroplasmiosis by cElisa (*B. caballi* and *T. equi*). A copy of the test certificate shall accompany the horse, and the testing information (date collected, laboratory, accession number and result) recorded on the required Certificate of Veterinary Inspection. Currently the only laboratory approved to conduct testing for Equine Piroplasmiosis is the USDA's National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, Iowa. The laboratory's current testing schedule suggests samples received in the afternoon or morning will routinely be set up at noon with results available the following afternoon. Practitioners should inquire of USDA the procedure for submitting samples as well as how the results will be reported. Our current protocol provides that a negative test will be valid for qualifying a horse's entry into Kentucky for up to 12 months. Horses from other areas of the country entering Texas for exhibition purposes, and have not resided in Texas for greater than 30 days – are not included in this testing requirement. Should these horses transport from Texas to Kentucky utilizing a Texas Certificate of Veterinary Inspection, they are required to have in their possession the certificate used for movement into Texas.

In addition to the EP testing requirement of resident equine – ALL EQUIDS moving from Texas to Kentucky are required to have a Entry Permit Issued by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture recorded on the Texas Certificate of Veterinary Inspection. Information required to be provided prior to a KY Permit for Entry being issued includes:

- 1) Identification for each animal listed on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection
- 2) Complete name, address and contact number of the consignor, consignee, and accredited veterinarian
- 3) Physical addresses and County Name of the Texas origin and the physical Kentucky destination.
- 4) Date Sample Collected, Result, Date Reported, and Laboratory Accession Number of the EP Testing
- 5) Texas Certificate of Veterinary Inspection Number

The required KY Permit can be obtained by the accredited veterinarian issuing the certificate calling 502/564-3956 during normal office hours of Monday through Friday 8:00am – 4:30pm.

We appreciate the effort you and your staff are making to better define the prevalence, geographic distribution and risks associated with equine piroplasmiosis and will continue to monitor the epidemiologic investigation. As information becomes available, we will adjust or change our mitigating strategies to best meet our defined goal of protecting the health of our equine population and maintaining interstate movement as best we can. Feel free to contact me or Dr. Stout should you have any questions, comments or concerns regarding the information contained in this notice.