# THE THOROUGHBRED CENTER UPDATES

#### March 14, 2018

Race Tracks/Training Facilities Cleared.

We did earlier report Barns 3 and 30 were released from quarantine following our protocol of no known exposure to clinical cases in greater than fourteen (14) days, daily monitoring of the horses in each barn, and the barn's population testing negative by PCR. I am today able to report Barn 7 (the barn we had used to quarantine and isolate horses that had been identified EHV-1 positive by PCR Testing) is now clear and we are in the process of cleaning and disinfecting this barn. With no positive horses remaining on the grounds, we have given the all clear to TTC's management by announcing there are no barns or horses at TTC under quarantine for EHV. All associated movement and training restrictions previously imposed are now rescinded. Additionally, with removal of this quarantine at TTC, we have no racing or training facilities in KY under quarantine.

## March 8, 2018

BARN 30 at The Thoroughbred Center (TTC) in Lexington is tonight Released From Quarantine.

Results of testing on samples collected from horses in Barn 30 at The Thoroughbred Center have been reported negative. In addition to the testing that has been completed, the horses have been monitored daily and our findings support that it has been far greater than 14 days since any horse in the barn had opportunity of exposure to a EHV clinical case. Meeting the criteria described above has qualified the group to be released from the quarantine and other restrictions imposed by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture.

The horses previously testing positive that haven't yet been resolved, continue to be housed separate and apart from the general population while we continue our assessments and testing to resolve those horses individually before allowing their return and reintroduction to the general population.

#### March 7, 2018

BARN 3 at The Thoroughbred Center (TTC) in Lexington is Released From Quarantine.

Results of testing on the samples collected from each of the horses in Barn 3 at The Thoroughbred Center have been reported negative. In addition to the testing that has been completed, the horses have been monitored daily and our findings support that it has been greater than 14 days since any horse in the barn was last exposed to a clinical case. Meeting the criteria above has qualified the group and the horses in barn 3 to be released from quarantine and restrictions imposed by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture.

Barn 30 at TTC: We are continuing daily monitoring of the horses stabled in Barn 30. There have been no fevers or other symptoms in the group, and we have scheduled the horses in Barn 30 to be sampled (swabs and whole blood) and tested by PCR later this week.

#### March 3, 2018

Biosecurity, implemented at Alert Status, remains in effect.

Barn 3: There have been no new fevers or other clinical evidence of disease since the initial febrile horse on 2/13.

The horses residing in this barn continue to be considered 'Exposed' (having had positive horses removed and placed in quarantine at barn 7).

The horses that initially test negative are allowed onto the track for restricted and suprervised exercise during specific time allotments when no other horses are out.

Our plan is to assess and resample horses residing in Barn 3 next week.

Barn 7 continues to serve as our Positive Horse Isolation. These horses remain in the barn, hand walked in the shed row and are assessed and tested as scheduled.

Barn 30: There have been no fever or other clinical evidence of disease since the initial febrile horse on 2/15.

The horses residing in this barn continue to be considered 'Exposed' (having had positive horses removed and placed in the designated quarantine at barn 7).

The horses that initially test negative are allowed onto the track for restricted and suprervised exercise during specific time allotments when no other horses are out.

Our plan is to assess and resample horses residing in Barn 30 late next week.

Below does describe the protocol followed in Kentucky when releasing barns from quarantine at race tracks, training facilities and other similar venues.

Our protocol is established and implemented to manage the disease event and mitigate further disease transmission. The foundation we work from requires the barn's last exposure to clinical cases being greater than 14 days (adjusted upwards if warranted) and the barns entire population testing negative by PCR on both nasal swab and whole blood buffy coat. Our opinion is that utilizing daily monitoring, defined time from last exposure, and having those findings supported by diagnostic testing that demonstrates the population is negative are essential to mitigating the risk associated with disease events in environments such as these. This protocol has worked well for us in the past and we appreciate the commitment, cooperation and diligence provided by all horsemen in response to efforts to manage disease risk as efficiently as possible.

## **February 17, 2018**

-Rusty

On Friday, February 16th, Barn 30 (in addition to Barn 3 that was quarantined earlier this week, and Barn 7 that we are using to house positive horses) at the Thoroughbred Center (TTC) in Lexington was placed under Order of Quarantine following a horse in that barn being confirmed positive for EHV-1 'wild type'. The 3yo thoroughbred filly tested PCR Positive on both nasal swab and blood.

The patient, after presenting with a fever, was moved from the barn into isolation and precautionary measures implemented on Thursday evening. With the confirmation of EHV-1 on Friday, Barn 30

was quarantined, perimeter fencing to control movement in and around the barn area erected, guarded security placed on the barn and biosecurity procedures implemented at ALERT status.

Earlier today, Saturday, February 17, representatives from the Kentucky Office of State Veterinarian (Dr. Stout and I), The Thoroughbred Center's management and horsemen met to share the factual information and provide opportunity for a Question and Answer session. Additionally, in consultation with management at Turfway Park, a protocol has been developed that can allow horses from the non-affected barn areas at The Thoroughbred Center (to include horses that ship-in to train/work at TTC) to enter for racing at Turfway beginning on Thursday, February 22. Protocols will include a thorough veterinary examination made on the morning of the day's racing; and if determined the horse meets entry requirements (that includes negative EIA, current EHV-1 vaccination, normal body temperature, etc.) a health certificate is to be issued for the movement. Horses from The Thoroughbred Center will ship to Turfway Park and stable in the designated area and assigned stall in the receiving barn. Following the night's racing the horses will return to The Center. The measures allowing this movement for racing is made after our horsemen here in Kentucky at both The Thoroughbred Center and Turfway Park have demonstrated their individual and collective commitment of serving and ensuring all possible precautions are taken to ensure Kentucky's racing environment remains a healthy and viable environment.

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture's State Veterinarians Office will continue to have presence at both The Thoroughbred Center and Turfway Park and will make updates available as warranted. -Rusty

## **February 14, 2018**

The Kentucky Office of State Veterinarian has confirmed a diagnosis of Equine Herpesvirus Type 1 to be affecting horses housed in barn 3 at The Thoroughbred Center in Lexington. The index case was reported on Tuesday evening 2/13 after a horse that had presented with fever of unknown origin was sampled and results of PCR testing identified the horse to be positive for EHV-1 'wild type' on both nasal wash and whole blood. The barn was immediately secured with no horses being allowed

to move into or out of the barn. In addition to securing the barn with 24 hour guard assignment, a sanitizing area outside the barn's entrance has been established and all individuals entering and leaving the barn must properly clean and disinfect and dispose of personal protective clothing that is provided on entry into the barn.

The affected barn's population is currently comprised of eighteen (18) horses including the index case. Two (2) horses that moved out of the barn prior to the discovery are currently in isolation on a private farm. We have this evening emptied and secured a barn at The Thoroughbred Center and will be dedicating this barn to serve as the quarantine barn used to isolate the positive horses.

Samples collected from the exposed horses earlier today have been partially reported, and has identified six (6) additional positive cases. Five (5) horses were positive on nasal swab only and one was positive on both blood and nasal swab. In addition to the horses exposed in the barn, the outriders have been sampled and they too were reported negative.

Dr. Stout was on the grounds this morning, and I this evening. After assessing the environment, we continue to be of the shared opinion that the procedures and protocols put in place are being properly implemented and do provide us opportunity to contain the virus. Updates will be provided as new information is learned.

-Rusty