



NEWS RELEASE

Texas Animal Health Commission

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 26, 2019

Vesicular Stomatitis (VSV) in Texas

Situational Update

No. 3

AUSTIN – Since the last vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV) update on Friday, July 19, 2019, the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) has received reports of 11 new confirmed cases of vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV).

Texas VSV confirmations since July 19, 2019:

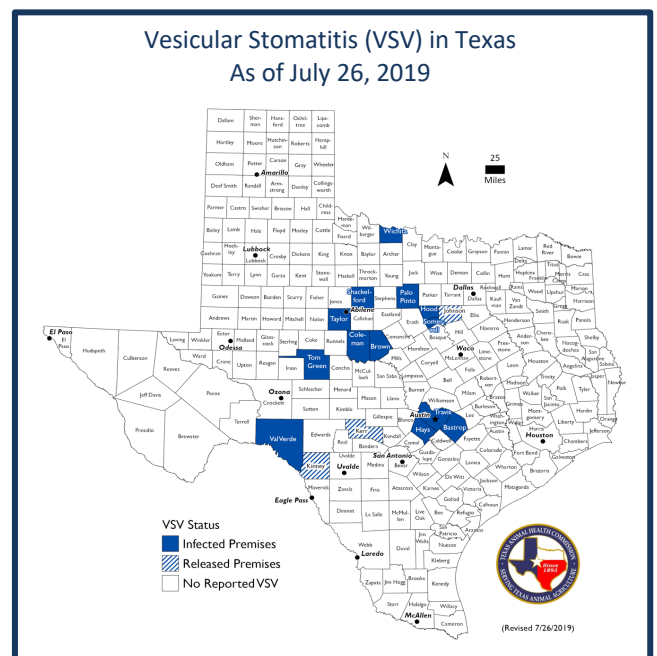
- 2 new VSV-infected equine premises have been confirmed in **Bastrop County**
- 1 new VSV-infected equine premises has been confirmed in **Brown County**
- 2 new VSV-infected equine premises have been confirmed in **Travis County**
- 1 new VSV-infected equine premises has been confirmed in **Hood County**
- 2 new VSV-infected equine premises have been confirmed in **Palo Pinto County**
- 2 new VSV-infected equine premises have been confirmed in **Somervell County**
- 1 new VSV-infected equine premises has been confirmed in **Shackelford County**

The newly confirmed premises are under quarantine by the TAHC. Affected horses will be monitored by regulatory and authorized veterinarians until premises are eligible for quarantine release 14 days after clinical VSV signs are observed.

To date, 31 premises in 16 Texas counties have been confirmed with VSV. Of the 31 premises, 3 have been released. Currently affected counties include: Bastrop, Brown, Coleman, Hays, Hood, Palo Pinto, Shackelford, Somervell, Taylor, Tom Green, Travis, Val Verde, and Wichita counties.

TAHC will send out VSV updates every Friday and all cases will be reported to the [Equine Disease Communication Center](#).

For VSV history and past updates [click here](#).



Texas VSV Quarantine Information		
Texas County	Premises Quarantined	Released Quarantines
1. Bastrop	5	-
2. Brown	1	-
3. Coleman	3	-
4. Hays	1	-
5. Hood	4	-
6. Johnson	-	1
7. Kerr	-	1
8. Kinney	-	1
9. Palo Pinto	2	-
10. Shackelford	2	-
11. Somervell	2	-
12. Taylor	1	-
13. Tom Green	3	-
14. Travis	2	-
15. Val Verde	1	-
16. Wichita	1	-
Totals:	28	3

To view the USDA 2019 VSV situation reports [click here](#).

What Equine and Cattle Owners Need to Know:

- VSV is a viral disease that primarily affects horses and cattle.
- In the past decade, the Southwestern and Western United States have experienced a number of VSV outbreaks. Outbreaks usually occur during the warmer months, often along waterways.
- VSV normally has an incubation period of 2-8 days before the infected animal develops blisters that swell and burst, leaving painful sores. The virus can be transmitted through direct contact with infected animals or by blood-feeding insects.
- If VSV is confirmed, infected animals are quarantined for 14 days after clinical signs of lesions are observed. This short-term quarantine helps prevent the movement of animals and the spread of the disease to other premises, fairs or markets.

What Veterinarians Need to Know:

- If you suspect your client's animal has VSV, contact your [TAHC Region Office](#) for paperwork, procedures, and important sample submission information.
- Several states are imposing enhanced entry requirements on Texas livestock due to the VSV cases. For information, contact the state of destination. For a list of state animal health offices visit https://www.usaha.org/upload/Federal%20and%20State%20Health/STATE_ANIMAL_HEALTH_OFFICIALS%20-%20Copy%201.pdf.

Strategies for Preventing VSV

Even with the best defensive measures, VSV could infect a herd. However, these tips may help protect livestock:

1. Control biting flies
2. Keep equine animals stalled or under a roof at night to reduce exposure to flies
3. Keep stalls clean
4. Feed and water stock from their individual buckets
5. Don't visit a ranch that's under quarantine for VSV. Wait until the animals have healed

For more information about VSV visit

https://www.tahc.texas.gov/news/brochures/TAHCBrochure_VS.pdf.