

Equine Infectious Anemia in Kansas

In August 2017, the Kansas Animal Health Commissioner was notified that a horse near Garden City tested positive for Equine Infectious Anemia after a routine Coggins test. This initiated follow-up testing of all horses on the index premises, which resulted in the discovery of five additional EIA-positive horses, and one Equine Piroplasmosis positive horse. All positive horses on this premises were humanely euthanized.

All horses within a half-mile surveillance zone surrounding the index positive premises were tested, and no additional positives were detected in that zone. However, the trace-out investigation from the initial premises found more than 80 exposed horses on 12 different premises, including additional EIA-positive or EP-positive horses.

All confirmed EIA-positive horses had recently been on the index premises. All EIA-positive horses have been humanely euthanized, and the remaining exposed horses were placed under official quarantine pending retest.

In late October, the index quarantined premises began the protocol for 60-day retesting. Two horses, which were previously EIA-negative, tested positive at this retest. Both of the confirmed EIA-positive horses have been humanely euthanized. Both horses were maintained on the premises under the official quarantine since August 2017. All other horses from this premises will remain under official quarantine for an additional 60 days, pending a negative EIA test.

State, federal and accredited veterinarians performed confirmation and surveillance testing. Horses are confirmed EIA or EP positive by the National Veterinary Service Laboratory in Ames, Iowa. Kansas has had nine positive horses in the past ten years; three in 2007, two in 2008 and four in 2016. There has been a total of 12 EIA-positive horses in 2017. Additional information is available at agriculture.ks.gov/EIA.