



Due to the recent EVA (Equine Viral Arteritis) outbreak in New Mexico and Utah, and the recent outbreak of Equine Herpes Virus Type 1, resulting in the quarantine of several farms, we find it necessary to establish new guidelines for horses entering our farm. These precautions will help protect your horses as well as those of other clients.

About EVA

Equine Viral Arteritis is transported via nose-to-nose contact and/or airborne molecules from a sneeze or cough from an infected animal. The virus is also transmitted sexually. Symptoms include nasal discharge, ocular (eye) discharge, and inflammation or swelling around the eye or "pink-eye." They can also have a rash around the head and neck and edema in the ventral trunk, scrotum, mammary gland, and lower limbs. Many other diseases can also cause any of these symptoms. The EVA infected horse may also have no symptoms. The incubation period is 3 - 14 days. Once the horse has the disease the clinical signs can last 7 plus days.

30 - 60% of infected stallions will "shed" the virus in their semen. They will always be a "shedder." Using semen containing the virus will infect the receiving mare.

If a mare has been exposed to the virus, she will shed the virus through her nasal, oral and vaginal discharge for approximately 30 days. During that time, as her immune system fights the virus, she will develop immunity. There is no reduced fertility in the mare, but she can give the disease to her neighbors. If the pregnant mare is exposed to the virus and is more than 3 months pregnant, she may abort. This abortion will happen within 1 - 3 weeks after exposure. Once she has developed immunity she will not abort at a later date due to EVA.

Geldings and mares are not long term carriers and will develop immunity to the disease. We recommend vaccinating all horses that are coming and going from your facility to avoid having the disease inadvertently brought onto the premises.

Vaccination

Because the vaccine is a "modified live virus", much the same as most flu vaccines, the vaccinated horse will test EVA positive from that point on. Therefore, owners retain original documentation of vaccination. The vaccinated horse cannot give EVA to another horse but can pass on the modified live virus to its neighbors and they will test positive.

Stallions (all male horses six months of age and older) should have blood drawn and tested negative prior to vaccination. **The original documentation of this negative test should be a permanent part of the horse's file and stored in a secure place. This is of paramount importance for stallions intended for breeding and especially for any foreign semen shipments.** Exposure due to vaccination is not transmitted through semen. However, exposure to the actual virus can result in the virus being transmitted through the semen from the point of exposure. Stallions that test positive to an EVA blood test may also be tested by semen culture or PCR test to determine if they are a carrier or have simply been vaccinated or exposed to the modified live virus.

The protocol for vaccinating all horses should be discussed with your veterinarian, as it differs for pregnant mares, open mares, stallions and younger horses.

All Oasis Ranch, Inc. stallions have been tested negative and vaccinated. **All other horses on the farm are in the process of being tested and/or vaccinated. All open mares and recipients mares will be vaccinated.** Because of the devastating effect posed by an outbreak of EVA and the very low risk of abortion from vaccinating, we are also vaccinating all of our pregnant



mares. Pregnant mares will be vaccinated up to 6 weeks prior to their due date. If mares are too far along to vaccinate, they will be vaccinated 7-10 days after foaling. The foals will **not** get the disease but may test positive in the future.

About Equine Herpes Virus Type 1

Equine herpesvirus 1 (EHV-1) is one of a large group of DNA viruses causing potentially serious disease in horses and other species. EHV-1 has two forms—one that causes abortion in mares and one that causes respiratory infection and neurological symptoms. The most recent outbreaks of concern have involved the EHV-1 respiratory/neurological form of the virus.

EHV-1 is contagious and is spread by direct horse-to-horse contact, by contaminated hands, equipment and tack, and, for a short time, through aerosolization of the virus within the environment of the stall and stable.

For more information about Equine Herpes Virus Type 1 please see the websites listed below.

2007 Guidelines

Oasis Ranch, Inc. will not accept cooled semen shipments from stallions that have not been properly tested negative and vaccinated for Equine Viral Arteritis (EVA).

EVERY horse (this includes mares hauling in for breeding or vet work) entering our facilities must have 1) a current (within 10 days) health certificate and 2) a current (more than 12 days and less than 90 days) Equine Herpes Virus Type 1 vaccination (Pneumabort-K) and one of the following:

- Documented vaccination with Fort Dodge ARVAC (Equine Viral Arteritis) vaccine **more than 30 days and less than 10 months before arrival** at the breeding facility. Vaccinated horses meeting these criteria will be admitted to the facility immediately.

OR

- Documentation of an Equine Viral Arteritis (serum neutralization) test.
 - **All Mares with positive** Equine Viral Arteritis tests (and no history of vaccination) will be allowed to enter the general population 30 days after testing.
 - **Non-pregnant mares with negative** Equine Viral Arteritis tests will preferably be vaccinated and quarantined for 21-30 days prior to arrival. If this cannot be done, a negative test, done within 30 days of arrival, must accompany the mare. Oasis Ranch, Inc. has the option, at their discretion, of retesting the mare. We strongly urge our clients to vaccinate non-pregnant mares immediately so they can enter the farm with no delays.
 - **Pregnant mares with negative** Equine Viral Arteritis tests will be allowed to enter the facility immediately if the test is taken within 30 days of arrival. We urge you to talk to your veterinarian about vaccinating your pregnant mare.

Documentation of these vaccinations and tests signed by the owner's veterinarian **MUST** accompany **EACH** horse. We are aware this may cause some additional expense for owners but remember, it is **FOR YOUR PROTECTION AS WELL AS OURS**. Waiting will delay the chances of your mare being bred in a timely manner.