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To Horse Exhibitors and Owners coming to the MN Horse Expo:

You may be aware that there have been 4 confirmed cases of neurologic disease caused by Equine Herpes Virus-1 (EHV-1) in Minnesota. Please understand that there is little information to date to link the Minnesota cases together. Until this part of the case investigation is completed, or more cases are confirmed, it is difficult to make a factual decision on whether taking a horse to a show in a public facility is advisable.

We take your horse's health very seriously. I have discussed this issue with veterinarians considered experts in infectious disease with the idea of developing the best plan to minimize risk as you attend the Minnesota Horse Expo.

We are requiring all horses coming to the Expo to have a Health Certificate with temperature recorded on the document. The document must be issued by an accredited veterinarian and dated within one week of the Expo (April 17, 2014). Health certificates will be checked at the stable gate. We appreciate your taking this extra step to protect the health of your horse and every other horse at the Expo.

You may be interested in viewing the Minnesota Board of Animal Health website:

. This is where the latest updates on confirmed cases will be posted. There is a nice summary on this webpage about the types of illness the virus can produce.

Respectfully,

MAR 26 2014

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President, Minnesota Horse Council

Sponsored by the Minnesota Horse Council