

## **SIMPLE DISINFECTION PROTOCOL FOR EHV-1:**

- 1) Thoroughly clean the areas before disinfection i.e. remove all organic material (manure, bedding, food...)
- 2) Dilute five tablespoons of household bleach per one gallon of water (or 1 part bleach (sodium hypochlorite) and 9 parts water)\*
- 3) Use this solution to spray or dip cleaned surfaces, tools, footwear, etc.
- 4) Use disposable materials or products that can be disinfected when treating sick or isolated animals

\*Disinfectants should always be mixed at the recommended concentrations, more is not necessarily better

## **Biosecurity Measures to prevent EHV-1 infection and dissemination**

Large groups of horses sharing a common airspace can all be infected by one horse shedding the virus. If you suspect that your horses have been exposed to EHV-1 or equine influenza virus, take rectal temperatures daily (normal adult body temperature is 100.5°F). Typically, horses infected with EHV-1 have a temperature of 102°F or higher. There are three major steps in preventing the dissemination of EHV-1, you can 1) reduce the risk of introduction of the disease to horses in the premises, 2) reduce the spread of the disease to other horses in the premises and 3) reduce the spread of infection beyond the infected premises

These are good management practices that should be implemented:

- Have an original, recent Health Certificate or Certificate of veterinary inspection on new arrivals
- Verification of vaccination of new introductions. Vaccination of new animals should be done at least 14 days before entering a facility. Follow the recommendations of your veterinarian.
- New arrivals should be healthy without recent fever or other clinical signs of infection
- New arrivals should originate from a premises without history of EHV-1 infection
- Isolate newly arrived horses for 2-3 weeks (take daily temperature)
- Restrict movement to and from the isolation area
- Isolated horses should be treated, fed and cleaned last (after the resident horses)
- Isolated horses should be treated, fed and cleaned with dedicated equipment
- Use hygienic measures (gloves, coveralls, hand washing with soap, foot baths)
- Have dedicated tack material for each animal
- Avoid sharing fences, buckets, common water sources,
- Do not dip the water hose into the bucket
- Isolate sick horses (any disease)
- Always work sick horses last in your chore routine. Change/clean clothing after completing chores.
- Clean and disinfect trailers after each use (remove organic material prior to disinfecting)
- Changing coveralls and cleaning and disinfecting boots when moving between barns, farms can help minimize the risk of spreading all types of diseases.
- Separate horses in small groups
- Do not rotate horses from stall to stall
- Properly dispose of bedding and leftover feed or hay

If you have any questions please call the New Jersey Department of Agriculture (609) 292-3965