

Follow health regs with livestock from Texas

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LINCOLN—Recent confirmed cases of Vesicular Stomatitis (VS) on a horse farm in Texas have triggered the Nebraska Department of Agriculture's (NDA) import requirements for all livestock entering Nebraska from Texas.

“Protecting the health and safety of Nebraska’s livestock herd is of utmost importance,” said state veterinarian Dr. Dennis Hughes. “Producers should follow importation requirements and remain vigilant in looking for signs and symptoms of vesicular stomatitis in their own herds.”

Vesicular stomatitis is a viral disease that is characterized by fever and the formation of vesicles (blisters) in the mouth, nostrils, hooves and teats. When blisters break, there is usually salivation, nasal discharge and anorexia. In three to four days, the animal will recover. The disease primarily affects horses, cattle, swine and occasionally sheep and goats.

Producers who are considering moving livestock from another state into Nebraska need to contact the NDA State Veterinarian's office to learn about specific import requirements. Staff can be reached by calling (402) 471-2351.

Import regulations can be reviewed online at www.nda.nebraska.gov. It also is advised that producers moving livestock from Nebraska into another state contact the destination state to learn its latest import requirements.