



TEXAS RACING COMMISSION

P. O. Box 12080
Austin, TX 78711-2080
(512) 833-6699
www.txrc.state.tx.us

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jean Cook
512-833-6699

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Austin – In response to recent positive tests for Equine Piroplasmiasis within Texas and the Southwestern United States, Manor Downs issued new entrance requirements for their stable area on January 22, 2010. Equine Piroplasmiasis, a tick-borne disease, is incurable and requires quarantine. For a horse to enter the stable area of Manor Downs, owners and trainers have the option of either having proof that a horse has been inspected and treated for ticks no more than 45 days prior to entrance *or* have proof that the horse has a negative Piroplasmiasis cELISA test performed since November 1, 2009.

Several owners and trainers have asked whether the cELISA testing should be for all strains of Piroplasmiasis. According to Dr. Ken Quirk, Chief Veterinarian for the Texas Racing Commission, “No, if an owner or trainer opts for the testing, the Piroplasmiasis cELISA test can be for *Theileria equi* *only*. Although there are other strains associated with Piroplasmiasis, testing for them is *not* necessary as the *Theileria equi* strain is the only one associated with the recent positives.”

Revised: February 18, 2010

ATTENTION HORSEMEN ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

ENTRANCE TO MANOR DOWN STABLE AREA EFFECTIVE 2010 MEET

Because of recent cases of Equine Piroplasmosis within Texas and the Southwestern United States, Manor Downs is establishing a critical tick disease control program.

There is no vaccine for Equine Piroplasmosis. To avoid spread of the disease and protect your horse, it is important to eliminate contact with ticks and to prevent the transfer of blood from one equine animal to another.

Please be advised that the discovery of the disease in your horse would result in lifetime quarantine.

ALL HORSES ENTERING THE STABLE AREA OF MANOR DOWNS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY:

A Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (health certificate) dated no more than forty five (45) days prior to entrance to Manor Downs stable area. The Certificate of Inspection must include evidence of a negative EIA (Coggins) test within the past twelve (12) months.

AND

A statement by the accredited veterinarian signing, "I personally inspected this animal and it does not display clinical signs of Equine Piroplasmosis and I inspected and treated for ticks with an approved synthetic pyrethroid spray product."

OR

An original copy of a *negative Piroplasmosis cELISA test for Theileria equi* that has been performed since November 1, 2009. As of this date, the National Services Laboratory, Ames, Iowa, is the only approved laboratory for Equine Piroplasmosis testing.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact your Texas Horsemen's Partnership representative or the Manor Downs Race Office.