

ANIMAL CORNER: HORSE BIOSECURITY WHEN TRAVELING

As you think about traveling to rodeos and horse shows it's a good time to develop a checklist of "To Do's" to keep your horse safe and help prevent the spread of disease to your home place or others. This is also helpful for those who are hosting events or bringing horses onto their property.

Before Events:

- Ensure vaccinations are current and complete Coggins testing requirements.
- Check state requirements for brand and health inspection requirements.
- Create a traveling folder to store brand and inspection papers, pictures of horses, and contact information including your local veterinarian and state contacts.
- Clean and disinfect trailers, equipment, and tack.
- Examine your horse for any signs of illness or disease and take its temperature.
- *When in doubt about a possible illness, stay home!

At Events:

- Tie horses on opposite sides of the trailer from neighbors.
- Use solid barriers or keep an empty stall between horses.
- Avoid nose-to-nose contact with other horses.
- Limit access from public and dogs.
- Do not share equipment or feed.
- Do not use community water tanks and avoid contact on the bucket with the end of the hose.
- Properly dispose of manure and trash.
- Utilize fly spray.

After Events:

- Disinfect all equipment, tack, and trailers.
- Keep manure and trash disposal away from animals after returning home.
- Isolate returning animals to home property for a minimum of 14 days.
- Take animals temperature and monitor for illness.
- Create and update a log of all events attended including location, date, and contact information in case of a disease outbreak.

Resources:

extension.umn.edu/agriculture/horse/care/biosecurity-tips-for-show-season/index.html

veterinaryextension.colostate.edu/menu2/horse.shtml

colorado.gov/pacific/aganimals/import-requirements

