

TowCester

Fact sheet

Onley EQUINE INFLUENZA VIRUS

What you need to know

Equine influenza is a highly contagious viral disease that affects the respiratory system of the horse. Since December last year we have been seeing an increased number of cases of EIV in Northern Europe with the first reported UK case on the 2/1/2019.

To the right is a map from the Animal Health Trust (AHT), Newmarket who monitor the EIV outbreaks showing the currently affected areas. As of 15:30 today 7/2/2019, there is one confirmed case in Leicestershire in addition to those shown on the map.

This information is correct as of today, if you would like to follow the progression of the outbreaks, this information can be found on:
<https://www.aht.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Equiflunet-outbreaks-2019-v2.pdf>

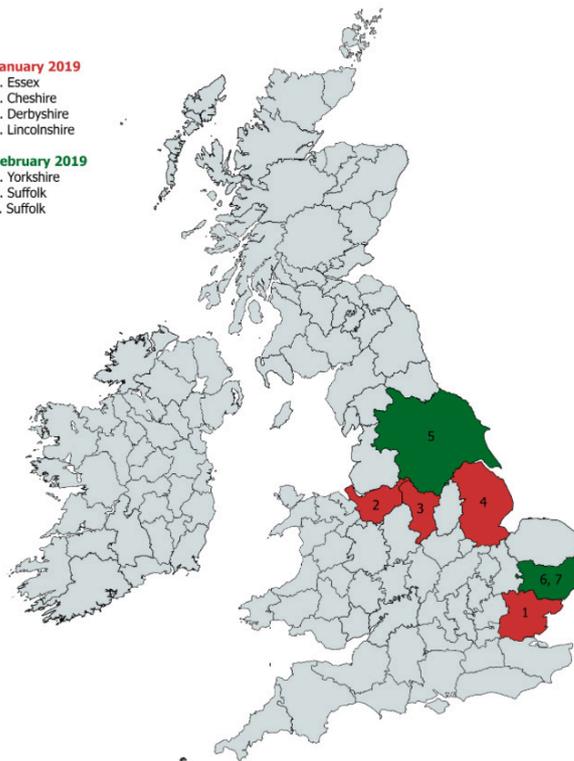
Extra vigilance should be taken if going to events, especially in high risk areas.

January 2019

1. Essex
2. Cheshire
3. Derbyshire
4. Lincolnshire

February 2019

5. Yorkshire
6. Suffolk
7. Suffolk



Testing

Testing to confirm the presence of EIV involves a swab being put up your horse's nose and this being analysed for the presence of EIV virus by the laboratory at the AHT.

Although there are a very small number of vaccinated horses showing signs of disease, vaccination will help reduce the severity of disease and will help control the disease spread. Currently we are recommending horses to have had a **booster vaccination in the last 6 months**, so if your horse's booster is not yet due, it may be worth bringing the date forward. Especially if your horse will be travelling and coming into contact with other horses whose vaccination status may be unknown.

If your horse is not vaccinated, a primary course can be carried out. This involves an initial vaccination and second vaccination a minimum of 21 days later. Full protection is considered to be achieved 2 weeks after the second vaccination.



It is important with the current outbreak that everyone is aware of the potential symptoms, things to look for include:

Harsh dry cough; elevated temperature >38.5; decreased appetite; watery nasal discharge; thick purulent nasal discharge (secondary to further infection); lower limb swelling; lymph node swelling.

If your horse is showing any of these symptoms, please contact the clinic to speak to one of the vets who can advise you further.