TESTING FOR EQUINE HERPESVIRUS-1 (EHV-1)

Wyoming State Veterinary Laboratory

Effective May 26, 2011

The Wyoming State Veterinary Laboratory offers rapid and sensitive PCR-based testing for EHV-1, detecting and discriminating between wild-type EHV-1 and the mutant strain more commonly associated with the neurological form of the disease. Appropriate samples for the PCR testing include both refrigerated nasal swabs (saturated with nasal secretions) and blood samples in purple top tubes (foruffy coat). In the case of abortions, tissue samples should be sent from the fetus and placenta. Our current recommendation is to run the PCR tests on both nasal swabs and blood samples. The turn-around time for these tests is 1-2 days: results for many submissions will be available the same day samples are received by the laboratory. The customary fees assessed total $120.00. Because of the statewide concern among horse owners, the WSVL will run this battery of tests at $60.00 for in-state horses and owners until the current situation has run its course. This price break will only apply to submissions with both nasal swabs and blood.