



POLO CLUB HORSES DO NOT HAVE HORSE FLU

The Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore has determined that the horses at the Singapore Polo Club are not infected with equine influenza (“horse flu”).

On the night of 22 Sep 2007, AVA was notified that there were 5 sick horses at the Singapore Polo Club (SPC). The horses were showing respiratory signs (mainly coughing) but did not have fever. As a precaution, AVA immediately ordered these horses to be isolated and no horses to be moved out of SPC pending investigation by AVA. AVA has since inspected the horses and found them to be well. Samples collected from the horses tested negative for equine influenza by AVA’s Animal and Plant Health Laboratories. All other horses at the Club were also found to be healthy.

In view of the above, AVA concludes that there is no equine influenza infection among the horses at the Singapore Polo Club and is therefore lifting the restrictions on movement of horses at the Club.

Singapore remains free from equine influenza. All horses imported into Singapore are subjected to a 14-day quarantine period and monitored closely to prevent introduction of animal diseases. No horses have been imported from Australia and Japan since these two countries reported outbreaks of equine influenza in August 2007. Horses in Singapore are also vaccinated against equine influenza to protect against infection.

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