

## BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES, AND HOUSING AGENCY

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## CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD



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JULY 10, 2014

**TO:** California Fairs, Los Alamitos Race Course and Other Inclosures  
Official and Attending Veterinarians  
PCQHRA, AQHA and Horsemen

**FROM:** Rick Baedeker, CHRB Executive Director  
Rick M. Arthur, DVM, Equine Medical Director

**Re:** Equine Infectious Anemia (Coggins) Requirements for Quarter Horses at CHRB Inclosures

Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) and Equine Piroplasmiasis (EP) have been detected in California's racing Quarter Horse population. Since 2012, fourteen (14) EIA positives and ten (10) EP positives have been identified, including two EP and two EIA positive quarter horses in the last month. An investigation conducted by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) identified a high-risk population of Quarter Horses participating in unsanctioned racing. Risky practices are believed to have contributed to transmission of these diseases, such as the sharing of needles and other medical equipment or the use of illegally obtained, contaminated foreign blood products. Based on the increase in detection, the CDFA recommends increased surveillance in the high-risk population of racing Quarter Horses.

Effective July 17, 2014, any Quarter Horse not continuously housed at a CHRB enclosure for the previous 60 days must have a negative Coggins (EIA test) dated after April 1, 2014, in order to start at a CHRB-licensed race track.

Effective July 24, 2014, a Quarter Horse not continuously housed at a CHRB enclosure for the previous 60 days must have a negative Coggins dated after April 1, 2014 to be allowed to enter a CHRB inclosure.

The CHRB will monitor the equine piroplasmiasis situation in California and consider requiring a negative EP test for in-state Quarter Horses if necessary. The CHRB continues to require a negative equine piroplasmiasis for quarter horses coming into a CHRB enclosure from out of state.

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