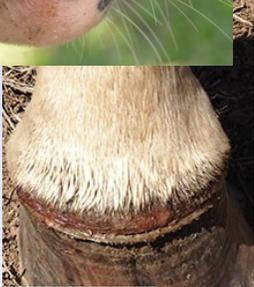


Vesicular Stomatitis



WLSB website:
<http://wlsb.state.wy.us>

*For more information, please contact
your local veterinarian or a Wyoming
Livestock Board staff veterinarian at
one of the following locations:*

Main Office

1934 Wyott Dr.
Cheyenne, WY 82002
Phone: 307-777-7515

Field Office

610 Fairgrounds Rd.
Riverton, WY 82501
Phone: 307-857-4140



Wyoming Livestock Board

Steve True, Director, CEO
Dr. Jim Logan, Wyoming State Veterinarian



VESICULAR STOMATITIS IN WYOMING



Wyoming Livestock Board

*“To represent and serve
Wyoming’s livestock industry
through protecting livestock
health and verifying livestock
ownership.”*

VSV Fact Sheet

Vesicular Stomatitis (VSV) is a viral disease that affects livestock. It is **spread** primarily by flies and midges, but can also be spread by direct contact (nose-to-nose) between animals or through indirect contact such as shared feed and water

troughs, bits and other equipment.

The infection **causes** vesicles (blisters), sores, and

sloughing of skin in the mouth, on the tongue, on the muzzle, ears, genitalia, and above the hooves on the hairline. Animals can have a fever, act depressed, and depending on where they are affected, have difficulty eating and drinking and show signs of lameness. Most animals **recover** and are no longer contagious within 2 weeks. A newly infected animal will take 2-8 days to show signs.

There is no specific **treatment** or vaccination for VSV. Treatment strategies include mild antiseptic mouthwashes and good sanitation to prevent secondary bacterial infections.

VSV in Wyoming is primarily in **horses**, but can affect other species including sheep, goats, pigs, and cattle and cannot be distinguished from Foot and Mouth Disease and other foreign animal diseases in those species without special testing.



Spread of VSV to cloven-hoofed species could, therefore, create alarm on a national level, potentially affecting livestock movement and international trade until foreign animal diseases have been ruled out with testing.



It is, therefore, of great importance that horse and other livestock owners **monitor** their animals closely for any symptoms that might be suspicious of the disease. This is even more critical for animals that commingle with others at fairs, rodeos, shows, and other events. Horse owners should take their horses' temperatures once to twice a day (should be below 102) and look closely in their mouths and ears while on the road and for two weeks after returning home. Other livestock owners should keep an eye peeled for animals drooling, off feed, and lame. If anyone sees signs suspicious of VSV, they should **report** it to their veterinarian and the livestock board immediately.

Because the majority of new cases become infected from biting flies and midges, fly control



is the primary means of **prevention**. Be sure to apply thoroughly over the entire body including the face and ears. Additionally, it is good to: separate your livestock from others as

much as possible, avoid sharing equipment and feed and water buckets, minimize others handling your livestock and you handling theirs, and wash your hands before and after working

with livestock.

When returning home, try to keep your traveling livestock separated from others for a week while monitoring them for any signs.

Disinfection of your equipment and trailer can be done with several products including hydrogen peroxide and Virkon-S.

What To Do

- Use plenty of fly spray frequently
- Keep your livestock separate from others
- Do not share equipment, feeders, and buckets
- Watch for signs:
 - Blisters, sores, scabs
 - Mouth, tongue, muzzle, ears, genitalia, hoof-hair line
 - Fever, not eating, lame
- **Report Anything Suspicious As Soon As You Find It**
 - Your Local Vet
 - Fair / Event Vet
 - Wyoming State Vet / USDA

