

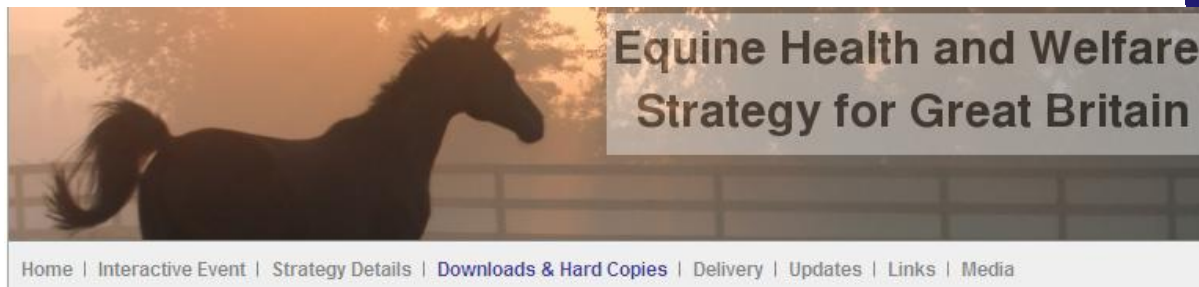


National Equine Health Survey 2010



Why do we need health surveys?

- health and welfare of UK equine population
 - benchmarks
 - pinpoint problems
 - identify changes
 - disease prevention
 - codes of practice



Disease surveillance in the UK

- Defra responsible for 'exotic' disease surveillance e.g. swamp fever
- Defra/AHT/BEVA quarterly reports
 - endemic infectious diseases
- limited surveillance of other endemic diseases



defra Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs

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Home About Defra The Environment Food and Farming Rural and Countryside Wildlife and Pets

You are here: Home > Food & Farming > Farm animals > Animal diseases > A-Z index of diseases > Equine Infectious Anaemia > Latest situation

This is the old Defra Website.
Current information about Defra's role and responsibilities is at www2.defra.gov.uk, although the new site may temporarily link to older information here that continues to be relevant and accurate.

▼ A-Z index of diseases

▼ Equine Infectious Anaemia

▶ Latest situation

▶ About the disease

▶ Advice to horse

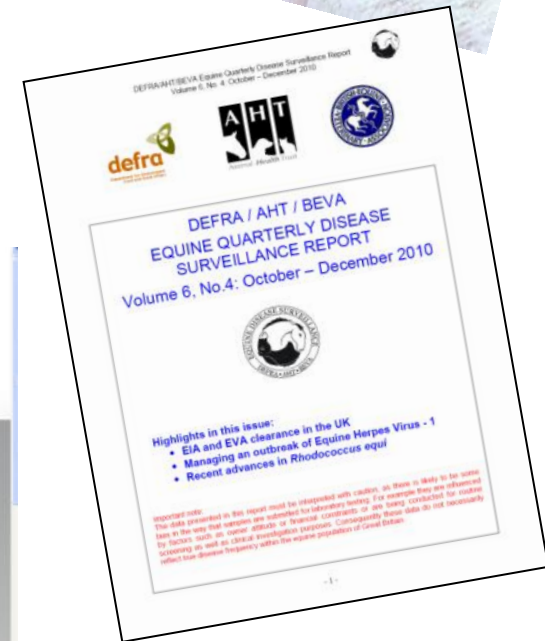
Latest situation: Equine Infectious Anaemia

23 December 2010 - Following the detection of Equine Infectious Anaemia on the premises in Devon on 11 September 2010, all the remaining horses on the holding were sampled for testing. We have now received the

You may also be interested in...

▶ Animal Health Divisional Offices

▶ Swine flu (Swine influenza)



Disease surveillance in other countries

- Government agencies in all countries conduct surveillance for exotic diseases
- no large scale endemic disease surveillance in any European countries
 - voluntary reporting scheme by vets in France
- NEHS is a unique opportunity that puts the UK ahead of the rest of Europe



Blue Cross & BEVA pilot schemes

- pilot surveillance schemes in 2008 & 2009
 - UK equine charities
- syndromic disease surveillance
 - snap shots of disease prevalence
 - simple general disease descriptions
 - colic, skin disease, eye problems, lameness
 - some specific syndromes
 - laminitis, Cushing's disease

NEHS 2010



- simple on-line survey
 - 5-10 min to complete
- completed on any one day in week of 5th-21st November 2010
- horses, donkeys, ponies and mules
- ‘snap shot’ of disease syndromes
 - what your horse is doing today
 - straight from the horse’s mouth





[Home](#) > [National Equine Health Survey](#) > [Login to access the NEHS survey](#)

In this Section

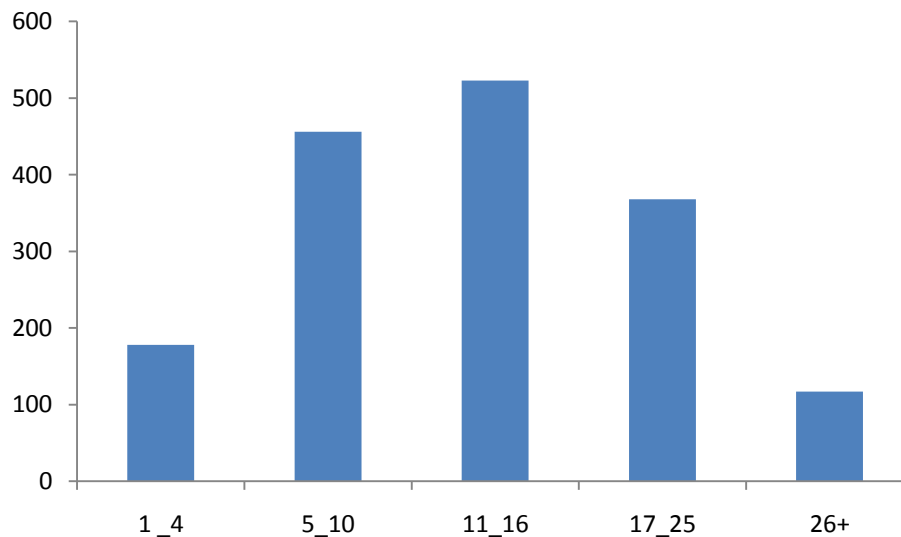
Login to access the NEHS survey

If you have not yet registered for the survey please [register here](#). If you are an existing user of the Blue Cross website please sign in below. Please note, you will be asked to complete some additional registration information before continuing on to the survey area.

Who took part?



- 306 sets of records submitted from 3120 horses
- mainly private owners (85%)
- also competition yards, riding schools, welfare charities, studs



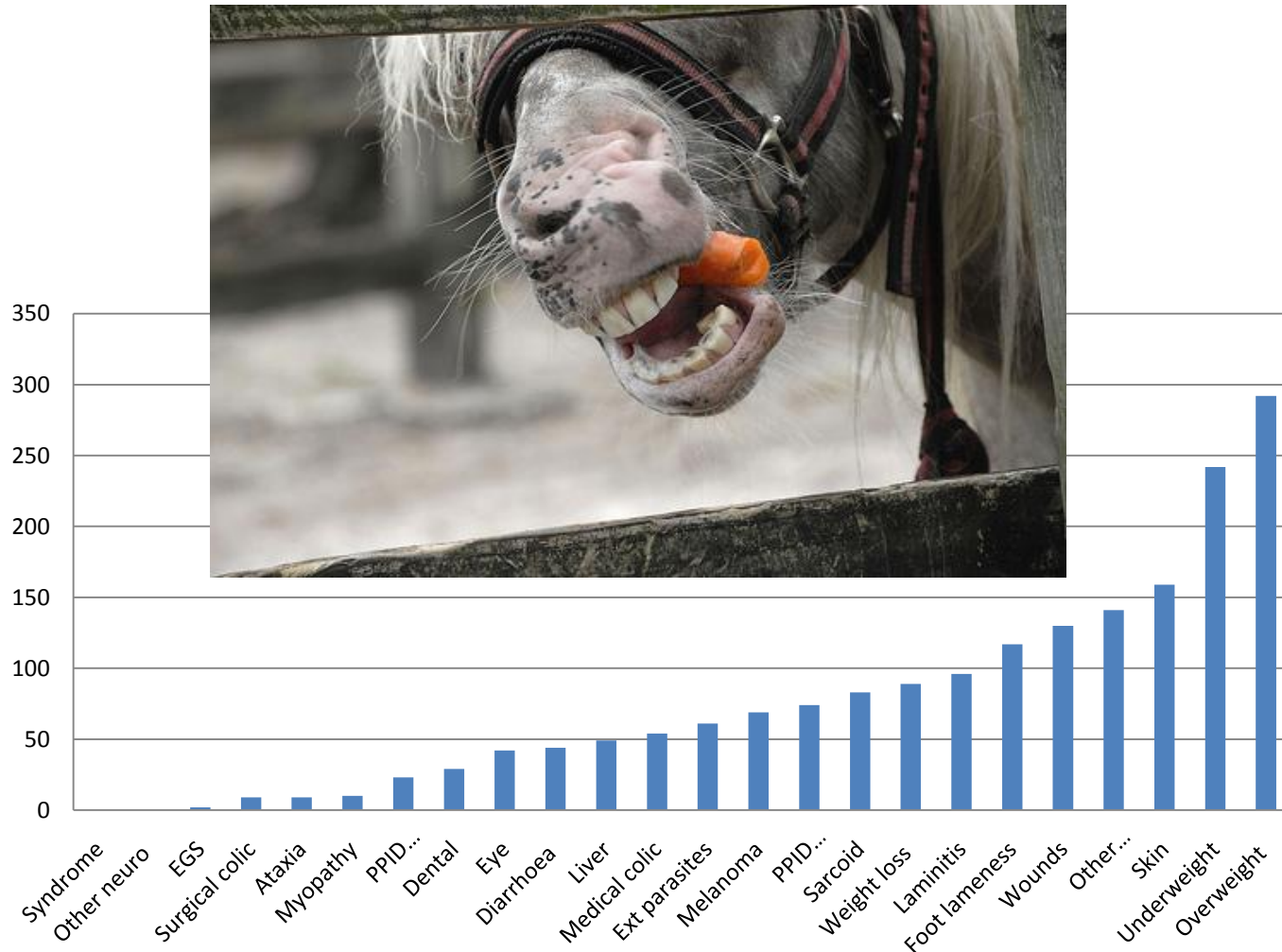
Age distribution of
horses taking part
in NEHS 2010

What did we record?

- owner reported disease
- body fat (condition) score
- 22 syndrome categories
 - colic, diarrhoea
 - lameness, laminitis
 - metabolic disease
 - eye problems
 - skin disease
 - tumours



Results



Lameness vs weight problems



Overweight or
underweight
(18%)

versus



Lameness
(11%)

Lameness: foot vs other vs laminitis



All lamenesses
(11%)



Non-foot
lameness (4.5%)



Foot lameness
(3.7%)



Laminitis
(3%)

Skin disease, wounds & sarcoids



Skin disease
(5%)



Wounds
(4%)



Sarcoids
(2.6%)



Laminitis
(3%)

What we learned



- NEHS is easy and quick to complete
- syndromic data provides a useful snap shot of disease and hence health and welfare
- some results we would have expected
 - lameness was the most common problem (11%)
- and some we perhaps wouldn't
 - foot lameness less common than 'other' lameness
- as well as some valuable insights
 - laminitis (3%) and metabolic disease (3%) were common problems and deserve continued focus

What we learned

- skin disease (5%), wounds (4%) and sarcoids (3%) significant problems
- colic also common (2%); 6 medical to 1 surgical
- almost 2 in10 too fat or too thin
 - overweight (9%) or underweight (8%)
 - the ‘right weight’ message is still important



NEHS 2011



- two NEHS weeks in 2011
- first NEHS week 9-15th May 2011
 - put it in your diaries!
- second NEHS week November 2011
- our target is 10,000 records for May 2011
- the more data we have, the more useful the survey is to all of us



WE NEED YOU

Calling all horse owners. Want to take part in a ground-breaking survey? This is an exciting opportunity to improve the health of all equines in the UK.



NEHS 2011



9-15th May

Benefits to the UK industry

- benchmarks for disease and standards of care: defines health and welfare
- provides evidence for welfare inspectors, codes of practice (Defra, NEWC, Equine Industry Welfare Compendium)
- defines standards for yard inspection schemes e.g. BHS scheme, REA inspections, livery yard inspections
- identifies equine welfare research priorities

Acknowledgements

- Blue Cross
- BEVA
- AHT (Dr Richard Newton)
- RVC
- Everyone who took part in the 2008-09 pilots and in NEHS 2010

