

Equine Medication Monitoring Program (EMMP) Advisory Committee
October 6, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Item No.

(1) Call to Order

- a. The meeting was called to order on Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 9:11am by Chairperson Ms. Sandy Arledge.

(2) Roll Call

Present:

Ms. Sandy Arledge, Chair, California Farm Bureau Federation
Ms. Cathy Hanson, Pacific Coast Quarter Horse Association
Ms. Christine Oswald, Pacific Coast Cutting Horse Association
Dr. Russell Peterson, American Association of Equine Practitioners
Mr. William Pettis, American Morgan Horse Association
Dr. Chris Smith, Pacific Coast Horse Show Association
Dr. Mike Tomlinson, U.S. Equestrian Federation

Absent:

Ms. Jody Cutler, American Driving Society
Dr. Marta Grandstedt, California Veterinary Medical Association
Mr. Robert Gage, California State Horsemen's Association
Ms. Nancy Harvey, Arabian Horse Association
Ms. Jo Ann Jackson, California Draft Horse & Mule Association
Dr. Michele LaMantia, Pinto Horse Association of America, Inc.
Dr. Jeanette Mero, American Endurance Ride Conference
Ms. Kalia Mitchell, California Fairs and Expositions
Ms. Mari Naten, California Dressage Society
Ms. Sarah Rajoy, California Professional Horsemen's Association
Ms. Rae Stambuk, California Reining Horse Association
Dr. Stephen Schumacher, U.S. Equestrian Federation (non-voting member)

CDFA Present:

Dr. Kent Fowler, Chief, Animal Health Branch
Dr. Emily Nierzaba, Staff Veterinarian, Equine Programs
Ms. Katie Hatch, Research Scientist, Equine Programs
Mr. Lee Harrison, Agricultural Program Supervisor, EMMP
Ms. Nancy Ragen, Management Services Technician, EMMP

(3) Program Updates

Financial Update

Ms. Katie Hatch presented on the information requested by the advisory committee at the September 2020 meeting. For events held from July 1, 2019 to July 31, 2020, there are forty-three (43) events that have not submitted their

testing fees to EMMP yet. Twenty-four (24) of those events occurred in 2019 and were sent letters and were called by EMMP staff to remind them of fees due. The other nineteen (19) events were held in 2020 and either had a letter already sent to them or there is one drafted to send. There are some managers who have multiple unpaid events and EMMP staff request the assistance of the advisory committee members to get in touch with the event managers in their respective disciplines to encourage them to submit their testing fees in a timely manner. Program will send EMMP Advisory Committee members a list of managers and events with unpaid fees.

Ms. Hatch also presented the data analysis regarding the costs of urine sampling vs. blood sampling. Information was calculated using the data from 2015-2019 shows and rides (excluding sales) and included the average number of samples per event, the cost of the veterinarian to pull blood samples (when applicable), the laboratory testing costs, the time for inputting the records of sample collection in the office, as well as the costs of tester hours and distance traveled. The total cost per urine sample (when two samples were collected per event) was \$186.87 while the total cost per blood sample (when ten samples were collected per event) was \$150.92. When increasing the number of urine samples collected per event to three per event, the cost per sample decreased to \$159.11. There is a variance between testers on the number of urine samples collected so EMMP staff will work with the testers to increase the number of samples collected per event. The committee agreed to the most cost-effective and comprehensive plan recommended by the Program, which is to continue both urine and blood sampling as the cost per sample (when three urine samples vs ten blood samples were collected) was not significantly different and a veterinarian is not available for some events the Program would like to test. Therefore, Program recommends testing only 25% of events but utilizing both urine and blood testing.

The committee also discussed the laboratory costs for testing and research. The current cost for EMMP per sample tested at the California Animal Health and Food Safety (CAHFS) Laboratory is \$100 per sample. This rate has been agreed upon for the 2020-2021 fiscal year and the 2021-2022 fiscal year. The rate per sample will likely increase in July 2022. The research projects cost \$36,000 per year and the contract is for two projects per fiscal year. The committee discussed the importance of the research performed and would like to see it continue moving forward. The committee will discuss the plan for research projects at the next advisory committee meeting.

Legal Update

Dr. Emily Nierzaba discussed the regulation packet to increase the testing fees to \$14 effective January 1, 2022. She has spoken with the analyst for regulation changes and has started the regulation change process EMMP will be notifying the advisory committee when the packet has been moved forward to encourage

distribution, comments and feedback. The earliest this is likely to happen is late December 2020 or early January 2021.

(4) Committee New Business Discussion

No new items were discussed. The next meeting is planned for Wednesday, February 24, 2021 from 10am-2pm to be held via Zoom.

(5) Closing Comments

Chairperson Ms. Sandy Arledge adjourned the meeting at 9:34am.