



## Equine influenza

**EQUINE INFLUENZA  
CLINICAL SIGNS**

Like humans who are sick with the flu, horses with equine influenza (EI) just plain don't feel well. Your horse might have EI if he:

 Is lethargic	 Has watery nasal discharge
 Isn't eating or has little interest in feed	 Has enlarged lymph nodes
 Is coughing	 Has an elevated temperature of 103-106° F

Equine Influenza in Arizona is a monitored disease. This means at the Department of Agriculture we take reports of outbreaks to understand the spread of this disease and pockets throughout the state, yet as an agency do not quarantine the facility. This does not mean that a farm owner or manager cannot impose a self quarantine on the facility so new animals are not infected.

### What causes equine influenza?

Equine influenza A2 virus (EIV) causes flu in horses. In the literature you may see the A2 EIV is also called subtype H3N8 (which, to scientists, relates it to the H3 flu viruses in other animals).

### How does my horse get the disease?

Horses often get the flu much like humans do from other humans by coming in contact with an infected horse or from nasal secretions from an infected horse. This often happens during times of stress such as at shows or other events where groups horses commingle. These horses then may bring it home to and spread it through the facility. Young horses (ages 1 to 5) with limited natural immunity, unvaccinated horses, and those that come into frequent contact with large numbers of horses have the highest infection risk.

### What can I do to protect my horse?

It is recommended that you work with your veterinarian to determine the risk of your horse due to activities and tailor a vaccination program to protect your equine friend.

Download this free fact sheet to learn how to protect your horse from influenza, a highly contagious respiratory disease.

Download link available at the Source url. <https://thehorse.com/156815/equine-influenza-protect-your-horse/>

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# Exhibitor Spotlight: Ashlynn Richardson



Ashlynn is 10 years old and from Maricopa County. Her parents are Daniel and Kathy Richardson. She attends Arlington Elementary School and has been a member of Grace 4-H club for three years. She has done projects for Steers (2 years) and Clover Buds (1 year).

## **Q: What other activities, sports, or clubs do you participate in?**

I breed and sell meat goats, help on the family farm, and school is very important. I also keep a 4.0 grade average.

## **Q: What awards have you won as an exhibitor?**

Steer awards: Grand Reserve Cottonwood SAILA, First place Buckeye AG, Second place Buckeye AG.

## **Q: What are your goals for the future?**

Continue showing steers and possibly goats too, and attend college to become a large stock veterinarian.

## **Q: Who has influenced you the most?**

My mom and dad for teaching me to work hard, watching

other members of my 4-H club, and always listening and learning from others. I also have been influenced by Mr. Andy Dougherty for providing me with both of my steers that I have shown. I would like to thank him for giving me the opportunity to purchase and show some of the beautiful angus steers that he raises.

## **Q: What does agriculture mean to you?**

I have been raised around agriculture. My mom and dad both grew up around farming and have taught me how important agriculture is. My dad has a small bermuda farm and I help him with irrigating. I'm blessed to be raised around agriculture and all these wonderful people that are involved in agriculture. I hope to continue my family legacy and have a farm someday.



## **SECC cow milking contest results**

On March 22, Arizona Department of Agriculture participated in a cow milking contest to benefit the State Employees Charitable Campaign. Director Mark Killian competed against other agency directors and Team Department of Administration took the gold. Thank you to the Arizona Farm Bureau and the United Dairymen of Arizona for their help in coordinating the event, and to all of those in attendance.



## **Buckeye FFA Visit**

On March 20, Leatta McLaughlin and Jessica Veo spoke to Buckeye FFA students about the importance of the State Veterinarian's Office and other livestock-related programs. The students were invited to the Capitol by Senator Sine Kerr.

## USDA recognizes AZDA's egg team

Another boost of confidence for the team members of the AZDA Shell Egg Program! We were recently featured in the activity report submitted by USDA Federal State Supervisor, Kellie Anderson, to USDA Regional Director, Mr. Mark Perigen.

On the week of February 27th, Mrs. Anderson visited four egg ranches and she was pleased at how the Shell Egg Program is running in Arizona - plant sanitation is well maintained, files were found satisfactory and Graders' comparatives

were quite good. She stated that "Our team is becoming more knowledgeable about their jobs and the plants and files continue to be in order". Good job Arizona Shell Egg Graders!

To the right are pictures of the Graders and Supervisors awarded with a Certificate of Merit by USDA in recognition of the extra efforts to participate in the Korean audits and assist with answering questions when asked. (Missing from the pictures is Egg Inspector Frank Portillo, another award recipient of the USDA Certificate of Merit.)



From top left: Jessica Jones, Grader and Jenny Pack, Supervisor; Stephanie Lynn, Grader/NPIP; Jenny Pack, Supervisor and Fred Marquez, Manager

## Office of Special Investigations update

The Office of Special Investigations (OSI) in the last month has worked with Nevada Department of Agriculture with the illegal movement of cattle in which one subject was cited by Nevada. OSI also worked closely with New Mexico Department of Agriculture with possible stolen cattle moving through Willcox Auction - special thanks to "Chip" Hornburg (AZ Livestock Inspector) who was looking for the two possible stolen brands. OSI has also conducted a covert operation leading to one arrest in regards to a Title 3 violation. Lastly, OSI conducted an investigation of the illegal movement of out of state cattle.

## Enforcement Investigations and Analysis Officer Training

The Meat and Poultry Inspection Program recently sent Inspector Kim Nevius to Enforcement Investigations and Analysis Officer (EIAO) training in College Station, Texas. EIAO's conduct comprehensive food safety assessments (FSA) at establishments in which they consider all food safety aspects that relate to that establishment and its products, the nature and source of all materials received, the establishment's processes, and the environment of the establishment. The EIAO primarily focuses on the design and validity of the hazard analysis, HACCP plan; Sanitation Standard Operating Procedures (Sanitation SOPs), pre-requisite programs, testing programs, e.g., its generic E. coli written procedures; and any other programs that constitute the establishment's food safety system. To properly train the EIAO, Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) offers an intense four week classroom course in conjunction with the Texas Agriculture Experiment Station that covers a wide variety of topics, many of which are delivered by subject matter experts from outside FSIS. We are looking forward to putting his newly acquired skills and knowledge to use in our official establishments and want to express a huge THANK YOU to Kim for wanting to participate in this learning opportunity and sacrificing so much time away from his family.



## Veterinarian students learn about ASD by Jennifer Browning

The Department of Agriculture had the pleasure of hosting two students from Midwestern University on a two week rotation for their veterinarian program. Matt and Aletha enthusiastically shadowed the assistant veterinarian and inspectors from the egg, dairy, and meat and poultry departments; showing the diversity of the Animal Services programs. As a dairy inspector, I had the opportunity to take them to Shamrock where we tested a high temperature pasteurizer and inspected the plant. Being in a milk plant and witnessing an equipment check enlightened them on why all the safety parameters are put in place to ensure that milk is safe in Arizona. It was very entertaining to see their continued amazement with the plethora of stainless steel piping required for industry to safely transport milk around the plant. As Aletha said, "I can't even put it in words how much piping is in this plant!"



From left: Ofc. Manny Angulo, Ofc. Stephanie Teskey, Dir. Mark Killian, Sect. Sonny Purdue

## A Visit from Washington D.C.

On March 19, the Arizona Department of Agriculture had a member of Congress and numerous Legislative representatives come to our building to meet and talk to U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Purdue of Washington D.C. and our Director Mark Killian.

The meeting allowed for questions and answers related to rural infrastructure. There were many things brought to the table to include forest management, water resourc-

es, fires, and the stability of rural communities.

The law-enforcement detail for the Department of Agriculture was asked to assist Secretary Purdue's security detail to ensure the safety of Secretary Purdue and all of the other dignitaries on hand that day. There were five members of the law-enforcement detail that assisted in the protection detail. Not only does our staff enforce Title 3 with livestock and keep our industry safe, we sometimes are asked to do special details. With the dedication to their jobs, these Officers completed this task with no problems. They were also congratulated by the Secretary's security detail for a job well done.

Thank you Director Killian for putting together such a dedicated team.



From left: Lt. Darrel Hale, Ofc. Scott Schade, Ofc. Manny Angulo, Ofc. Stephanie Teskey, Cpt. Richard Shore

## Contact Us

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