



# NEWS RELEASE

## Texas Animal Health Commission

*"Serving Texas Animal Agriculture Since 1893"*

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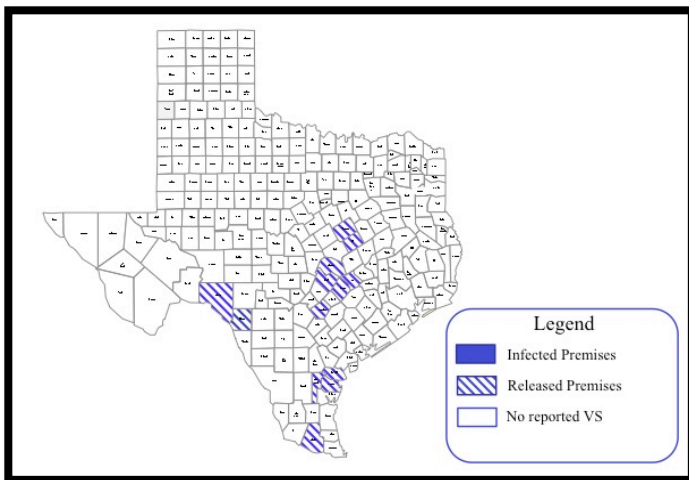
October 16, 2014

# TAHC Releases All Vesicular Stomatitis (VS) Quarantines in Texas

**AUSTIN, TX** – Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) officials have released all premises quarantined for Vesicular Stomatitis (VS) in Texas after releasing one premises in Bastrop County and another in Travis County.

The first case of VS was found in Kinney County on May 28, 2014. Since then, the TAHC has quarantined a total of 62 premises in 13 Texas counties. The counties included Bastrop, Guadalupe, Jim Wells, Falls, Hidalgo, Kinney, Lee, McLennan, Nueces, San Patricio, Travis, Val Verde and Williamson.

The Texas livestock affected by VS was limited to equine and cattle. However, other susceptible livestock include, sheep, pigs, deer and other cloven-hooved animals.



Several states and countries may still impose enhanced entry requirements on VS susceptible livestock coming from Texas. Producers are encouraged to contact the state of destination for official requirements. As of now the following state do have required entry requirements; California, Georgia, New Mexico, and North Dakota. For more information on those requirements visit [http://www.tahc.texas.gov/news/2014StateRestrictionsOnTX\\_VS.pdf](http://www.tahc.texas.gov/news/2014StateRestrictionsOnTX_VS.pdf)

"On behalf of the TAHC, I would like to thank all cattle and equine owners and Texas veterinarians for the constant support and generous help with harnessing the spread of VS," said Dr. Dee Ellis, Texas' State

Veterinarian and TAHC Executive Director. "All livestock that were tested positive for VS this year have been released because of the supportive care by veterinarians and caretakers."

The TAHC advises livestock owners to continue practicing VS preventative measures by minimizing livestock exposure to sand flies and black flies; which are known to transport the virus through biting.

Outbreaks are sporadic and years may lapse between cases. The last confirmed case of VS in Texas before this one was in 2009.

For VS history and past updates visit [http://www.tahc.texas.gov/animal\\_health/equine/equine.html](http://www.tahc.texas.gov/animal_health/equine/equine.html)

For more information about VS, visit the TAHC's brochure at  
[http://www.tahc.state.tx.us/news/brochures/TAHCBrochure\\_VS.pdf](http://www.tahc.state.tx.us/news/brochures/TAHCBrochure_VS.pdf)

A USDA-APHIS VS fact sheet is available at  
[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal\\_health/content/printable\\_version/fs\\_vesicular\\_stomatitis\\_2012.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/content/printable_version/fs_vesicular_stomatitis_2012.pdf).

For current USDA-APHIS VS situation reports visit  
[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wps/portal/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth?1dmy&urile=wcm%3apath%3a%2Faphis\\_content\\_library%2Fsa\\_our\\_focus%2Fsa\\_animal\\_health%2Fsa\\_animal\\_disease\\_information%2Fsa\\_equine\\_health%2Fsa\\_vesicular\\_stomatitis%2Fct\\_vesicular\\_stomatitis](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wps/portal/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth?1dmy&urile=wcm%3apath%3a%2Faphis_content_library%2Fsa_our_focus%2Fsa_animal_health%2Fsa_animal_disease_information%2Fsa_equine_health%2Fsa_vesicular_stomatitis%2Fct_vesicular_stomatitis).

The TAHC is one of the oldest state regulatory agencies, founded in 1893 with a mission to combat the fever ticks that plagued the Texas cattle industry. Today, the agency works to protect the health of all Texas livestock including: cattle, equine, sheep, goats, swine, poultry, exotic livestock and fowl.

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