

Biosecurity – Going to an Event

Most diseases are introduced to an equine property with the arrival of a new equine that is already infected or is a carrier of a disease, or through an equine coming into contact with a diseased equine – for example, while attending an event.

NEVER take an equine that is sick to an event or competition.

Not only is it dangerous for the equine involved, with the additional stress of travel and competition, but very dangerous and potentially costly for the organisers and **ALL** the other competitors.

When you attend competitions or events, always take your own:

- *feed bins*
- *water buckets*
- *tack*
- *grooming gear*



NEVER share this equipment

NEVER use communal water troughs or feeders.

These are a source of infection and can spread disease.

If you are stabling and the stables have automatic waterers, make sure you wash and disinfect them before you put the equine in the stable.

This is one case where event organiser safety can possibly clash with equine owner biosecurity. From a strict safety point of view all equines should be stabled or housed in a communal holding area. From an equine owners perspective there is a biosecurity risk with putting your equine in a stable complex at a show- it brings the equine into close contact with other equines and surfaces and objects that other equines may have contaminated.

Which is why where possible, it is advisable to keep your competition equines separate from your equines that rarely mix with equines from other properties. This is particularly important for breeding properties.

Small changes to the way you do things can save a lot of heartache and money.

Keep records of your equine's movements so that these equines and their contacts can be quickly traced in the event of a disease outbreak.

