



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,  
Bia agus Mara  
Department of Agriculture,  
Food and the Marine

## **\*IMPORTANT UPDATE FOR ALL EQUINE BREEDERS\***

### **Equine Viral Arteritis (EVA) vaccine shortage for 2024 breeding season**

- Zoetis recently announced that a shortage of the Equip Artervac EVA vaccine will continue until autumn 2024 at the earliest.
- This presents an increased disease risk for Ireland. An EVA outbreak would have significant negative consequences for horses and the equine industry.
- Whilst the Department continues to explore the possible availability of alternative suitable vaccine supplies, there is no guarantee that any such vaccines will become available.
- Steps must now be taken to help prevent an outbreak of EVA occurring in Ireland.
- In this context, you are strongly advised to blood sample all previously vaccinated stallions and teasers and to **urgently** submit these surveillance blood samples **before November 24<sup>th</sup> 2023**, and thereafter at 6 monthly intervals, to the Virology Division, CVRL, Backweston Campus, Celbridge, Kildare W23 N9FA.
- Any new stallions to commence breeding in 2024 should also submit blood samples to confirm their EVA negative status before they start breeding activity.
- Additionally all breeders are strongly encouraged to review and optimise their biosecurity protocols on farm in advance of the 2024 breeding season in line with the **[International Codes of Practice](#)**.
- Further guidance on this matter will issue as more information becomes available.
- For more information on EVA please refer to the **[gov.ie website](#)**
- Please send any queries in relation to EVA to **[ndcc@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:ndcc@agriculture.gov.ie)**