

# WOAH standards on JE, Equine Encephalitis and WNF. Plan to update WOAH Terrestrial Code Chapters on JE, EEE, WEE, and VEE

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Webinar: Vector borne Zoonoses affecting equines: Japanese Encephalitis and West Nile fever



World  
Organisation  
for Animal  
Health  
Founded as OIE

Organisation  
mondiale  
de la santé  
animale  
Fondée en tant qu'OIE

Organización  
Mundial  
de Sanidad  
Animal  
Fundada como OIE



## WOAH-listed diseases (2023) affecting equids

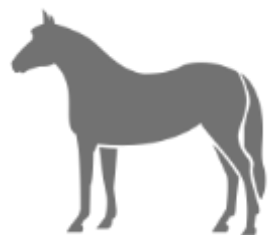
### Multiple species (11)

- Anthrax
- **Japanese encephalitis**
- Rabies
- Trypanosomiasis
- **West Nile virus**
- **Equine encephalomyelitis (Eastern)**
- Echinococcosis
- Rabies
- Trichinellosis
- New world screwworm
- Old world screwworm

### Equine diseases and infections (11)

- Contagious equine metritis
- Dourine
- **Equine encephalomyelitis (Western)**
- Equine infectious anaemia
- Equine influenza
- Equine piroplasmiasis
- Infection with *Burkholderia mallei* (Glanders)
- Infection with African horse sickness virus
- Infection with equid herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1)
- Infection with equine arteritis
- **Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis**

[WOAH list of notifiable diseases](#): **117 Listed diseases** by the World Organisation for Animal Health (criteria for including diseases in the list are detailed in Chapter 1.2 of WOA *Terrestrial and Aquatic Codes*)



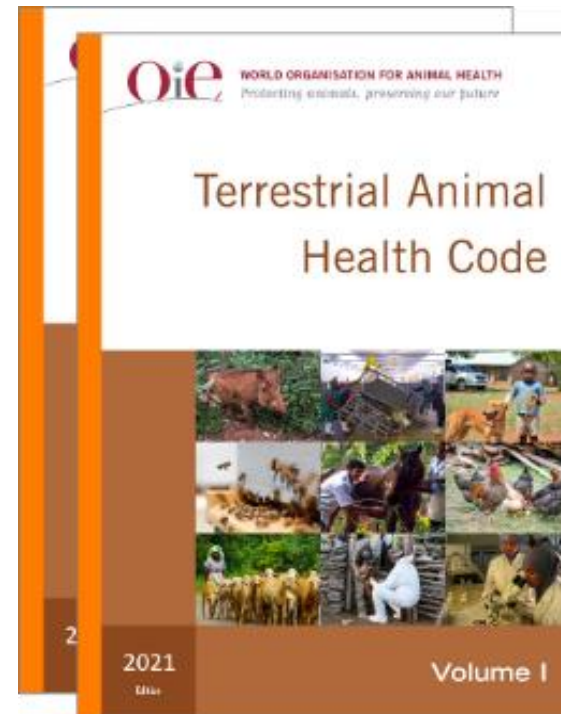


## Improvement of WOAH standards for horse-related diseases



### Horse-related diseases and Code Chapters:

- **Contagious equine metritis** (Chapter last updated 1982)
- **Dourine** (1968)
- **Equine encephalomyelitis (Eastern & Western)** (1968)
- **Equine infectious anaemia** (2007)
- **Equine influenza** (2012)
- **Equine piroplasmosis** (2007)
- **Infection with Burkholderia mallei (Glanders)** (2018)
- **Infection with African horse sickness virus** (2014)
- **Infection with equid herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1)** (2014)
- **Infection with equine arteritis virus** (2014)
- **Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis** (1998)
- **Japanese Encephalitis** (2000)
- **West Nile Fever** (2009)





## 3 Chapters newly drafted for potential adoption (WOAH General Session May 2023)

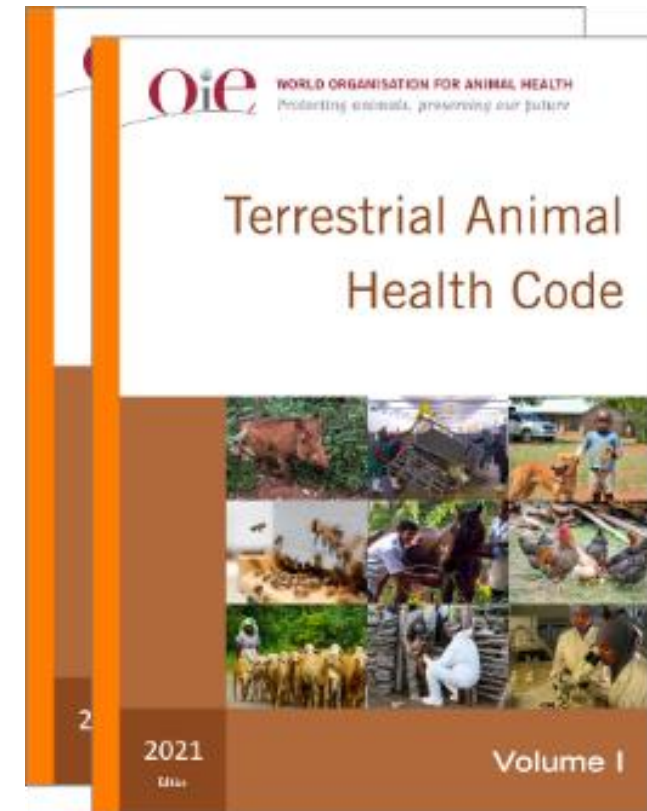
- Contagious equine metritis
- Infection with equine influenza virus
- Equine piroplasmosis

**Inclusion of provisions for temporary importation of competition horses**

**Circulated for Members (and partners') comments: AHS Chapter**

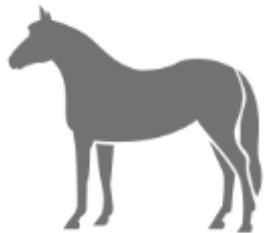
## Diseases Chapters proposed for revision in 2023-2024:

- Equine encephalomyelitis (Eastern and Western)
- Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis
- Japanese Encephalitis
- Surra & Dourine





## Equine Encephalitis (EEE, WEE, VEE); Japanese Encephalitis; and West Nile Fever



**Western Equine Encephalitis:** The disease affects mainly horses and birds. **Reservoirs: Birds and mammals.** Distribution: North America. **Horses are dead-end hosts.**

**Eastern equine encephalomyelitis:** Encephalitis in human and horses, but also sporadic cases in pigs, sheep, cows, dogs. **Reservoirs: passerine birds.** Distribution: The Americas. **Humans and Horses are dead-end hosts.**

**Eastern and Western Equine Encephalitis:** Currently only one Chapter in the WOAHP Terrestrial Code for both diseases. Code Chapter Adopted in 1968 and not updated since then. **Only provisions for importation of equids.** Manual Chapter updated in 2021.

**Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis:** Distribution: The Americas. **Reservoirs: Rodents, horses.** Code Chapter Last update 1998. Provisions for VEE free country and recommendation of importation of equids. Manual Chapter updated in 2021.

**Japanese Encephalitis:** **Pigs act as amplifiers of the virus.** Encephalitis in horses and humans. Human and **Horses are dead-end hosts.** Distribution: Asia and the Pacific. Code Chapter Last update 2000: **Provisions only for importation of horses.** Manual Chapter last update: 2021.

**WNF: Human and Horses are dead-end hosts.** Art. 8.20.2. Terrestrial Code (2009): Provisions for free country or zone, WNF seasonally free country or zone. **Recommendation for importation of birds and Safe commodities. Member Countries should not impose trade restrictions on dead-end hosts such as horses.**

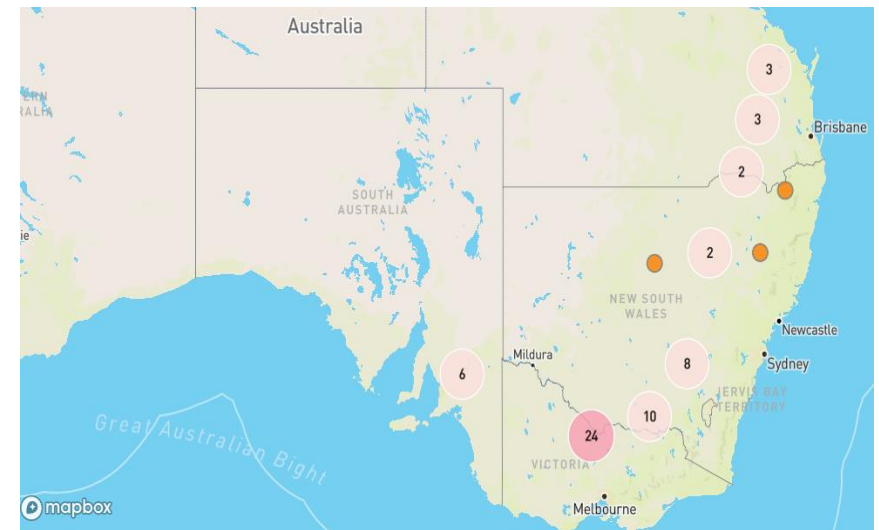
# Outbreaks of Japanese Encephalitis (2022-Australia)

- Outbreaks of Japanese encephalitis have been reported in piggeries in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia.
- Climate conditions of above median rainfall and warmer minimum temperature may have been a factor in the event.
- Spillover events into Humans and a case in an Alpaca
- Infection with JE virus in horses were not detected
- Requirement for importation of horses in the JE Code Chapter had an impact on the movement of live horses between Australia and 12 countries.
- Outdated provisions may impose unnecessary trade barriers on countries where the disease is present
- Horses are dead-end hosts, hence, the provisions of the Code Chapter on JE should be updated accordingly

## Australia - Japanese encephalitis - Follow-up report 4

### GENERAL INFORMATION

COUNTRY/TERRITORY OR ZONE	ANIMAL TYPE	DISEASE CATEGORY	EVENT ID
COUNTRY/TERRITORY	TERRESTRIAL	OIE-listed	4338
DISEASE	CAUSAL AGENT	GENOTYPE / SEROTYPE / SUBTYPE	START DATE
Japanese encephalitis	Japanese encephalitis virus	-	2022/01/19
REASON FOR NOTIFICATION	DATE OF LAST OCCURRENCE	CONFIRMATION DATE	EVENT STATUS
First occurrence in a zone or a compartment	-	2022/02/25	Stable
END DATE	SELF-DECLARATION		
2022/04/14	NO		





## WOAH Specialist Commissions (SCAD and TAHSC)

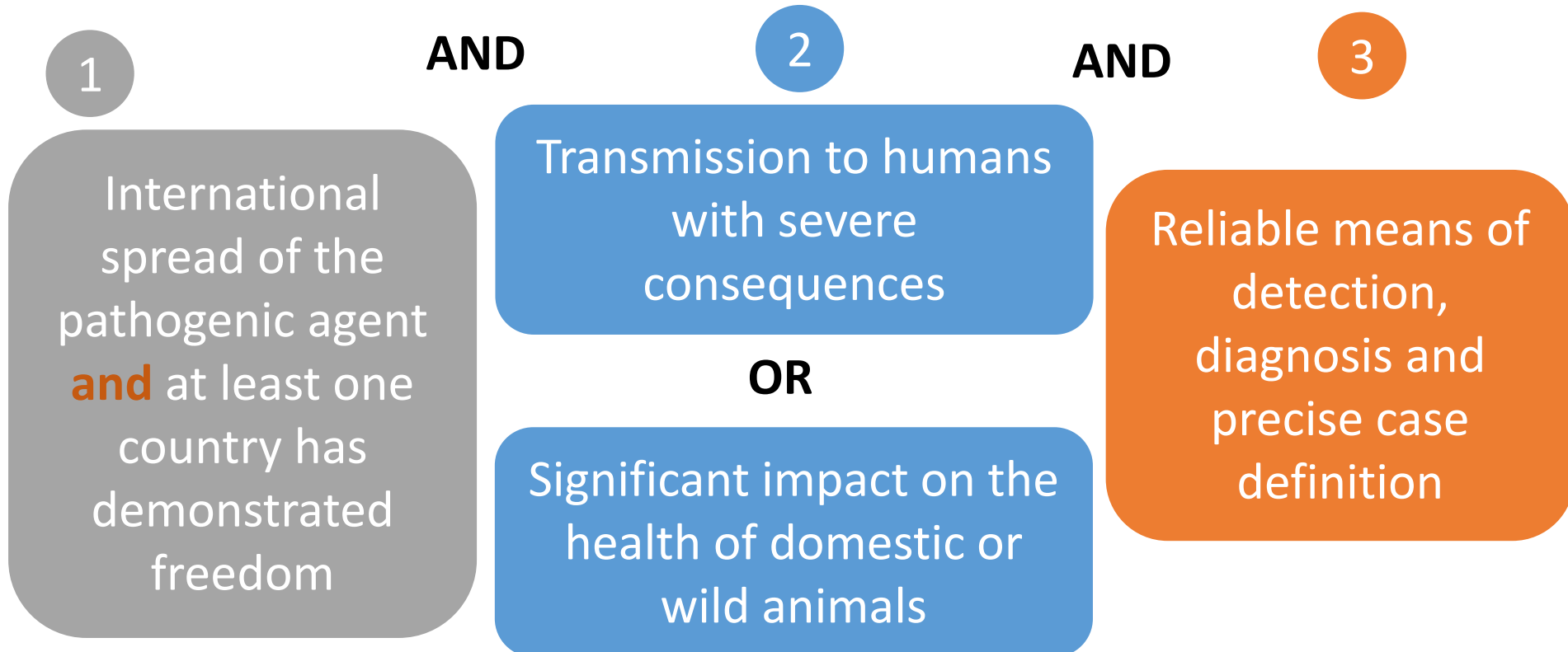
### JE, EEE, WEE, VEE: way forward

- **Assessment against the listing criteria**, including a scientific assessment of the susceptible animals, their epidemiological role and their relevance for surveillance and disease prevention and control.
- Present the conclusions of the assessment to the WOAH Specialist Commissions in their **September 2023** meeting.
- Agree with the WOAH Specialist Commissions the Terms of Reference of the consultation to update the Chapters and convey an *ad hoc* Group of experts for the revision, **provided that the diseases are maintained in the list.**





## Provisions in Chapter 1.2. of the *Terrestrial Health Code* :







1.

# Update on Chapters on equine diseases

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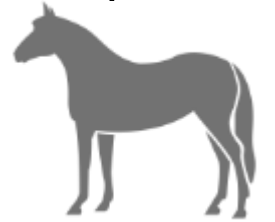
## JE, EEE, WEE, VEE: way forward

The next steps are tentative and depending on the conclusions of the assessment and the opinion of the WOAH Specialist Commissions:

### Meeting of the *ad hoc* Group(s) to update the Chapters

#### The newly drafted Chapters may have provisions for:

- Case definitions for each disease,
- Import provisions for different commodities (live animals, animal products)
- List of safe commodities,
- Guidance on Surveillance (animal surveillance, vector surveillance)
- Free country or Zone



Present the report of the *ad hoc* Group and draft revised Chapters to the Scientific Commission at its February 2024 meeting.

Present the *ad hoc* Group report, the Scientific Commission opinion, and the draft revised Chapters to the Code Commission at their September 2024 meetings and consider circulation of the chapter for Members' comments.



# Thank you

Please feel free to send any question to my email address:

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