



**INTERNATIONAL BREEDERS' MEETING**  
**INTERNATIONAL COLLATING CENTRE**

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PLEASE NOTE DUE TO A CHANGE IN PERSONNEL, IN FUTURE PLEASE CONTACT RICHARD  
NEWTON OR MADELEINE MCNAUGHT ON THE ABOVE NUMBER, OR E-MAIL  
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**INTERIM REPORT – August 2007**

**This interim report is being issued further to the following report received today from Japan.**

**JAPAN**

**Equine Influenza**

On 15<sup>th</sup> August at the Miho Training Center (TC), a nasal swab sample taken from a febrile Thoroughbred race horse reacted positively to the influenza A detection kit, Espline (Fuji-revio, Japan). The nasal sample was sent to the Epizootic Research Center, Equine Research Institute, JRA and subjected to an RT-PCR test to detect HA gene of equine influenza 2 virus (H3N8). A positive result was obtained and virus isolation from PCR positive samples using embryonated eggs is underway.

All race horses have been vaccinated twice a year (most recently in May, 2007).

From 14<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> August, the total number of febrile horses is 447.

142 out of 1500 horses in Miho TC, 188 out of 1400 horses in Ritto TC,

58 out of 494 in Sapporo Race Course (RC), 38 out of 532 horses in Hakodate RC,

One out of five horses in Niigata RC, and 20 out of 150 horses in Kokura RC.

By RT-PCR, 172 of 246 febrile race horses examined were judged as positive.

Positive reactors were observed in all facilities. The races scheduled for 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> August at Sapporo, Niigata and Kokura racecourses were cancelled. Furthermore, positive reactors were recorded outside of JRA facilities, such as among young Thoroughbred horses in Hidaka district, which is the major breeding region in Japan.

**Regards**

**International Collating Centre**