



TEXAS RACING COMMISSION

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PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Austin – In response to recent positive tests for Equine Piroplasmiasis within Texas and the Southwestern United States, Manor Downs issued new entrance requirements for their stable area on January 22, 2010. Equine Piroplasmiasis, a tick-borne disease, is incurable and requires quarantine. For a horse to enter the stable area of Manor Downs, owners and trainers have the option of either having proof that a horse has been inspected and treated for ticks no more than 45 days prior to entrance *or* have proof that the horse has a negative Piroplasmiasis cELISA test performed since November 1, 2009.

Several owners and trainers have asked whether the cELISA testing should be for all strains of Piroplasmiasis. According to Dr. Ken Quirk, Chief Veterinarian for the Texas Racing Commission, “No, if an owner or trainer opts for the testing, the Piroplasmiasis cELISA test can be for *Theileria equi only*. Although there are other strains associated with Piroplasmiasis, testing for them is *not* necessary as the *Theileria equi* strain is the only one associated with the recent positives.”