

# Premium Assured Strangles Scheme NEWS



#StampOutStrangles

Spring 2019 Issue 3

## An Award for Everyone

Many yards are already eligible for BRONZE AWARD status through having no history of strangles for at least the past 2 years, having a good biosecurity policy of isolating and testing any new horses that enter the livery, and owners/riders with a good awareness of biosecurity when taking horses off the yard. Joining is simple and it represents a highly respected badge of excellence in relation to preventing the risk of strangles on the yard

*Donna who runs Blackberry Stables*

*explains what certification means to them*

**'Peace of mind and a good name in livery and stabling'.**



## Equine Strangles Symposium 29th March



[Watch the video here and join the campaign!](#)



**'We have the ability, knowledge and power to effect change'**

*Jo White, Human Behaviour Change*

**Eradicating the UK's most prevalent infectious equine disease could become a reality if more people were inspired to take action, was the message of an industry symposium which brought together leaders from across the equine community to discuss the better prevention and management of strangles.**

The symposium, entitled 'Together We Can Stamp Out Strangles', took place at The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies in Edinburgh on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March.

Sponsored by Redwings Horse Sanctuary and The British Horse Society (BHS), with collaboration from The University of Edinburgh, the Animal Health Trust (AHT), World Horse Welfare and Scotland's Rural College (Premium Assured Strangles Scheme), the event was attended by industry leaders and respected professionals, including veterinarians, farriers, yard managers, equestrian governing bodies, major show organisers and welfare charities.

The day provided the chance for attendees to share their latest research bringing together knowledge on all the advancements that could make eradication of the disease a possibility, including updates from the AHT's current vaccine developments, the strangles surveillance scheme and **the value of the Premium Assured Strangles Scheme for certification of yards.**

A panel, chaired by Chief Veterinary Officer for Scotland, Sheila Voas (second from left), led to a lively debate on what more the sector could do to work together to influence good biosecurity. Key questions posed included the larger role vets could play in encouraging better practices amongst clients, whether strangles should be made 'Reportable', and how to ensure the heightened awareness of infectious disease following the recent national equine flu outbreak does not diminish.

Afternoon workshops gave the opportunity for participants to elaborate on the barriers they had faced engaging with horse owners to proactively control the disease, as well as managing outbreaks of strangles, and put together action plans on how good ideas could be progressed to achieve success.

Helene Mauchlen, National Manager at The British Horse Society Scotland commented **"By coming together to speak with one voice, this symposium is a positive step towards making good biosecurity a top priority for yards and horse owners."**

Visit our website for more information

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SRUC Veterinary Services.

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