

## Update on West Nile

It is time to vaccinate your horses once again. Weather is beginning to warm and that means mosquitoes. Mosquitoes acquire West Nile virus from birds. Migratory birds have spread the disease from the east coast in 1999 to the west coast over the last 8 years. West Nile virus can infect birds, people and horses. Approximately 33 percent of horses infected with West Nile virus die. Clinical signs include ataxia (stumbling or incoordination), weakness of limbs, partial paralysis, or death. Fever is not usually seen. All but 14 counties in the state have reported cases of West Nile, Wasco, Deschutes and Jefferson counties included. Crook County to date has not had a case of West Nile virus; don't let your horse be the first. Contact your local veterinarian for vaccination. For information please visit the following website: [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/animal\\_dis\\_spec/horses](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/animal_dis_spec/horses).

<b>OREGON</b>		
	Cases 2005	Cases 2006
Human	5	73
Chicken	17	0
Bird	15	25
Mosquito	11	1100
Horse	46	35

Source: USDA APHIS

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