



Fort Dodge Animal Health
Division of Wyeth
Huizerstraatweg 117
1411 GM NAARDEN
The Netherlands

January 2009

Fort Dodge West Nile Virus Vaccine Licensed in Europe

Fort Dodge Animal Health, a division of Wyeth, today announced it has received its licence for Duvaxyn® WNV. Licensed by the European Medicines Agency (EMA), Duvaxyn® WNV is the first equine West Nile virus vaccine licensed in Europe. Fort Dodge says the announcement should provide reassurance to horse owners, particularly given the recent outbreak of the disease in northern Italy.

Welcoming the news, Professor Ann Cullinane, Head of Virology at the Irish Equine Centre, commented: "I was very pleased to hear that Duvaxyn® WNV is now licensed in Europe.

"The virus was responsible for one of the worst arbovirus epidemics in the history of America and, since it was first identified in New York in 1999, has been responsible for thousands of horse fatalities. European outbreaks of West Nile virus have not yet been of the epidemic nature of the disease in the United States but it's essential that Europe is in a state of disease preparedness. Our capability to mount an effective response to the virus has been significantly improved by the licensing of this vaccine."

Fort Dodge, a global leader in vaccine development, was the first company to develop and licence a vaccine to protect horses against this potentially deadly disease. An inactivated whole virus vaccine, it was the only vaccine available in the US at the height of the 2002 outbreak, which affected 15,000 horses.



The US Department of Agriculture credited it with contributing to the 70 per cent decline in US equine WNV cases since the height of the outbreak. The disease is now considered endemic in America.

Helen Barnes, EMEA Equine Business Manager for Fort Dodge, added: “Following the recent Italian outbreak, West Nile virus is now regarded as endemic in Italy – a fact which confirms the threat it poses to the equestrian sector in Europe where the consequences of a major outbreak could be devastating.

“The outbreak in northern Italy, which resulted in five horse deaths and also affected people, mirrors the US outbreak and sets it apart from previous European outbreaks. As environmental factors, such as global warming, threaten to create mass breeding grounds for mosquitoes, the seriousness of this emerging disease should not be underestimated. The fact that Duvaxyn® WNV is licensed means that horses in Europe can now be protected.

“Our experience with West Nile virus in the United States has given us an exceptional understanding of the disease and the importance of vaccination, and we’re now working in partnership with European governments, the EU Commission and the veterinary community to build knowledge of the disease.”

Fort Dodge Animal Health is a leading manufacturer and marketer of products for equine, livestock and small animal markets. Key products include EQUEST® horse wormer brands; Duvaxyn® equine vaccines; Cydectin® cattle and sheep wormer; Guardian™ SR heartworm injection and a range of poultry and pig vaccines.

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West Nile Virus Background

WNV is an arthropod-borne virus transmitted by mosquitoes, including the *Culex*, *Aedes* and *Anopheles* species, which circulate in Europe. The reservoir hosts are birds, with wild birds believed to spread the disease during migration. The disease causes significant mortality among birds and can be transmitted to mammals and humans via mosquito bites.



Horses are an important indicator of the presence of the virus as they may show symptoms of infection including neurological encephalitis. The incubation period is 3 to 15 days and the mortality rate among horses showing clinical illness has been reported to be as high as 40 per cent.

There is no cure for WNV. Horses can survive with aggressive nursing therapy though some will suffer permanent neurological defects.

In humans, WNV is asymptomatic in more than 80 per cent of cases or causes only mild nonspecific symptoms. In rare cases, serious neurological symptoms may develop. Both humans and horses are dead-end hosts so it cannot be transmitted from horse to horse or horse to person.

Note to editors:

Fort Dodge Animal Health's vaccine is known in the US as West Nile-Innovator™.

The statements in this press release that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements that are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such statements. These risks and uncertainties include, without limitation, the inherent uncertainty of the timing and success of, and expense associated with, research, development, regulatory approval and commercialization of our products and pipeline products; government cost-containment initiatives; restrictions on third-party payments for our products; substantial competition in our industry, including from branded and generic products; emerging data on our products and pipeline products; the importance of strong performance from our principal products and our anticipated new product introductions; the highly regulated nature of our business; product liability, intellectual property and other litigation risks and environmental liabilities; uncertainty regarding our intellectual property rights and those of others; difficulties associated with, and regulatory compliance with respect to, manufacturing of our products; risks associated with our strategic relationships; economic conditions including interest and currency exchange rate fluctuations; changes in generally accepted accounting principles; trade buying patterns; the impact of legislation and regulatory compliance; risks and uncertainties associated with global operations and sales; and other risks and uncertainties, including those detailed from time to time in our periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including our current reports on Form 8-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and annual report on Form 10-K, particularly the discussion under the caption "Item 1A, Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007, which was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 29, 2008. The forward-looking statements in this press release are qualified by these risk factors. We assume no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise.

For further information:



Rebecca George
George PR
Tel: 01449 737281/07974 161108