ABOUT EASTERN EQUINE ENCEPHALITIS (EEE)

Historically, Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) has been found in eastern, southeastern and some southern states, but it has also been detected in all states east of the Mississippi River and in a number of Western states.

Because of the mortality rate, which is estimated to be as high as 90 percent, EEE is considered one of the most serious mosquito-borne diseases in the United States. Even in horses that recover from EEE, many can have permanent brain damage.

EEE affects horses in similar ways to other diseases of the nervous system, with signs including:

- Fever
- Depression
- Listlessness
- Grinding of the teeth
- Stumbling or circling
- Head pressing
- Impaired vision, and
- Coma.

Because of the significant mortality rate and the fact that there are no specific treatments for horses infected with EEE, prevention, including vaccination, is critical to the health and well-being of horses. Merial’s RECOMBITEK® rWNV-EWT is the only WNV combination vaccine labeled to aid in the prevention of disease and viremia due to West Nile virus and encephalitis caused by Eastern Equine Encephalomyelitis Virus (EEEV) and Western Equine Encephalomyelitis Virus (WEEV), and tetanus caused by the Clostridium tetani toxin.

Vaccinating with RECOMBITEK rWNV-EWT will help protect your horse against four of the five diseases that the American Association of Equine Practitioners considers to be core vaccinations for horses in the United States.

In addition to vaccination, disease prevention measures include:

- Reducing mosquito populations
- Minimizing exposure to mosquitoes, which can breed in any standing water that lasts more than four days
- Removing all sources where water can collect, and
- Stabling horses during peak mosquito feeding time.

For more information about EEE or other equine diseases, talk with your veterinarian and go to www.outbreak-alert.com sponsored by Merial.