



Notice to all Equine Breeders

It has been brought to our attention by the Irish Equine Centre that the number of cases of *Rhodococcus equi* diagnosed so far this season has far exceeded that of previous seasons.

These have presented in a variety of ways including abdominal infections, joint infections and acute respiratory infections.

Breeders are urged to be vigilant to signs of *R. equi* infection, which often presents as pneumonia with cough, fever and lethargy, and to contact their private veterinary surgeon about sick foals in good time.

The Irish Equine Centre, does however give some good news: To date none of the samples have shown to contain the gene which makes *R. equi* resistant to the commonly used antibiotics. To try and ensure this situation continues it is vital that all instructions regarding use of antibiotics given by your veterinary practitioner are followed in full.