

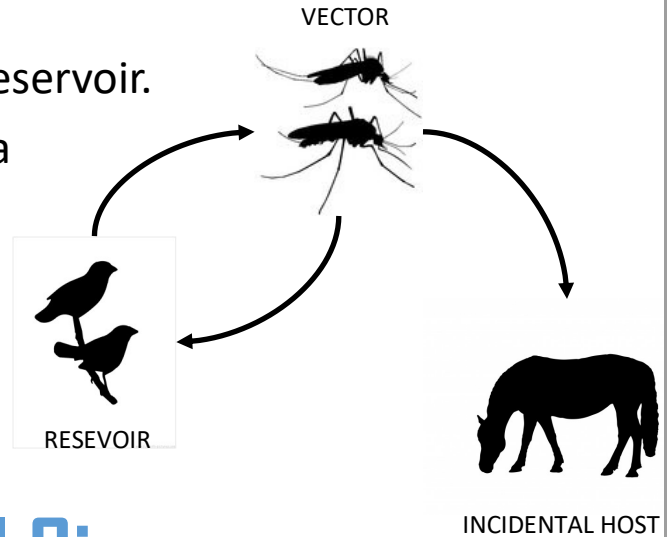


WEST NILE VIRUS

**REPORTABLE
DISEASE!**

Transmission: birds are a virus reservoir.

When these birds are bitten by a mosquito, they pass along the virus. The infected mosquito can now pass the virus along to any horse it feeds on.



Clinical Signs

- Fever
- Weakness
- Depression
- Stumbling
- Head Pressing
- Muscle Fasciculations (particularly the head and neck)
- Ataxia (Incoordination)
- Aimless Wandering
- Recumbency

Treatment:

No specific treatment!
SUPPORTIVE CARE ONLY

FATALITY RATE: **33%**

Recovered horses may have
persistent neurologic signs

Is West Nile Virus Preventable?

YES!

Vaccination against West Nile is commercially available
Recommend either annual or biannual boosters based on
geographic location