


# UPDATE ON EQUINE INFLUENZA OUTBREAKS DETECTED IN THE UK IN APRIL 2026

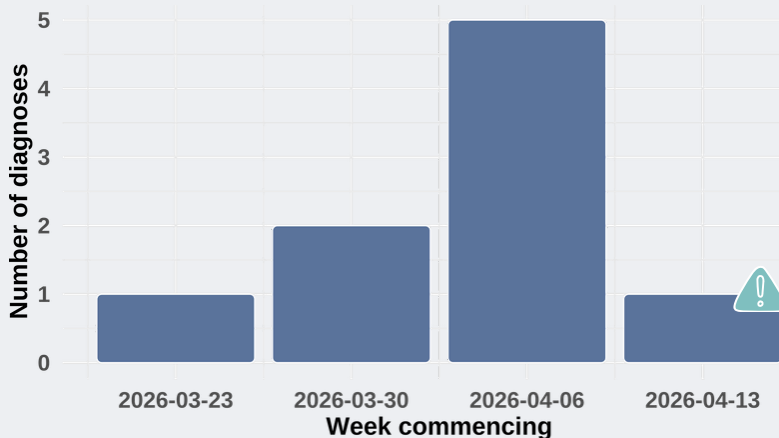
## EIDS UPDATE: 17/04/2026

Since the beginning of April 2026, Equine Infectious Disease Surveillance (EIDS) has become aware of nine confirmed outbreaks of equine influenza (EI) on premises in nine separate counties of England: Berkshire, Cambridgeshire, Hampshire, Kent, Lincolnshire, North Yorkshire, Suffolk (not close to Newmarket), Surrey and Shropshire.

## POINTS OF NOTE:

 **A steady rise in diagnosed outbreaks** is evident over the first three weeks indicating accelerating transmission. Although the fourth week currently shows fewer cases, this likely reflects reporting delays, and early indications suggest the upward trend may continue.

### OUTBREAKS PER WEEK BY SAMPLING DATE



*The sampling date reflects when horses showed clinical signs, prompting veterinary investigation and sample collection, and may therefore differ from the date the outbreak was reported to/by EIDS*

## TAKE HOME MESSAGES:



Infected horses will spread the virus through coughing and can shed the virus for up to 10 days.



Infected horses should be isolated until your vet advises they are no longer infected.



All horse movements on and off the yard should be stopped.

### Diagnoses between 29/03/26 - 16/04/26



Equine vets can call EIDS through our free advice service for outbreak management advice



Monitor all horses for clinical signs and record their rectal temperatures daily; they should be less than 38.5° C.



Booster vaccinate all in-contacts if it's more than six months since their last vaccine, as this has been shown to provide horses with better protection against flu.

## HORSE OWNER RESOURCE

Did you know EIDS has an equine influenza information summarising key information for horse owners? Find and share this resource [HERE](#)



*EIDS are also aware of another outbreak in the East of England, however we are awaiting further details and permission to report*

