New Zeeland first to implement mandatory vaccination with Strangvac®

Intervacc AB (publ) announces today that New Zealand Bloodstock is making vaccination with Strangvac®, the company's innovative vaccine against strangles in horses, mandatory for all yearlings ahead of the 101st National Yearling Sales in January. This decision shows how vaccination against strangles can become a requirement for participation in equestrian events.

Intervacc received special permission this summer to export 1,500 doses of Strangvac® following a request from the New Zealand equine health organization New Zealand Equine Health Association (NZEHA) after about 20 acute outbreaks in the Waikato region. Genetic analyses identified a strain of the strangles bacterium that had not previously been detected in New Zealand. According to NZTR, Strangvac® has shown protective effects against the new strain, and the experiences from the vaccinations have been very positive.

Mandatory for participation

Both NZEHA and New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing (NZTR) recommend vaccination against strangles for all horses in training and competition. The auction organizer New Zealand Bloodstock (NZB) is taking it a step further by introducing vaccination requirements for the National Yearling Sales in Karaka, New Zealand's prestigious yearling auction for thoroughbred horses. All yearlings participating in the Sales during January 2027 must be vaccinated with Strangvac® before arriving at the auction facility. This requires two doses administered 30 days apart.

Since Strangvac® is not yet approved for sale in New Zealand, the authorities have granted an additional special permission – pending the regular approval – to meet market demand for 5,500 doses before the end of the year. There has long been an alternative strangles vaccine in the country, but the requirement from the NZB specifically concerns Strangvac®.

" That the vaccine is now becoming mandatory for such a prestigious, large, and internationally well-attended event in New Zealand is a first step that opens the door for it to become mandatory for all horses in competition and training once it is fully approved," says Carl-Johan Dalsgaard, CEO of Intervacc. "*It also sends a signal to both national and international riding, trotting, and thoroughbred racing federations worldwide."*

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About Strangvac®

Strangvac® is a vaccine against the severe disease equine strangles. The vaccine is approved for sales and marketing in the EU as well as the UK, Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein, and has been launched in Sweden, Denmark, Finland, the UK, France, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Austria, Spain, Portugal, Ireland, Poland, Slovenia and Italy.

About Intervacc

Intervacc AB is an animal health group that develops vaccines for animals. The company's vaccines and vaccine candidates are based on many years of research at the Karolinska Institute and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. The Intervacc share (Nasdaq: IVACC) is listed on the Nasdaq First North Growth Market. For more information, see intervacc.se

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