
AGCO reminder: Hot weather alert – extra vigilance for race horses

INFORMATION BULLETIN No. 009

July 4, 2016 – The Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) reminds horsepeople, racing officials, track management and the Official Veterinarian to share information and be on the alert for any hot weather effects on horses.

There is an established policy of allowing a trainer to scratch their animal should the trainer be concerned about the particular condition of the animal due to weather.

Tracks are reminded they need to maintain adequate water facilities to cool down horses after warming up or racing. AGCO Official Veterinarians and racing officials at all racetracks will remind participants to take the necessary precautions and steps to cool horses.

The protection of the health and welfare of the horse is of paramount concern to the AGCO and to members of the racing community. An effort to monitor the horse in weather extremes is in keeping with this mandate.

Dr. Adam Chambers
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