

## At Billings Livestock "We Like Horses"

## HORSE SALES

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May 19, 2011 Jann Parker, BLS Horse Sales

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

After much fact finding, consideration, and discussion with other horse industry professionals regarding the recent outbreak of EHV-1, we feel that in the best interest of the horse industry – the horses themselves and the people who own them – to postpone our May 28-29 sale event.

We understand that we may be overcautious, however, with horses coming from 17 states and Canada, we feel a responsibility to do the right thing and to do our part in limiting the movement and transport of horses.

452 catalog horses have been consigned to our Memorial Day weekend sale event May 28-29 with over 250 individual consignors and average of 400 buyers attending the monthly catalog sales.

Due to the outbreak and possible buyer hesitancy, will be combining our May sale with our June event and expanding it to three days, June 24-26.

We realize the economic impact to Montana, Yellowstone, County and the city of Billings – as over 250 consignors and an average of 400 buyers attend the monthly catalog horse sales.

Billings Livestock (BLS) is America's largest monthly catalog horse sale selling 8,467 head of horses in 2010. BLS is Montana's oldest livestock market, established in 1934 as a horse and mule market and is a licensed and bonded facility operating under the guidelines and provisions set forth by the USDA Packers and Stockyards and the Montana Department of Livestock. Bill and Jann Parker have managed the horse sales at BLS since 1998, selling our 100,000 horse in January 2011.