



Racing Victoria Limited
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STEWARDS REPORT

Tuesday, 18 June 2013

Notice to Trainers

Racing Victoria (RV) stewards have received advice from Racing Analytical Services Limited (RASL) that it has detected low level traces of hyoscine and atropine which are below reporting levels.

The official samples were collected from multiple horses representing a number of stables from different regions. The trainers involved have been notified.

Stewards have commenced an investigation into RASL's findings with the most likely scenario being feed contamination.

RV's Equine Welfare and Veterinary Services Department advises that it is possible that the presence of the substances may be attributable to the ingestion of plants from the *Datura* species, which includes the Thornapple plant, and the *Brugsmania* species which includes the Angels' Trumpet flower.

Trainers are advised to take the following precautions to minimize the risk of detection of the prohibited substances hyoscine, scopolamine and atropine:

- Check the internet to obtain further information and photographs of the plant species.
- Examine the horses' environment for the presence of suspicious plants.
- Check all feeds and supplements, especially hay and herbal mixtures for the presence of unusual plant material.
- Contact the RV Equine Welfare and Veterinary Services Department to obtain more information if necessary and to report the detection of suspicious plant material.

RV is also reminding trainers that a number of plants, including Willow spp (salicylic acid), tea plants (caffeine) and Poppy plant material (morphine) may contain prohibited substances and that it is wise for trainers to regularly check their horses' environment and feedstuffs for the presence of suspicious plant material.

ENDS

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