

Products & Services

Equine allergy testing

Avacta Animal Health has launched a range of ELISA-based equine allergy tests that use allergens from plant species native to the UK and northern Europe.

The company says that the SENSITEST equine allergy test includes a panel of allergens that cover the the work up of food, respiratory and atopic allergic disease, helping in accurate diagnosis and determining treatment and management options. It reports that, in developing the test, allergens were selected that showed significant levels of reactivity in horses with clinical signs compatible with allergic disease.

Janice Hogg, Avacta senior veterinary director, said, 'While many providers of allergy tests are reducing the number of allergens in their panels and providing only a global range of allergens, research has shown it is



vital to include native species of allergenic plants and insects. The new ELISA test, which includes allergens such as orchard grass, daisy, dandelion, nettle and horse chestnut, provides UK practitioners with a viable alternative to intradermal testing. It doesn't

require clipping and has no adverse reactions – ideal for clients who want to avoid this.'

The company adds that it is not necessary to withdraw medications, except for high-dose corticosteroids, for the standardised testing procedure which, it says, has excellent reproducibility and is not influenced by existing skin pathologies.

Ms Hogg added: 'To further assist equine practitioners, especially those faced with non-insured clients, the SENSITEST equine screening test offers a simple positive/negative result to each panel, allowing expansion to the full panels as required to assist with treatment.'

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Updated information and services can be found at:
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