



February 12, 2015

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

Animal Care
4700 River Road
Riverdale, MD
20737

MEMORANDUM

TO: Horse Protection Stakeholders

FROM: Chester A. Gipson *CAG*
Deputy Administrator
Animal Care

SUBJECT: Iris Scan Technology

Since 2013, the Horse Protection program has used iris scan technology to identify horses. Horses are identified with an iris scanner similar to how a fingerprint identifies a person. The iris scanner was previously used during the first step in the pre-show inspection process.

Starting in the 2015 horse show season, the iris scanner will be used during the last step in the pre-show inspection process.

For more information on the Iris Scanning Technology, **please visit:**
www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/hp/



Safeguarding American Agriculture

APHIS is an agency of USDA's Marketing and Regulatory Programs
An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

Federal Relay Service
(Voice/TTY/ASCII/Spanish)
1-800-877-8339