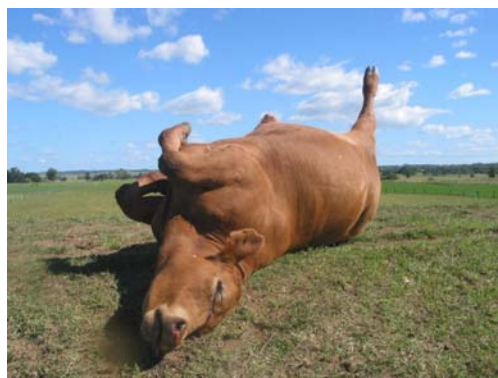


Farm biosecurity – protecting your future

All farmers should take simple measures to reduce the chance of disease entering and spreading on their farm. This is not only for you, but also to protect the future of agriculture in Australia. Simple failures in farm biosecurity could have serious consequences for human health, our economy, way of life and Australia's reputation as having one of the healthiest livestock populations. Livestock owners and producers are the first line of defence. You can implement many vital measures with little cost required. Most disease enters a property on the back of a truck or over your neighbours fence. What measures do you have in place to stop this? The North Coast has some particular risks associated with our farm holdings, human settlements and wildlife all being in close proximity to each other.



Do you know your disease syndromes?

There is usually a better outcome if disease is diagnosed early. Stock should be checked daily and anything unusual reported. If you live off farm arrange someone else to monitor your stock.

Disease watch

Important signs of disease to get checked out by a veterinarian include *sudden death, lameness, yellow skin colour, red urine, unusual behaviour or body posture, abortion "storm", drooling, scours, weight loss and undiagnosed ticks*. A free diagnostic service for herd disease is offered by the LHPA to its ratepayers.

If any producers suspect an emergency animal health disease contact the hotline on 1800 675 888, your private veterinarian or your local LHPA office.

Thinking of buying or moving livestock? Think about the risks!

- Request all possible health information about the stock you are purchasing. For sheep, goats or cattle you should request the relevant national health statements. If sellers are not aware of these documents they are readily available from: <http://www.farmbiosecurity.com.au/secure-your-future/declarations-and-forms.cfm>.
- Think about where the stock originate from and any risks that you should be aware of. For example, stock bought from western districts may have some health issues being brought to the coast.
- Isolate new stock for 7-10 days to monitor for signs of disease and avoid mixing with your other stock. Consider other steps to reduce disease as outlined in: http://www.lhpa.org.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0005/337280/Buying-in-Cattle.pdf
- Keep effective stock records of all purchases and movements.
- All stock movements need to be recorded on the NLIS database. Without this control, tracking of a serious disease introduced to Australia can be so much harder. Refer to: <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/nlis>

National Animal Health Statement for Johne's Disease Status of Beef Cattle VERSION 5A
October 2008

For this form to be valid Parts A and B must be completed. For cattle to be eligible for Beef Only status Part B must be completed. You may also complete Part C or D if applicable.

<p style="text-align: center;">PART A - CONSIGNMENT INFORMATION</p> <p>1. _____ Trading as _____ Phone: _____</p> <p>address: _____</p> <p>am the person with the day to day responsibility for the husbandry of the cattle described below.</p> <p>The cattle have been kept at (Name and location of property) _____</p> <p>This property is in a BJD: <input type="checkbox"/> Residual Zone <input type="checkbox"/> Control Zone <input type="checkbox"/> Protected Zone</p> <p>Property Identification Code (PIC) of this property: _____</p> <p>National Vendor Declaration Number: _____</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 20%;">Number of cattle</th> <th style="width: 40%;">Description (sex, breed, age etc)</th> <th style="width: 40%;">Any other information (e.g. health etc)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The cattle described above, were either (tick applicable boxes)</p> <p>A1 <input type="checkbox"/> bred, raised and have only resided on the property detailed above AND/OR</p> <p>A2 <input type="checkbox"/> purchased/introduced with documentary evidence that they are from a Beef Only, CattleMAP herd or a beef herd with Check Tested, Tested 4 y/o or Tested to MAP standard.</p>	Number of cattle	Description (sex, breed, age etc)	Any other information (e.g. health etc)										<p style="text-align: center;">PART B continued</p> <p>4. Cattle introduced into the herd or onto the property(s), must have come from herds which are of the same or higher status (cattle herds with MN1, MN2, MN3 or beef herds with Beef Only, Check Tested, T4YO, or TMS status) for bovine Johne's disease (BJD) and have come with an Animal Health Statement or BJD vendor declaration, or have come directly from beef herds in a BJD Protected Zone as documented by the accompanying National Vendor Declaration (NVDs)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PART C - CattleMAP HERD <input type="checkbox"/> APPLICABLE</p> <p>If applicable answer the following question.</p> <p>The cattle herd has the following status in the CattleMAP:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> MN1 <input type="checkbox"/> MN2 <input type="checkbox"/> MN3 Date obtained: _____</p> <p>Certificate No.: _____ Expiry date: _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PART D - CHECK TESTED, 4 YEAR-OLDS (T4YO) OR TESTED TO MAP STANDARDS (TMS) BEEF HERDS <input type="checkbox"/> APPLICABLE</p> <p>If applicable answer the following questions.</p> <p>I have the required documentary evidence to support the status of:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Check Tested to MAP Standard <input type="checkbox"/> Tested 4 Year-Olds <input type="checkbox"/> Tested to MAP standard</p> <p>(see the explanatory notes for documentation that may be required by a purchaser or by an authorised officer at the time of an audit)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PART E - DECLARATION</p> <p>As the person responsible for the husbandry of the cattle in this consignment, I declare that all the information stated in the Animal Health Statement is true and correct and that I have read and understood the Explanatory notes.</p> <p>I agree to allow my herd, property, and relevant records to be inspected for the purpose of assessing my compliance with this statement in this declaration.</p> <p>Signed: _____ Dated: _____</p> <p><small>Note: Making a false or misleading statement about the status of the cattle for sale may make the signatory liable to prosecution under the Trade Practices Act 1974 and relevant State legislation.</small></p> <p><small>(Note: Stock agents cannot make this declaration on behalf of clients)</small></p>
Number of cattle	Description (sex, breed, age etc)	Any other information (e.g. health etc)											
<p style="text-align: center;">PART B - BEEF ONLY HERD <input type="checkbox"/> APPLICABLE</p> <p><small>To be applicable ALL four conditions listed in this section must be met:</small></p> <p>The cattle owned or managed by me and presented for sale originated from a herd which:</p> <p>1. does not include animals that have been part of a herd which is classified as Infected (IN), Suspect (SU) or Restricted (RD) according to the current National Johne's Disease Standard Definitions and Rules (SDR) for Cattle and;</p> <p>2. has not grazed with dairy cattle or dairy-cross cattle over 24 months of age (see explanatory notes) at any time during the previous five (5) years, unless those dairy cattle were from a herd enrolled in the Australian Johne's Disease Market Assurance Program for Cattle (CattleMAP) and;</p> <p>3. has not at any time in the past, grazed on land that has been grazed by adult dairy cattle (2 years old or older) during the 12 months before the arrival of the beef herd, unless those dairy cattle were part of a CattleMAP herd.</p>													

Someone visiting your farm? What risk could they be to livestock?

Some very serious livestock diseases can survive for up to 8 days on boots and clothing and 3 days in nasal passages of people. Knowing where visitors have been and their exposure to farms can help reduce the risk of disease. For example, if a family member returns from visiting rural south east Asia or Africa, what risk could this have on your livestock? What steps could you take to reduce this risk?



When anyone visits your farm you should:

- Know about it and discourage unwanted visitors by fencing, signage and one entry point to your farm. Look out for and remove any rubbish that enters your farm.
- Avoid unnecessary visitor contact with your livestock, stock equipment, feeds and water.
- As much as possible, keep visitor vehicles out of stock paddocks, yards and feed storage areas.
- For visitors you allow to contact your stock, enforce hand washing and clean boots.



Could feed, equipment, water or straying stock introduce disease?

Know what feeds are illegal for your livestock. For pigs there are strict bans on swill feeding, which is most meat and meat products. This includes bakery goods and pizza which can have meat. For ruminants it is illegal to feed most proteins sourced from animals, which includes meat, bone and

poultry meals and manures. For further information and requirements refer to the following;
http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0016/101185/feed-controls-stopping-bse-mad-cow-disease.pdf

http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/163414/swill-feeding.pdf

- Source feed from reputable suppliers and if feasible source locally. Examine feeds on arrival for any gross contamination.
- Ensure water is clean and free from serious contamination such as dead stock.
- Avoid sharing/borrowing equipment from neighbours to reduce risk of disease.
- How are your fences with your neighbour? Are bulls getting through? Some people have double fencing or electricity to improve their biosecurity.



How to stop disease spread on your farm

Any animals with signs of disease should be isolated from other stock and advice sought for a diagnosis. Diseased animals should be cared for after you have handled your healthy stock NOT before. Clean your hands well after caring for diseased animals. Consider use of gloves and other protective clothing.

- Clean areas potentially contaminated with germs by using an appropriate disinfectant. Diluted bleach is one example of many disinfectants effective against many animal germs.
- Minimise sharing of needles and other husbandry equipment between stock. Disinfect your equipment.
- Clean your boots! For animals kept in sheds such as calves, chickens and pigs foot baths are an excellent way to prevent germs coming into the shed from boots. A simple foot bath can be made from a litter tray with a flat sponge and a disinfectant such as bleach. Boots should first be cleaned of mud. Footbaths need to be changed regularly.
- Appropriate carcass disposal is a stockowner responsibility. Ideally stock should be disposed in a segregated area by being burnt or deep burial.
- Active steps should be taken to reduce feral animals on your property and to ensure that they and wildlife do not access rubbish pits and dead carcasses. Ensure feed and water troughs are cleaned on a regular basis. Dispose of old, contaminated and spilled feed.
- Keep feed in a safe, dry, clean place to prevent mould and pest contamination.



Further information

www.farmbiosecurity.com.au

www.daff.gov.au/biosecurity

[Animal Health Australia report](#)

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