



SHOW AND EVENT BIOSECURITY PLAN

AUSTRALIAN ALPACA ASSOCIATION

Version 2023



SECTION 1 - EVENT DETAILS

EVENT VENUE MAP

Include a copy of your event venue map/s here. Clearly identify locations of:

1. Where livestock and companion animals are housed and exhibited.
2. Livestock and companion animal entry/exit points.
3. Other points including: waste (e.g. manure and bedding) disposal areas, isolation yard(s), loading and unloading points, water sources, office and location of first aid and PPE kits.
4. Zoning if applicable (competitor zones including parking, public areas, spectator areas)

BIOSECURITY KIT ITEMS

Personal protective equipment (PPE) and hygiene products should be available onsite and easily accessible to staff/volunteers during the event. The following kits may be used for general biosecurity cleaning and disinfection. They should also be available in the event of a suspected disease outbreak.

VOLUNTEER BIOSECURITY KITS

The staff biosecurity kits contain PPE required for staff who handle livestock in their general duties to protect them from zoonotic disease risks and possible spread of disease from animal to animal.

- Bucket
- Scrubbing brush
- Gloves (4 pairs minimum)
- Disinfectant
- Soap/detergent
- Face mask

EVENT BIOSECURITY KIT

The kits are generally for use by the Events Manager to assess the situation when there is a suspected or confirmed case of a disease in livestock or companion animals attending the event.

- Foot bath
- Bucket x 2 (20L)
- Face mask (P2)
- Disposable overalls x 2
- Gloves (10 pairs minimum)
- Gumboots x 2
- Tarp (minimum 3m²)
- Sharps container
- Thick rubbish bags
- Zip ties
- Disinfectant
- Soap/detergent
- Scrubbing brush
- Tape (for taping gloves down around wrists)

Kit containers should be taped closed with a date on the outside of the tape so it is easy to identify when they have been opened and when the equipment needs to be rechecked to ensure it is complete or restocked if required.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Biosecurity during an event is a **shared responsibility** between the event holder and exhibitors. It is important that everyone understands their role and plays their part in preventing the introduction and spread of diseases, pests or weeds during the event. Below are some of the roles and responsibilities that may be part of an event.

EVENT ORGANISER OR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Chief Steward/Event Biosecurity Manager - is the person to contact in the event of a suspected biosecurity emergency. Their contact details should be displayed throughout the grounds as the contact person. The Biosecurity Manager is responsible for actioning the biosecurity plan by ensuring sickbay pens, etc. are constructed and that everyone named within the plan is aware of their role during the event. They should be aware of what may occur in the event of a biosecurity emergency and ideally undertake relevant training (e.g. through government emergency animal disease (EAD) training workshops).

Event Secretary – is responsible for collecting and storing relevant livestock movement documentation and Animal Health Declarations. Animal Health Declarations, and any other documentation required to be kept by the Event Management Committee under state legislation, must be kept for the designated period of time.

Event Stewards - are event employees or volunteers that are in charge of:

- penning
- animal health checks
- marshalling
- ring stewarding

The Event Stewards report to the Chief Steward/ Biosecurity Manager.

Event Committee - are responsible for ensuring the biosecurity plan is completed and that the Biosecurity Manager has received a copy and actioned items within the biosecurity plan. The Event Committee is also responsible for ensuring that adequate pre-event communications are sent to exhibitors. For example, biosecurity information is either sent out, displayed on the website or forms part of the nomination process. The Event Committee is also responsible for ensuring that any legislation in relation to the movement of livestock or animal welfare in their state is adhered to at all times.

Event Veterinarian - is a veterinarian currently registered in the State in which the event is being held and has been appointed by the Event Biosecurity Event Committee. They oversee animal health and welfare of exhibitor's animals at an event, providing veterinary advice and treatment, where necessary. They have a supplementary role to a Government Veterinarian in an Emergency Animal Disease incident and will work with Government Veterinarians, exhibitors, the Event Biosecurity Manager and Industry representatives, to manage disease spread, should one occur.

Government Veterinarian/Inspector - is a veterinarian currently registered in the state/territory in which the event is being held and is employed by the state/territory government and appointed under the state's legislation relevant to disease management. They are not appointed by the Event

Biosecurity Event Committee, but instead are appointed under State legislation to lead EAD responses when exotic diseases are suspected. Everyone present at the event must follow instructions given by the Government Veterinarian in the event of a suspected EAD incident.

EXHIBITOR / COMPETITOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Exhibitors and competitors are responsible for understanding and discharging their obligations in relation to animal welfare, traceability and biosecurity of livestock and animals within their care. It is important to convey to exhibitors/competitors the event rules and guidelines, including biosecurity practices that are recommended at the event. These guidelines should be provided in the rules and regulations, entry forms and on the website to all participants.

- Exhibitors / competitors must not bring sick or injured livestock to an event.
- Livestock are loaded and transported in accordance with the [Is the Animal Fit to Load Guidelines](#) and the [Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Land Transport of Livestock](#).
- Livestock attending the event must be accompanied by the relevant movement document [South American Camelid Health Declaration and Waybill](#), and a copy provided to a nominated person within the event committee.
- All alpacas must be appropriately identified according to state legislation, including IAR tag or NLIS tag as applicable.
- Livestock are not permitted to graze in shared areas. Grazing at the grounds is at the risk of the exhibitor.
- Do not allow livestock or companion animals to share common water sources (where practical).
- Ensure livestock and companion animals go into a clean yard, pen or cage upon arrival.
- Facilities in which livestock and companion animals are housed are to be kept clean and free of manure for the duration of the event. This includes feeding and watering facilities.
- Exhibitor / competitor vehicles that are onsite should be clean of gross contaminants such as mud and manure
- Exhibitors must supply fit-for-purpose livestock feed for ruminants that does not contain restricted animal material (RAM).
- All exhibitors / competitors should minimise unnecessary contact with other exhibitors' / competitors' livestock and companion animals, and should wash hands thoroughly after handling animals.
- Exhibitors should also limit sharing of equipment and tack. Any equipment brought onto the site must be brought to the event clean.
- Livestock and companion animals that become sick whilst at the showgrounds are to remain in their housed area and must be reported to the Event Biosecurity Manager or Event Veterinarian immediately. Keep other livestock, companion animals and people away from the animal until directed by the Event Veterinarian or Biosecurity Event Manager.
- Livestock returning home should be isolated for 10-21 days and kept under observation for any signs of disease.
- Exhibitors are responsible for complying with NLIS, animal movement requirements and other biosecurity requirements.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Print this out and display around the grounds

Competitors/exhibitors that suspect a disease in their animals or livestock during the event should contact _____ on phone number _____ immediately.

Table 1. Emergency contact details

EMERGENCY CONTACTS		
POSITION	NAME	CONTACT NUMBER
EVENT BIOSECURITY MANAGER		
EVENT ASSISTANT (2 ND IN CHARGE)		
EVENT VETERINARIAN		
LOCAL VETERINARIAN 1		
LOCAL VETERINARIAN 2		
LOCAL ANIMAL HEALTH OFFICER		
DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY/ AGRICULTURE CALL CENTRE NUMBER		
EMERGENCY ANIMAL DISEASE HOTLINE		1800 675 888
ISOLATION BAY LOCATED AT:		
SECRETARY BOX LOCATED AT:		
WH&S / FIRST AID OFFICER		

PRIORITY DISEASES OF CONCERN FOR THE EVENT

Include diseases or pests of concern for the event in this table that you are specifically trying to manage with health entry requirements for the event. **Any diseases or pests below that are not relevant to the event may be deleted.**

- Diseases may include those referred to under current state/territory regulation or diseases specific to your local area. This section may be completed with the help of a private or government veterinarian, biosecurity officer or animal health and biosecurity manager.
- If you have identified specific diseases that your event is managing, record how they are being managed in Section 3 (livestock activities) and then communicated to competitors via your preferred method, identified in Section 2 (communications).

Table 2. Priority diseases of concern for the event

SPECIES	DISEASE	ACCREDITATION / DISEASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM	SUGGESTED MINIMUM HEALTH STATUS FOR ENTRY	PRACTICE IMPLEMENTED BY EVENT MANAGEMENT
South American camelids	Cattle tick	Event grounds in tick free zone	Livestock to present tick free with accompanying documentation as required	
		Event grounds in tick infected zone	Livestock to present visually tick free	
	Lice		Livestock to present visually lice free and from a flock free of lice	
	Johne’s disease	Alpaca CheQA or Q-Alpaca	Status confirmed via AAA website or ealpaca	Separate sections per assessed management program, and another area for non-assessed.
	Liverfluke			Separate sections per assessed management program. No cross contamination.

SECTION 2: COMMUNICATIONS

Communications to stakeholders before, during and after the event are not only critical to events running smoothly but are also critical to biosecurity. Biosecurity is a shared responsibility but ensuring that everyone involved in attending your event is aware of processes put in place by your event committee will ensure that reporting processes are followed in the event of a disease incident and the impact is minimised.

In this section, identify stakeholders that are relevant to your event (volunteers, employees, staff, livestock exhibitors, trade fair exhibitors etc.) Considering who you need to contact and what you need to communicate to each group will aid the management of biosecurity at your event.

STAKEHOLDER	RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	ADDITIONAL COMMUNICATION STRATEGY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Event Committee and volunteers	<input type="checkbox"/> Provide training and information about what to do in the event of an emergency animal disease outbreak to all event staff/volunteers <input type="checkbox"/> Event Biosecurity Manager to undertake Animal Health Australia's EAD Online Foundation Training <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure Staff and volunteers have attended a briefing prior to conducting their role on the day, so they are aware of their responsibilities. All staff and volunteers to have access to event Biosecurity Plan.		
Livestock exhibitors	<input type="checkbox"/> Communicate entry requirements and competitor/exhibitor responsibilities to competitors via website, event schedule and competitor entry forms or competitor handbook <input type="checkbox"/> Communicate to exhibitors legislative requirements in relation to moving livestock to the event <input type="checkbox"/> Request that all livestock are accompanied by an South American Camelid Health Declaration		

STAKEHOLDER	RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	ADDITIONAL COMMUNICATION STRATEGY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
	<p data-bbox="573 336 965 392">and Waybill, where available for the livestock species</p> <p data-bbox="528 405 981 576"><input type="checkbox"/> Provide exhibitors with information around the diseases identified in Table 2 (Diseases of concern). This can include making your biosecurity plan available to attendees and providing them with information on how you manage diseases at the event</p> <p data-bbox="528 588 981 727"><input type="checkbox"/> Provide information to exhibitors and competitors regarding NLIS compliance and the risk of returning livestock to their properties. See Events fact sheet for advice to event holders and exhibitors</p> <p data-bbox="528 740 981 879"><input type="checkbox"/> Provide signage on event grounds to communicate specific requirements such as hand sanitisers, staff only areas, evacuation meeting points, waste dumping points, isolation bays & contacts lists</p>		
Companion animal exhibitors	<p data-bbox="528 898 981 1037"><input type="checkbox"/> Communicate minimum entry requirements around routine vaccinations, mites, lice, tick and parasite control, status via website, event schedule and competitor entry forms or competitor handbook</p> <p data-bbox="528 1050 981 1134"><input type="checkbox"/> All companion animals exhibitors should be encouraged to present a certificate of good health if available in your state</p> <p data-bbox="528 1147 981 1257"><input type="checkbox"/> Provide signage on event grounds to communicate specific requirements such as hand sanitisers, waste dumping points, isolation bays, and contacts lists</p>		

STAKEHOLDER	RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	ADDITIONAL COMMUNICATION STRATEGY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Public/spectators	<input type="checkbox"/> Provide signage on event grounds to communicate specific requirements such as hand sanitisers and contacts lists		

SECTION 3: LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL ACTIVITIES

This section deals with preventing or minimising the occurrence or spread of disease, pests and weeds during the event. This section includes management plans for if a serious disease occurs at the event as well as ensuring good hygiene during the event duration.

BIOSECURITY RISK	RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	ADDITIONAL PRACTICES / PROCEDURES	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
<p>Livestock movements</p> <p>Certain livestock have legislated requirements about moving them and some states have legislation that requires event holders to keep records of livestock that attend events.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure livestock movements that require NLIS reporting are completed within the specified time frame <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure livestock movement records (Transport Stock Statements, NVD's, Waybills, movement records) are kept for the required time frame 		
<p>Livestock diseases</p> <p>Identified in Table 2.</p> <p>Include specific management requirements for diseases identified in Table 2.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Separate livestock with different statuses (e.g. Alpaca CheQA and QAlpaca). <input type="checkbox"/> Where available, up to date vaccination is required. 		
<p>Livestock disease spread</p> <p>Many pests and diseases can infect a variety of livestock or companion animal species. This includes endemic, notifiable and exotic diseases.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Keep species segregated where possible including separate sheds, or distances between species. <input type="checkbox"/> Reduce nose to nose contact where practical using physical barriers and on site. <input type="checkbox"/> Discourage common drinking sources, where practical. 		
<p>Dead livestock or companion animal management</p> <p>Carcasses can spread disease to other livestock.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Have a plan for carcass removal, e.g. contact the event Veterinarian for specific advice. <input type="checkbox"/> Define cause of death (e.g. euthanised due to broken limb / disease present) in every case and keep a record of paperwork, including 		

BIOSECURITY RISK	RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	ADDITIONAL PRACTICES / PROCEDURES	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
	<p>euthanasia consent forms where applicable.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Designate a person/entity that may be able to remove the animal (local council or service) and add their details to the contacts within this plan. <input type="checkbox"/> Remove healthy livestock and companion animals away from the carcass so they do not have direct access, via the process set out in emergency disease action plan. 		
<p>Livestock feed</p> <p>If event holders are purchasing livestock feed as prizes or supply livestock feeds during the event fill in this section, if not, feeding livestock is the exhibitors' responsibility to manage. Includes management of Restricted Animal Material (RAM) and swill feeding.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase stock fodder from suppliers who can provide assurances consistent with Commodity Vendor Declarations. <input type="checkbox"/> When buying fodder request a Fodder Vendor Declaration and enquire about what chemicals have been applied to the feed. <input type="checkbox"/> Inspect stock feed on delivery for evidence of pests, damage and contaminants. <input type="checkbox"/> Dispose of feed that is not fit-for-purpose or spoiled where livestock cannot access it. <input type="checkbox"/> Store stock feed in a manner that prevents contamination by livestock, vermin, wildlife, feral and domestic animals, where practical. <input type="checkbox"/> Have signage asking spectators not to feed livestock. <input type="checkbox"/> If there is any stock feed that includes RAM, make sure it is properly labelled and stored to ensure it is not fed to ruminant species. 		
<p>Manure management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Show ring and marshalling area to be 		

BIOSECURITY RISK	RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	ADDITIONAL PRACTICES / PROCEDURES	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
<p>Manure can contain pathogens, pests, and weed seeds.</p>	<p>maintained regularly and to be kept free of manure. Encourage exhibitors to keep their pens/enclosures clean and surrounds/walkways free of manure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Have a designated area for manure to be disposed of/ stored, ensure this cannot be accessed by livestock or the general public. <input type="checkbox"/> Signpost manure pits so they can be easily identified. <input type="checkbox"/> Events that are held over multiple days, engage contractor to remove manure/waste from site. 		
<p>Agricultural chemicals</p> <p>Chemicals used at the event grounds may have a withholding period that needs to be adhered to by livestock.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Record use and details of any agricultural chemicals such as weed sprays or pesticides. <input type="checkbox"/> Observe withholding periods and use chemicals accordingly, particularly when dealing with livestock being sent to slaughter. E.g. do not use a chemical that has a grazing withholding period within that specified time frame prior to the event. 		
<p>Contamination management</p> <p>Contaminated sites such as old yards and old dips can have had old chemicals with long lasting residues applied to them.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Restrict livestock access to contaminated sites (if applicable) and mark on map. 		
<p>Companion animal exhibitors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Set minimum entry requirements around routine vaccinations and flea, tick and parasite control, age limitations. <input type="checkbox"/> All companion animals should be screened by a registered veterinarian and a certificate of attendance or good health provided, if 		

BIOSECURITY RISK	RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	ADDITIONAL PRACTICES / PROCEDURES	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
	available in your state.		
<p>Livestock and companion animal welfare</p> <p>Animal welfare is managed by state/territory specific legislation. Everybody has a responsibility to maintain good animal welfare.</p> <p>Poor animal welfare can also place undue stress or suffering on livestock and make stock more susceptible to disease.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Be clear with all exhibitors or livestock owners at the event what your expectations on animal welfare are. <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor and maintain livestock and companion animal welfare to appropriate standards. <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure all facilities used to house livestock and companion animals are fit for purpose, and maintained to state/territory legislation. <input type="checkbox"/> Returning livestock that are not fit-to-load should remain on the event grounds and be assessed or treated by a registered Veterinarian. Appropriate records should be kept. <input type="checkbox"/> Have a process to assess and, where required, euthanase livestock that are seriously injured. 		
<p>Bedding</p> <p>Bedding can spread pests, diseases or weeds.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Request a Commodity Vendor Declaration if supplying bedding for the event. <input type="checkbox"/> Provide bedding to competitors that is free of weeds, pests and chemical residues. <input type="checkbox"/> Securely store waste bedding away from livestock and companion animals. <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure any leftover or used bedding is disposed of securely. 		
<p>Water</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure water is fit for livestock consumption. <input type="checkbox"/> Discourage the sharing of common water troughs where practical. 		

BIOSECURITY RISK	RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	ADDITIONAL PRACTICES / PROCEDURES	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
	<input type="checkbox"/> Non potable water should be clearly sign posted.		
General waste	<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure all general waste bins have secure lids on them to prevent animal contact with waste material. Ensure appropriate signage for different bin types. <input type="checkbox"/> All general waste bins are to be emptied daily or more often if needed to ensure they do not overflow.		
Effluent management	<input type="checkbox"/> Have a plan for effluent management <input type="checkbox"/> Drainage in pens should ensure that water runs away from other livestock pens.		

SECTION 4: PEOPLE, VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT

BIOSECURITY RISK	RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	ADDITIONAL PRACTICES / PROCEDURES	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
<p>Spread of disease by people and zoonotic disease</p> <p>People can spread diseases, pests and weeds on their person, clothing or boots. This can include spread onto the grounds or around the grounds.</p> <p>There is also a risk of zoonotic disease for people working at or attending the event.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Place hand sanitisers around the event particularly around where animals are housed, interactive animal activities (pet parade, petting zoo) and at entry and exit gates. Ensure hand sanitisers are checked and refilled regularly (e.g. daily). <input type="checkbox"/> Provide stewards who handle livestock (e.g. cattle mouthers or horse bit checkers) with a biosecurity kit to use during their duties. <input type="checkbox"/> Separate competitor and exhibitor areas and clearly signpost. Indicate these areas on your map. <input type="checkbox"/> Events that have entertainment during the evening - security guards or barriers to be erected to prevent the public accessing the livestock. 		
<p>Visitors that have been overseas recently</p> <p>Visitors that have travelled overseas recently may be a risk for bringing back diseases that are not present in Australia – this can be on their boots, clothing or person.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Have signage asking people that have recently travelled overseas (within the last 7-10 days) to not have contact with livestock and companion animals at the event. 		
<p>Vehicles and equipment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure there is separate designated parking for exhibitors and the public. 		

Commented [JH1]: See comment above on page 4. Suggest replacing the reference to cattle mouthers and hit bit checkers with a reference to pen, marshalling and ring stewards.

SECTION 5: EVENT RECORDS MANAGEMENT

RECORD REQUIREMENT	WHY DO WE KEEP THESE RECORDS?	RECORDS TO BE KEPT	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Livestock movement records	<p>Livestock movement records may need to be kept for a certain period of time and is dependent upon state or territory legislation.</p> <p>Please forward electronic copies to the AAA office.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competitor records via ealpaca • National South American Camelid Declaration and Waybill 	
National Livestock Identification System (NLIS)/ traceability	<p>Sporting events must record information on the NLIS database to comply with state/territory regulations relating to traceability unless they qualify for an exemption.</p> <p>NLIS records are not mandatory for alpacas, but recommended.</p> <p>Event organisers must record the movement of these livestock from their property of origin onto the event PIC and off again, unless they qualify for the exemption. In some states “sighting” the livestock at the event PIC is sufficient.</p> <p>All livestock need to be tagged. If not contact the AAA office and a new tag will be allocated.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NLIS database 	
Animal health and welfare records	<p>Records of animal health are important for disease traceability, chemical usage and demonstrating animal welfare practices.</p> <p>Animal welfare incidents may also be required to be reported in your state (animals that travel that are unfit for loading, etc.)</p> <p>Records can assist events in proving they abide by animal welfare legislation in your state.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National South American Camelid Declaration and Waybill • Livestock Welfare Incident Form • Companion Animal Welfare Incident Form • Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines • State/territory legislation or codes of practice for animal welfare. 	

RECORD REQUIREMENT	WHY DO WE KEEP THESE RECORDS?	RECORDS TO BE KEPT	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Chemicals used on premise (pesticides and herbicides)	<p>Records of chemicals including chemicals used for weed spraying. Contaminated sites, contaminated infrastructure, discarded batteries and other equipment should be recorded.</p> <p>Chemical usage records should include the chemical used, date applied, location applied and details of any withhold periods.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemical usage record • Contaminated site records • Map including location of any old equipment dumps on premises 	
Feed and bedding purchases records	<p>Keep records of any purchases of feed and bedding bought for the event.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commodity Vendor declaration • Fodder Vendor Declaration 	
Training records	<p>Staff and volunteers working at the event should be adequately trained for their role – this includes any aspects of biosecurity, animal health and welfare and/or work health and safety requirements. A record of this training should be kept.</p> <p>Biosecurity Manager and delegate may undertake Animal Health Australia’s EAD Online Foundation Training.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training register • Certificate of completion of EAD Online Foundation Training. 	
Biosecurity plan	<p>The biosecurity plan should be reviewed at the conclusion of the event and before the commencement of an event if it is an annual or ongoing event. A copy of the plan should be made available to all interested parties (employees, competitors/participants etc.).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This biosecurity plan • Action plan in the event of a livestock standstill during an event including additional bedding and water that may need to be provided. • All other policies and procedures referred to in this document 	

SECTION 6: FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PLAN

Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) is not currently present in Australia. However, an outbreak in our northern neighbour Indonesia has increased concern for the possibility of it entering Australia.

This plan has been prepared to outline the precautions being taken for events and describe the protocols and procedures should FMD be discovered during the transit of exhibitors to and from the event and during the running of the event itself. It is much easier to have a plan in place and not need it, than to not know how to react if a disease outbreak occurs.

While the plan can also be used for other events around Australia (subject to various state-based requirements), each show and event is unique in that there may be exhibitors from a range of different states attending.

Livestock Standstill

According to [Australia's national veterinary emergency disease plan \(AUSVETPLAN\)](#) an immediate national livestock standstill will be called if an incursion of FMD is strongly suspected or confirmed in any state or territory within Australia. This means that no animals that are susceptible to FMD can be moved off or onto a property unless they are already in transit. This is to limit the spread of FMD and allow authorities to trace where affected or 'close-contact' livestock have been transported to and from and identify the origin property/herd and any high risk properties.

In relation to the AAA shows and events, animals that have entered the showgrounds would have to remain there for the 72 hour standstill. Depending on the investigations regarding spread and advice from State authorities, the standstill may be revoked or extended at the end of the 72 hours. Conditions regarding movement may also vary from one region to another.

For animals still in transit, there are a range of options, which will be specified by the relevant States involved:

- local breeders may be allowed to return the animals to their own property, as long as their load does not include animals from other properties.
- authorities may direct persons in transit to complete their journey to Showgrounds;
- animals may be directed to be offloaded at other designated sites, such as saleyards or quarantine facilities.

Generally, animals would not be able to return to their property of origin if that entailed crossing State borders and/or the load contains animals from more than one property.

State Authorities will consider allowing movement of animals during the standstill for health and welfare reasons or to cross borders under a permit system.

Police may mobilise to close borders and control stock movements with short notice.

It is in the interests of all livestock owners to follow the requirements of a FMD standstill and response. Significant penalties apply for those breaching movement restrictions and it is in the best interests of all Australian livestock industries.

For further details about the National response to a FMD outbreak, please consult the AUSVETPLAN.

STAKEHOLDER	RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	ADDITIONAL COMMUNICATION STRATEGY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Event Committee and volunteers	<input type="checkbox"/> Monitor the communication of the Livestock Standstill made by the relevant National and State authorities through State Emergency apps, Radio and television broadcasts, social media sites and, where available and appropriate, direct email and SMS to participants		
	<input type="checkbox"/> If prior to the show, all exhibitors will be contacted by convenors to notify them if the show will be cancelled, or any other changes made (depending on timing)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> If during the arrival of exhibitors to the showgrounds, the convening team (and/or RAHS) will meet cars and trailers as they arrive and provide exhibitors with the requirements or options they have with regard to where their animals should be taken		
	<input type="checkbox"/> If the show has already commenced and all animals are in their pens, they will be required to remain at the showgrounds until the standstill is lifted. Assistance will be given to provide additional feed for animals if required. If exhibitors need to leave the showgrounds to attend to their properties, pets, family or work, they will be allowed to do so as long as they		

STAKEHOLDER	RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	ADDITIONAL COMMUNICATION STRATEGY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
	<p>and their vehicles are suitably disinfected and in accordance with the directions of State authorities. A roster to look after the animals at the showgrounds will be arranged.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sourcing and providing decontamination materials and developing suitable procedures to allow people and vehicles to be decontaminated so they could be taken home where necessary and permitted</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Negotiating and obtaining agreement with relevant authorities to allow floats and trailers to remain in parking facilities for the 72-hour lockdown</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sourcing and providing fodder and volunteers to feed and water animals if they are to be held at the showgrounds (including interstate animals if they are already within state borders when the standstill is announced)</p>		
National office and volunteers	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Consultation with authorities and keeping abreast of any requirements and changes in the lead up to, during and after the show</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Updating the FMD Preparedness and Response Plan as required</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Communication with RAHS/showground organisers and exhibitors. In the event of an outbreak, daily (or more frequent if required) broadcasts to all participating members will be made</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sourcing and providing decontamination materials and developing suitable procedures</p>		

STAKEHOLDER	RECOMMENDED PRACTICES	ADDITIONAL COMMUNICATION STRATEGY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
	<p>to allow people and vehicles to be decontaminated so they could be taken home where necessary and permitted</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Nominating a co-ordinator who can assist in dealing with authorities if special permits are required to move animals for health/welfare reasons</p>		
Livestock exhibitors	<p><input type="checkbox"/> It should be noted that FMD is a highly contagious virus and, like COVID-19, can be present and contagious in the days prior to symptoms being present. All ungulates, including camelids are susceptible species, but pigs are deemed multipliers and would breathe out large volumes of the virus. Hence if you live nearby a piggery, you should be undertaking greater surveillance and biosecurity protection.</p>		

APPENDIX 1: CHECKLIST

BIOSECURITY CHECKLIST				
Completed by:		Date:		
SECTION 1 EVENT DETAILS		YES	NO	COMMENTS
1.1 SPECIES ATTENDING EVENT				
	Identify what species are attending the event			
	Identify the length of time livestock will be at the event grounds			
1.2 EVENT VENUE MAP				
	Important locations identified on map <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livestock office and Event Veterinarian if not same place • Livestock housing/enclosures • Isolation yards • Waste disposal areas • Loading/unloading points 			
	Map is available to all staff and exhibitors			
1.3 BIOSECURITY KIT				
	Kit fully stocked and up to date			
	Kit available to staff and exhibitors			
	Kit is easily accessible during event			
1.4 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES				
	Identify individual staff/volunteer roles and responsibilities			
	Identify exhibitor roles and responsibilities			
1.5 CONTACTS LIST				

	Contact list table has been completed or updated			
1.6 PRIORITY DISEASES				
	Identify diseases of concern specific to the event			
	Set minimum entry requirements and management practices for specific diseases			
SECTION 2: COMMUNICATION		YES	NO	COMMENTS
2.1 STAFF/VOLUNTEERS				
	Staff and volunteers have undergone training			
	Staff briefed on biosecurity plan			
	Initial communication brief is developed in the event of an EAD			
2.2 LIVESTOCK EXHIBITORS				
	Exhibitor biosecurity information available			
	Exhibitors provided event entry requirements			
	Signage erected			
2.3 COMPANION ANIMAL EXHIBITORS				
	Exhibitor biosecurity information available			
	Exhibitors provided event entry requirements			
	Signage erected			
2.4 PUBLIC/SPECTATORS				
	Signage erected i.e. parking, hygiene, contact lists, do not feed animals			
SECTION 3: LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL ACTIVITIES		YES	NO	COMMENTS
3.1 LIVESTOCK MOVEMENTS				
	NLIS scanning (if applicable) and record on NLIS database			
	Movement records			

3.2 SPECIFIED LIVESTOCK DISEASES				
	Include specific livestock diseases and entry requirements			
3.3 LIVESTOCK DISEASES SPREAD				
	Segregate livestock/animal species			
	Empty water troughs on site			
3.4 DECEASED ANIMALS				
	Carcass removal plan in place			
3.5 LIVESTOCK FEED				
	Commodity/Fodder vendor declarations			
	Inspect feed to ensure it is fit for purpose			
	Ensure any feed for ruminants does not contain restricted animal material			
	Ensure swill is not being fed on site or accessible by pigs			
3.6 MANURE MANAGEMENT				
	Designate storage area to dispose of manure include signage			
	Engage contractor to remove waste manure from site			
3.7 AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS				
	Record any agricultural chemicals used on grounds, including any old usage sites			
	Observe withholding period intervals of chemicals used on grounds before admitting livestock in those areas.			
3.8 CONTAMINATION MANAGEMENT				
	Restrict access to contaminated sites from livestock if applicable			
3.9 ANIMAL WELFARE				
	Develop livestock and companion Animal Welfare Incident Forms			

	Monitor and report potential welfare breaches			
3.10 BEDDING				
	Commodity Vendor Declaration(s) obtained			
	Bedding used is fit for purpose			
	Enclosures and bedding cleaned prior to event			
3.11 WATER				
	Water is fit for purpose			
3.12 GENERAL WASTE				
	All bins have lids			
	Contractor to empty bins daily			
SECTION 4: PEOPLE, VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT		YES	NO	COMMENTS
4.1 SPREAD OF DISEASE BY PEOPLE				
	Hand sanitisers in place around the grounds and refilled as needed			
	Biosecurity kits prepared and available onsite			
	Security for night entertainment if applicable			
	First aid kit(s) available for any minor issues affecting people			
4.2 OVERSEAS VISITORS				
	Signage			
4.3 VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT				
	Designate separate parking areas for competitors and public			
	Limit vehicle access to event grounds and ensure gross decontamination as required			
SECTION 5 EVENT RECORD MANAGEMENT		YES	NO	COMMENTS
5.1 LIVESTOCK MOVEMENT RECORDS				

	Collect and store records			
5.2 NATIONAL LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM (NLIS)				
	NLIS scanning			
	NLIS database upload			
	Report untagged livestock			
5.3 ANIMAL HEALTH RECORDS				
	Collect and store records			
	Record and report welfare incidences, including actions taken and follow up if needed			
5.4 CHEMICAL USAGE				
	Record chemical usage on grounds and store			
5.5 FEEDING AND BEDDING				
	Keep records of purchased feed and bedding			
5.6 STAFF AND VOLUNTEER TRAINING				
	Keep records of staff and volunteer training including brief attendance			

APPENDIX 2: EMERGENCY ANIMAL DISEASE ACTION PLAN

In the event of a suspected emergency disease, the Event Biosecurity Manager or alternative contact is to be notified and is to coordinate any immediate response. This person is responsible for managing the situation until such time as the risk has been addressed or an authority such as a Government Employee appointed under disease management legislation has taken control of the situation.

STEPS TO TAKE	
1	Upon being notified of a sick animal, the Event Biosecurity Manager is to contact the Event Veterinarian for advice and request that they attend the situation as soon as possible.
2	The Event Biosecurity Manager is to accompany the Event Veterinarian to the site of the affected animal. Only the Event Veterinarian and or the Biosecurity Manager should have direct contact with the animal, where possible. The event biosecurity kit to be taken to the site of the affected animal and an appropriate level of PPE used, based on the information supplied. If the affected animal is suspected of having a zoonotic disease, full PPE should be worn by all whom are handling the livestock.
3	<p>If upon arrival, multiple livestock are affected or a notifiable disease is suspected then the situation should be reported to the relevant authority immediately. Details to be relayed to the EAD hotline include number of animals affected, species, symptoms and length of known sickness.</p> <p>Relevant government department contact details: _____</p> <p>Emergency Animal Disease Watch hotline: 1800 675 888</p> <p>Exotic Plant Pest Hotline: 1800 084 881</p>
4	<p>Isolate the livestock for treatment / assessment if the location permits.</p> <p>If movement to isolation/sick pen requires movement of sick livestock past multiple healthy livestock, the Event Veterinarian in consultation with the Event Biosecurity Manager should consider moving the healthy livestock away from the affected animal rather than moving the affected animal. In the event that healthy livestock must be moved away, it is best to coordinate this so these livestock are moved together and remain together but are still kept away from the rest of livestock at the event.</p>
5	<p>The Event Biosecurity Manager should set up a 'hot zone' around the affected livestock with an appropriate buffer zone. These buffer zones may already be in place if a sick pen was able to be utilised.</p> <p>The Event Biosecurity Manager is responsible for ensuring that no non-essential personnel or other animals enter the hot zone. Personnel inside the hot zone should not leave the hot</p>

	<p>zone until directed to by a government authority.</p> <p>Communication briefs should be updated as more information becomes available. Any communication with staff or the general public must be approved by the relevant authority before being distributed.</p>
6	<p>After discussions with the relevant authorities the Event Biosecurity Manager must consider cessation or suspension of the event.</p>
7	<p>The Biosecurity Manager, under direction of the relevant authority, may be required to assist with a lockdown of the facility. Law enforcement should be considered at this point for safety purposes.</p> <p>No movement onto or out of the grounds should be permitted at this point. Movement off should only be under the advice of the relevant authority.</p>
8	<p>The Event Biosecurity Manager, in consultation with the relevant authority, may convene an information session for exhibitors or persons on the event grounds to communicate information (as per the communication plan) about the situation and to stop panic.</p> <p>Not all livestock diseases are zoonotic or highly contagious. However, precautions should be taken until a diagnosis can be confirmed so that the disease is not spread further.</p>