



Dairy Goat Society of Australia  
Tasmania Branch

## CRV and Johnes Disease

CRV (Caprine Retrovirus, also known as CAE) and Johnes' Disease are two highly contagious, debilitating and often fatal illnesses which affect goats and for which there are currently no cures.

CRV affects the goat's immune system and makes them vulnerable to arthritis, pneumonia, encephalitis and wasting among many other health issues. CRV only affects goats.

Johnes Disease is a chronic wasting disease and can also affect cattle, sheep, deer and camelids.

Both of these diseases can remain asymptomatic for long periods of time but they can be detected via blood test.

All members of the DGSA Tasmania Branch who exhibit their stock at shows must be whole herd tested negative for these diseases.

When you are purchasing goats, whether from a registered breeder or elsewhere, always ask about their herd's disease status and ask to see the results of a whole herd test. If the seller cannot provide evidence of their CRV and Johnes negative status the risk may not be worthwhile.

If you already own goats and want to find out what their disease status is, speak to your vet about organising a blood test.