



FACT SHEET 007

BIOSECURITY -QLD AGRICULTURAL SHOWS

Queensland Agricultural Societies take biosecurity seriously and have measures in place to mitigate the risk of infections, diseases and pests.

HOW LIVESTOCK HANDLERS CAN ASSIST

All livestock owners and competitors should be aware that you have a biosecurity obligation to take all reasonable steps to ensure your activities do not spread pests, disease or contaminants.

Exhibitors, Competitors and Owners of livestock attending Queensland Agricultural Shows are asked to ensure good biosecurity practices at home and at the show. Please follow the instructions of the Agricultural Society and the event Biosecurity Manager.

Ensure all livestock entering the showgrounds are from property actively practicing good biosecurity principles within their management philosophy.

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR HORSES

In the case of horses, Horse Health Declarations (HHD) are a mandatory requirement for all Queensland Agricultural Shows. Please read the HHD form and ensure:

- Horses are shampooed, rinsed and allowed to dry, and hooves are picked clean of all solid material and washed with shampoo;
- Vehicles and equipment accompanying horses are cleaned to remove all solid material that could contain disease agents, and then disinfected.

Acceptance into the Show will be refused if the required HHD is not presented at point of entry or designated registration point, as advised by the Management Committee.

The property identification code (PIC) of the horse's origin must be included on the HHD.

WE CAN ALL PROVIDE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Other biosecurity and workplace health and safety measures that aim to provide the safest environment for animals, competitors, volunteers and visitors include:

- ANIMALS with signs of illness are not to be brought onto the grounds.
- Communal water troughs are not available at this event.
- Do not share equipment, including food and water containers, between animals (horses in particular).
- Animal handlers are responsible for cleaning up manure and placing in designated areas.

- Animal handlers should advise event organisers immediately of sick animals. Stop all non-essential contact with the sick animal. Do not allow children to have close contact with the sick animal.
- Everyone handling animals should wash or sanitise hands between contacts.
- People should minimize (as much as practical) contact with animals; in particular other people's animals.
- Animal Carers should monitor and restrict public access to their animals as much as practical.
- Animal Carers should actively discourage the public from feeding animals (other than in petting zoos with designated food). Swill feeding (feeding food or food scraps containing animal matter to pigs, poultry or ruminants) is banned in Queensland. It is advised that reasonable steps are taken to minimise the risk of swill feeding at shows. This could include preventing the public from carrying food into animal exhibits and/or signage requesting that the public do not feed animals.
- Disinfectant is available and Animal Handlers are urged to use disinfectant when washing hands on a regular basis.
- Promote washing of hands by the public whenever they have been in contact with animals.
- Animal Carers are encouraged to ensure they carry a Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Kit. The contents of the PPE Kit include disposable gloves, overalls, boots/boot covers, P2 respirators and safety glasses.

BIOSECURITY PLAN

It is a Queensland Shows mandated requirement that all affiliated Agricultural Shows maintain an Event Biosecurity Plan which provides a set of preventative control measures and actions aimed at reducing the risk of infectious diseases and pests on and off the showgrounds, and between animals at the showgrounds.

BIOSECURITY RESOURCES

Queensland Ag Shows has developed a range of resources to assist our members to have effective measures in place to mitigate biosecurity risks:

- Biosecurity Plan Template
- Animal Health – Movement & Entry Form
- Horse Health – Movement & Entry Form
- Horse Health Biosecurity Workbook
- Potted Plants – Movement & Entry Form
- Johnes Disease in Cattle

These resources and more are available from the QCAS website biosecurity page: <http://www.queenslandshows.com.au/biosecurity>

WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE EVENT OF A BIOSECURITY INCIDENT

The Biosecurity Manager is in charge for all biosecurity incidents.

The Biosecurity Manger designated by the Agricultural Societies Management Committee is in charge of all Biosecurity Incidents and her/his directions should be followed at all times.

In the unlikely event of a biosecurity incident, the Biosecurity Manager and the Management committee will implement the event biosecurity plan.

All owners, competitors, stewards and volunteers will be notified of the incident and expected to follow the directions given by the management committee.

Everyone will be expected to remain at the venue until cleared to leave by the management committee and Biosecurity Manager.

In the event of animal movement restrictions participants are responsible for the care, maintenance and cost of their animals and themselves, including feeding, bedding, veterinary services and personal needs.

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION CODE

Your property must be registered with Biosecurity Queensland if you keep one or more head of horses, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, buffalo, deer or camelids (camels, llama, alpaca), or 100 or more poultry including caged birds.

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