

Covid-19 Precautions

Currently food and agriculture and their support services such as veterinarians are classed as essential services and can continue to operate. See <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/coronavirus/food-agriculture>

However essential services, including veterinarians must follow health authority advice for Covid-19 spread prevention.

- maintain a minimum distance of 1.5m between people
- provide hand hygiene products and suitable rubbish bins
- frequently clean and dispose of waste
- limit the amount of people for essential indoor or outdoor gatherings.
- mask wearing if not outdoors or required by health guidelines

We are both triple vaccinated. If you are not vaccinated please notify us and we will take extra precautions.

As a mobile veterinarian and one that has always taken biosecurity seriously to prevent the spread of CAE and Johne's disease between goat farms, the precautions will not change a lot for myself and my husband (animal handler and support worker). We have always come to a goat property in freshly laundered overalls and boots that have been high pressure hosed and disinfected. We use new disposable gloves and pack away all equipment used on your farm into our vehicle in plastic bags until they can be cleaned and disinfected at home. If we visit 2 properties on the same day we change overalls and boots before visiting the second property and have a second set of equipment or disinfect thoroughly between properties.

Some changes will be needed however to protect clients (and ourselves) as Covid-19 is passed between people. We are fully vaccinated and we need to be informed if you are not vaccinated as extra precautions will be needed. Do not request a vet visit if you have clinical signs or are in quarantine.

Changes to our practice are as follows:

- Telemedicine is now allowed by the Queensland Veterinary Surgeon's Board in some circumstances. Email, phone or the [Phone a Vet](#) app can be used. There will be a charge e.g. [Phone a Vet](#) costs \$25 (<https://www.phoneavet.com.au/>). Alternatively Zoom can be used and an invoice sent for the same amount.
- We will no longer accept cash or give change. We normally email an invoice after a visit and give Bpay details. Due to the cost, we ask that packages of Bioworma are paid for before posting or picking them up. Posted cheques will also be accepted (make out to Goat Veterinary Consultancies- goatvetoz and post to Dr Sandra Baxendell, 22 Lesina St., Keperra, Brisbane, QLD 4054). We will continue to post packages of Bioworma via Australia Post but parcels may no longer be able to be tracked.
- Other veterinary medicines or equipment such as feet trimmers or large syringes can be picked up with prior arrangements. These will be placed in the container shown in the following photo which is outside the front door after being sprayed with disinfectant. Any prescriptions will be placed in plastic bags with the medicines and sprayed. Doses of Glanvac 3 vaccine will still be provided to clients but clients must arrange a time and bring their own esky and cold freezer bricks. Clients will place their open esky just outside the front door, ring the bell and then stand

back 3 metres. Doses of vaccine will then be placed in the client's esky and the front door closed. The client then takes the esky and returns home.



- Faecal samples for worm egg counts will be treated the same way. Place your labelled bags or gloves of faeces inside another plastic bag and then place in the container shown above after making prior arrangements. Be careful that none of the disinfectant gets on the labelled samples as it may remove the goat's names.
- Disbudding and castrations will still be done as timing is critical. Clients are asked to have a suitable area available e.g. verandah or garage and place the kid in a large box or cat or dog crate. On our arrival please keep 3 metres away and allow us to disbud the kid once we have set ourselves up. The kid will be replaced into the cage once recovered and the cage door handle sprayed with disinfectant. Once we have moved away, you can collect the kid. A permission form will be emailed as soon as the appointment is made and it should be signed and scanned and returned before the disbudding takes place. Remember iPhones have a scanning function within Notes using the camera or just take a photo and text to 0477813278. Alternatively place the signed form in a plastic bag and leave in an obvious place.
- As normal practice after each visit, all rubbish is collected and removed with sharps going immediately into a sharps container.
- We will also follow all Qld Health and Veterinary Surgeons Board recommendations especially if there is any community transfer in Qld. These steps are in line with the AVA policy and also with these Canadian guidelines : -
<https://www.wormsandgermsblog.com/2021/12/articles/miscellaneous/new-update-a-guide-to-mitigating-the-risk-of-infection-in-veterinary-practices-during-the-covid-19-pandemic-2/> .