



Animal Health Australia

Biosecurity, surveillance and welfare projects

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About Animal Health Australia

Established in January 1996

Not-for-profit public company that facilitates innovative **partnerships** between

- **governments**
- **livestock industries**
- **other stakeholders**

for the funding and management of animal health programs

WE WORK TO IMPROVE

- ✓ Animal health
- ✓ Emergency preparedness & response
- ✓ Biosecurity
- ✓ Market access
- ✓ Livestock welfare
- ✓ Productivity
- ✓ Food safety and quality

About Animal Health Australia

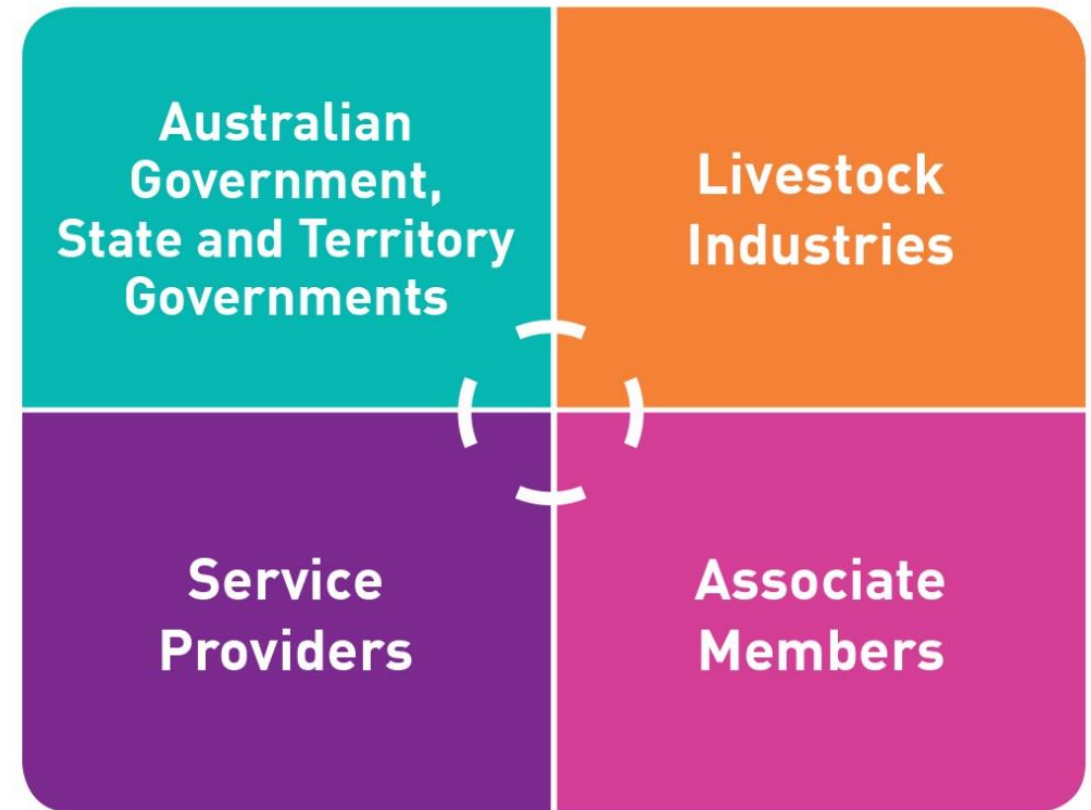
OUR MEMBERS

The key factor behind the success of our projects is the ability of Members to work together through partnerships. AHA has 33 Member organisations spread across four membership groups:



OUR MISSION

To assist our Members and partners to enhance, strengthen and protect animal health and the sustainability of Australia's livestock industries.



Emergency Preparedness and Response Services:

Enhances Australia's capability to detect and respond to emergency animal diseases and supports Australia's domestic and international market access.

**Emergency Animal
Disease Response
Agreement
(EADRA)**

**Australian
Veterinary
Emergency Plan
(AUSVETPLAN)**

**Surveillance and
Laboratory
Program**

**EAD Response
tools**

**Market Access
Services**

Emergency Preparedness and Response Services

- **The Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement**
(EADRA – The Deed)
 - AHA is the ‘custodian’ of the Deed
 - Covers prevention, preparedness, reporting and response obligations and arrangements
 - Describes cost-sharing arrangements for 60+ EADs
 - Affected Parties participate in decision-making

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL HEALTH COUNCIL LIMITED
COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
THE STATE OF QUEENSLAND
THE STATE OF NEW SOUTH WALES
THE STATE OF VICTORIA
THE STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
THE STATE OF TASMANIA
THE STATE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
THE NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA
THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
AUSTRALIAN CHICKEN MEAT FEDERATION INC.
AUSTRALIAN EGG CORPORATION LIMITED
AUSTRALIAN DAIRY FARMERS LIMITED
CATTLE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA INC.
AUSTRALIAN PORK LIMITED
SHEEPMATE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA INC.
WOOLPRODUCERS AUSTRALIA
AUSTRALIAN LOT FEEDERS' ASSOCIATION INC.
GOAT INDUSTRY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA
RACING AUSTRALIA LIMITED
HARNESS RACING AUSTRALIA INC.
AUSTRALIAN HORSE INDUSTRY COUNCIL
EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

GOVERNMENT AND LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY COST SHARING DEED
IN RESPECT OF EMERGENCY ANIMAL DISEASE RESPONSES

VERSION No. 16/02 – 07/09/16

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Signatories to the EADRA



- the Commonwealth and all States and Territories
- Animal Health Australia
- industry associations or other industry entities



Emergency Preparedness and Response Services (continued)

- **AUSVETPLAN** (the Australian Veterinary Emergency Plan)
 - AHA manages AUSVETPLAN and facilitates updates and rolling changes as and when required
 - AHA does not set policy in them
- **Vaccine banks** – Foot and Mouth Disease; Anthrax
 - Contract with suppliers of vaccines; exercise
- **FMD Ready project** (MLA, CSIRO)



African Swine Fever (ASF)



African Swine Fever drives global protein shortage to a critical level in 2020

Simon Quilty, October 15, 2019



- *“In 30 years of meat trading I have never seen such a global protein deficit before, and I know of no other precedent in the last 100 years that rivals the situation brought on by African Swine Fever”,* independent analyst Simon Quilty, on Beef Central
- estimated global population of 770 million pigs
- combined total of 522 million pigs in affected countries (so far)
- up to 365 mil pigs gone by mid-next yr.

ASF preparedness

- Comms and extension

PRODUCER FACTSHEET

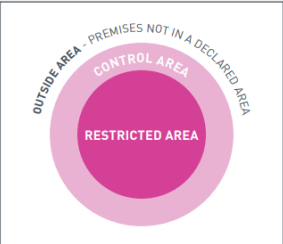
animalhealth AUSTRALIA **AUSTRALIAN Pork**

CONTROL MEASURES AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

Your state or territory government is responsible for managing emergency animal disease outbreaks in their jurisdictions. You can help them to control an African swine fever (ASF) outbreak by complying with their instructions (you may face legal penalties if you don't).

Declared areas

The state/territory government will establish declared areas as part of their response to prevent the spread of ASF. Depending on their proximity to the disease, premises will be located in a Restricted Area, Control Area or Outside Area. The category your property falls into will determine which disease control measures may apply.



Types of control measures

- MOVEMENT CONTROLS:** restrictions on movements - onto and off premises - of pigs, vehicles, equipment, pig products and byproducts, wastes and other items that might be contaminated
- BIOSECURITY REQUIREMENTS FOR PEOPLE:** such as requiring decontamination or changes of clothing and footwear when people move on or off premises
- TRACING:** reviewing movements of animals, people and things on and off infected premises to help identify where infection may have come from - and where it may now be
- SURVEILLANCE:** checking for signs of disease or contamination, investigating anything suspicious and taking samples for laboratory testing if needed
- DESTRUCTION:** culling of pigs that are infected or are a high disease risk; high risk things that can't be decontaminated might also be destroyed
- VALUATION AND COMPENSATION:** for animals that have died from ASF and for animals or property destroyed as part of the official disease response - this is governed by state or territory legislation

What happens in an EAD response?



Report of unusual signs



State Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) informed



Australian CVO informed



Consultative Committee on Emergency Animal Diseases (CCEAD)



EAD Response Plan (EADRP)

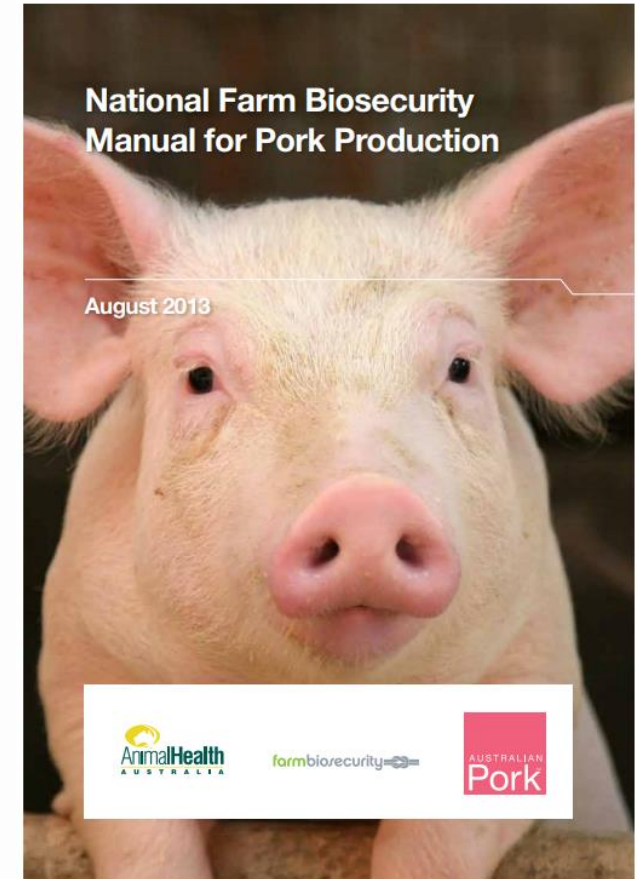


National Management Group (NMG)



ASF prevention

- Dept of Agriculture – border protection
- Swill feeding compliance and awareness project
 - 260 gov property inspections
 - Also food retail outlets and restaurants in some states
 - 350 industry QA audits
- However, still many unknown pig owners around Aust.



Emergency Animal Disease Training Program

- National training
 - Face to face training
 - EAD Foundation online course
 - Host online courses for private practitioners providing services on behalf of government
 - Development and sharing of training resources
- National Biosecurity Response team



Emergency Preparedness and Response Services (continued)

- **Surveillance and Laboratory Program**
 - Surveillance and laboratory enhancement
 - National significant disease investigation project
 - National animal health laboratory coordination
 - Targeted and general surveillance projects

TSE Freedom Assurance Program (TSEFAP)

- Established in 2004
- The purpose of the TSEFAP is to enhance market confidence that Australian animals and animal products are free from TSEs through the structured and nationally integrated management of animal-related TSE activities.



TSEFAP stakeholders and components

- All governments
- Livestock industries (cattle, sheep, goats)
- Associated industries
 - Meat processors (AMIC & AMPC)
 - Stockfeed manufacturers and renderers

Components

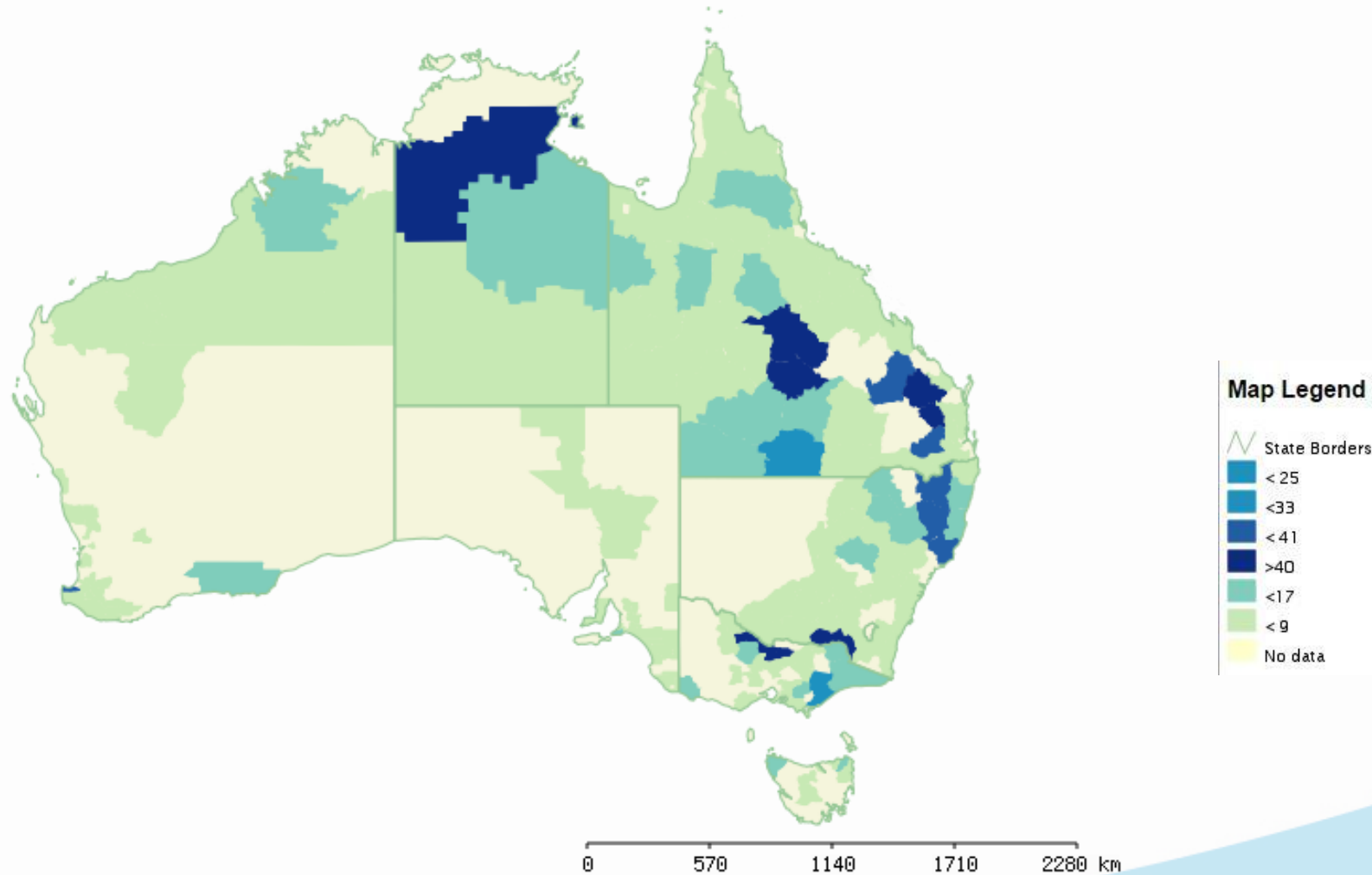
- Australian Ruminant Feed Ban
- Imported animals (cattle & zoo)
- TSE surveillance (NTSESP)



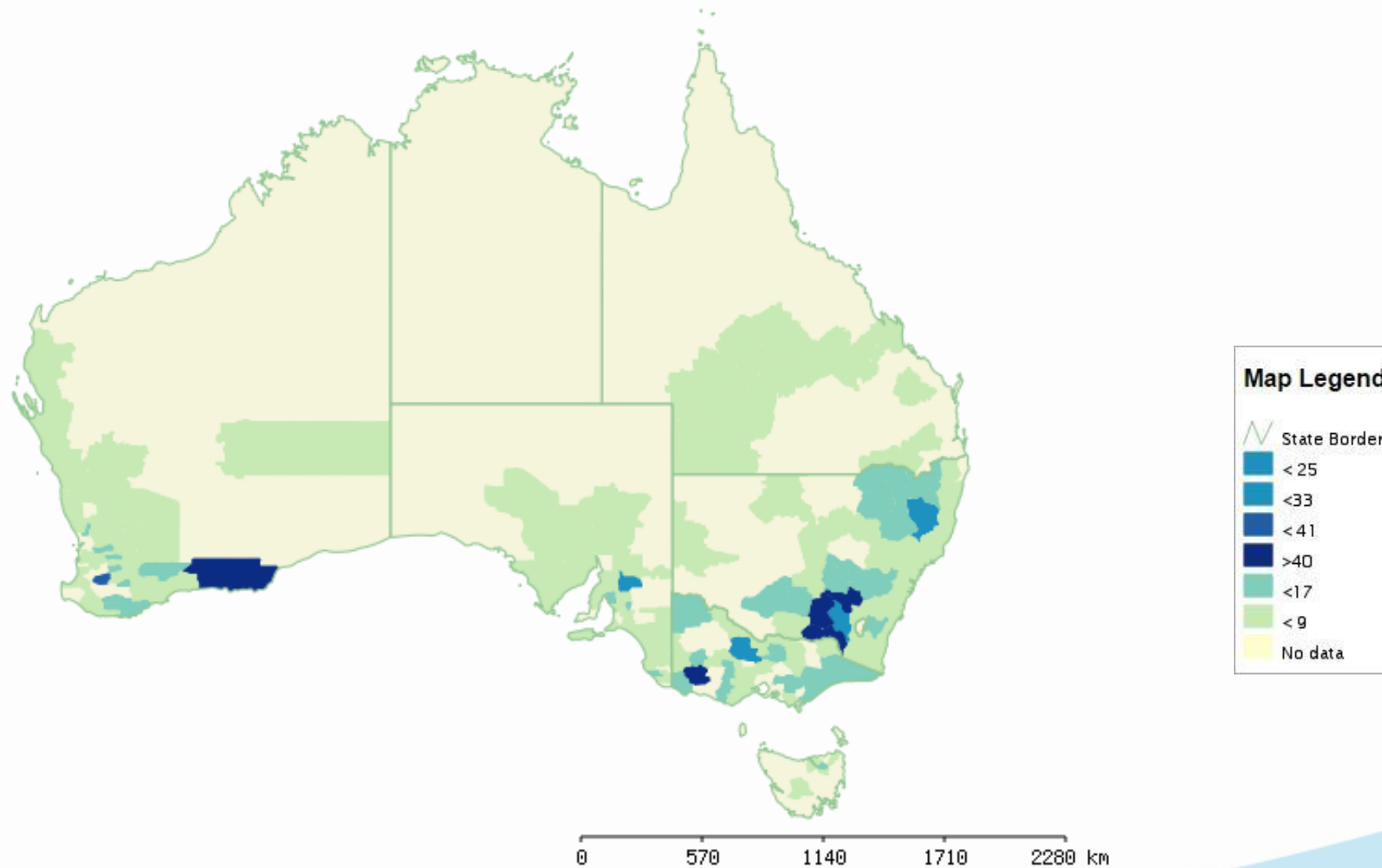
National TSE Surveillance Program (NTSESP)

- Complete sufficient surveillance to meet international requirements and assure trading partners, markets and consumers that Australian animals and animal products are free of TSEs and to ensure the early detection of a TSE should it occur.
- World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) recognises Australia as a *negligible risk for BSE* and classical scrapie free
- Sampling from cattle sub-populations and sheep
 - On farms and at saleyards
 - In abattoirs

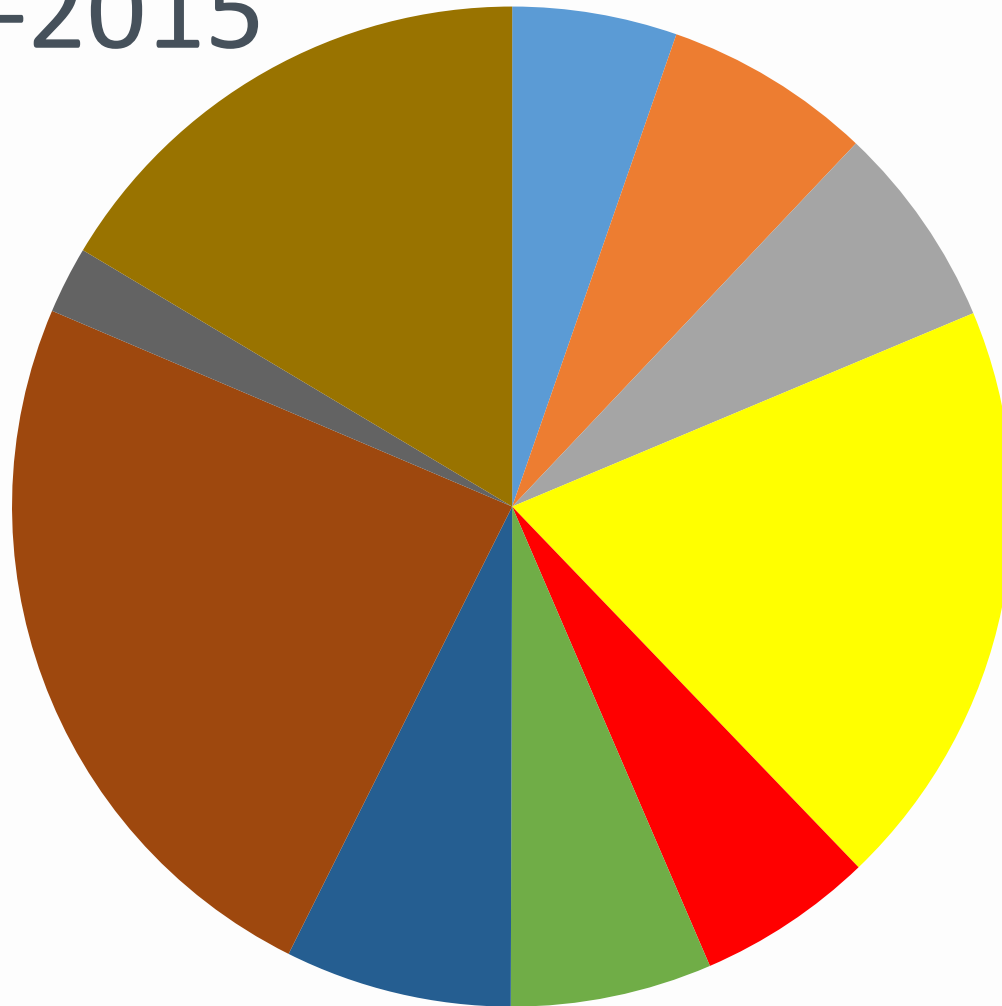
NTSESP – cattle samples 2012-15



NTSESP – sheep samples 2012-15



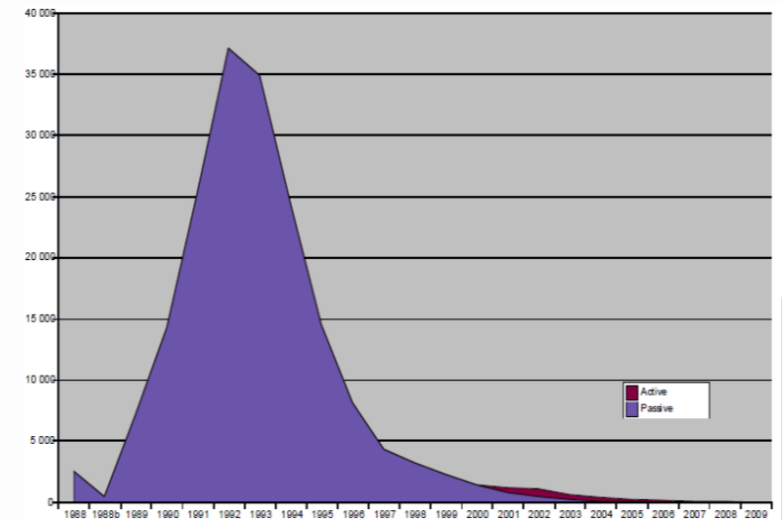
Attributed cause of illness in farm cases 2006-2015



- Polioencephalomalacia
- Encephalitis/encephalopathy
- Parasites (int & ext)
- Metabolic/ nutritional
- Trauma/ transport
- Hepatic
- Plant toxicity
- Infections
- Neoplasia
- Other

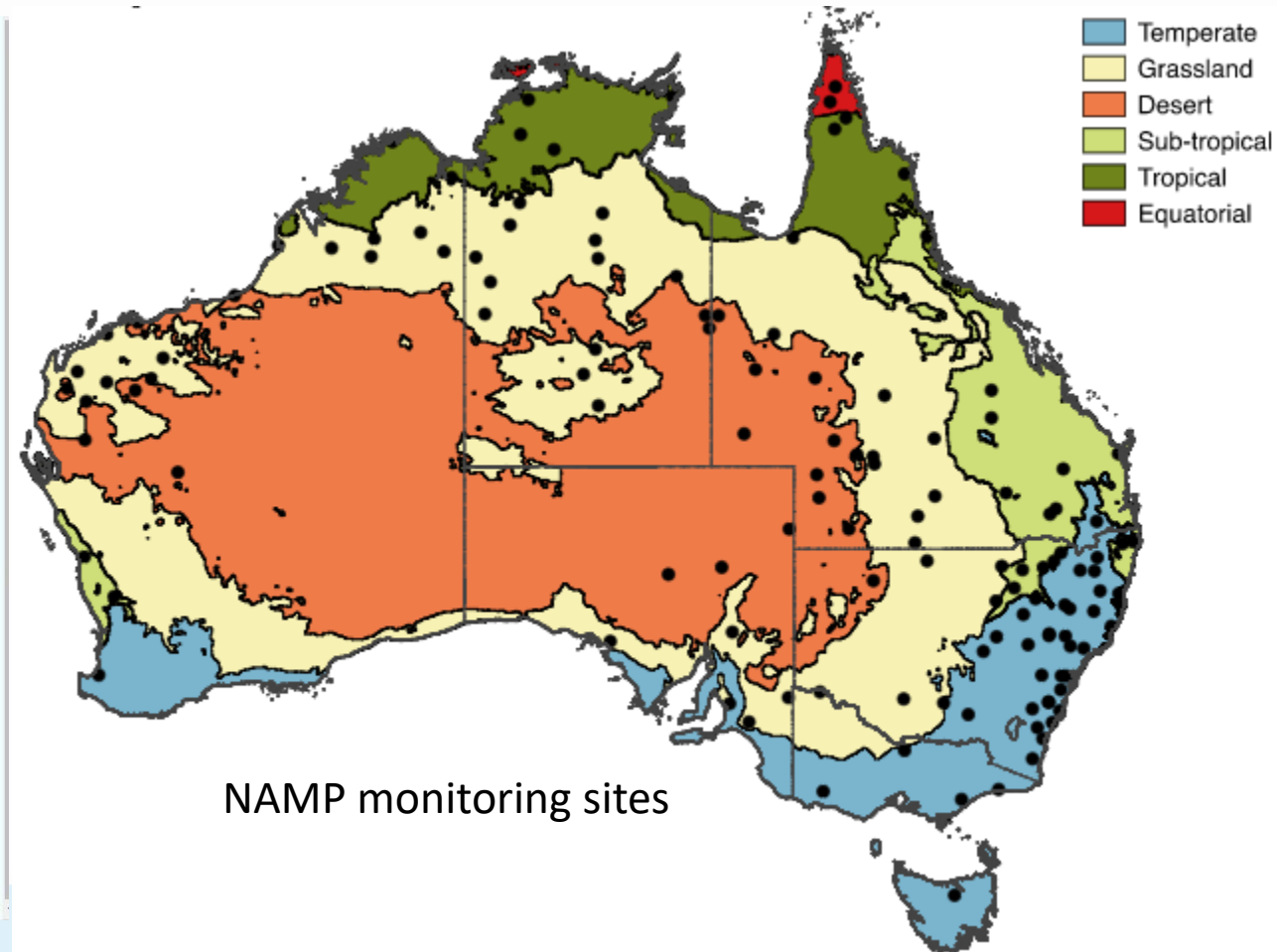
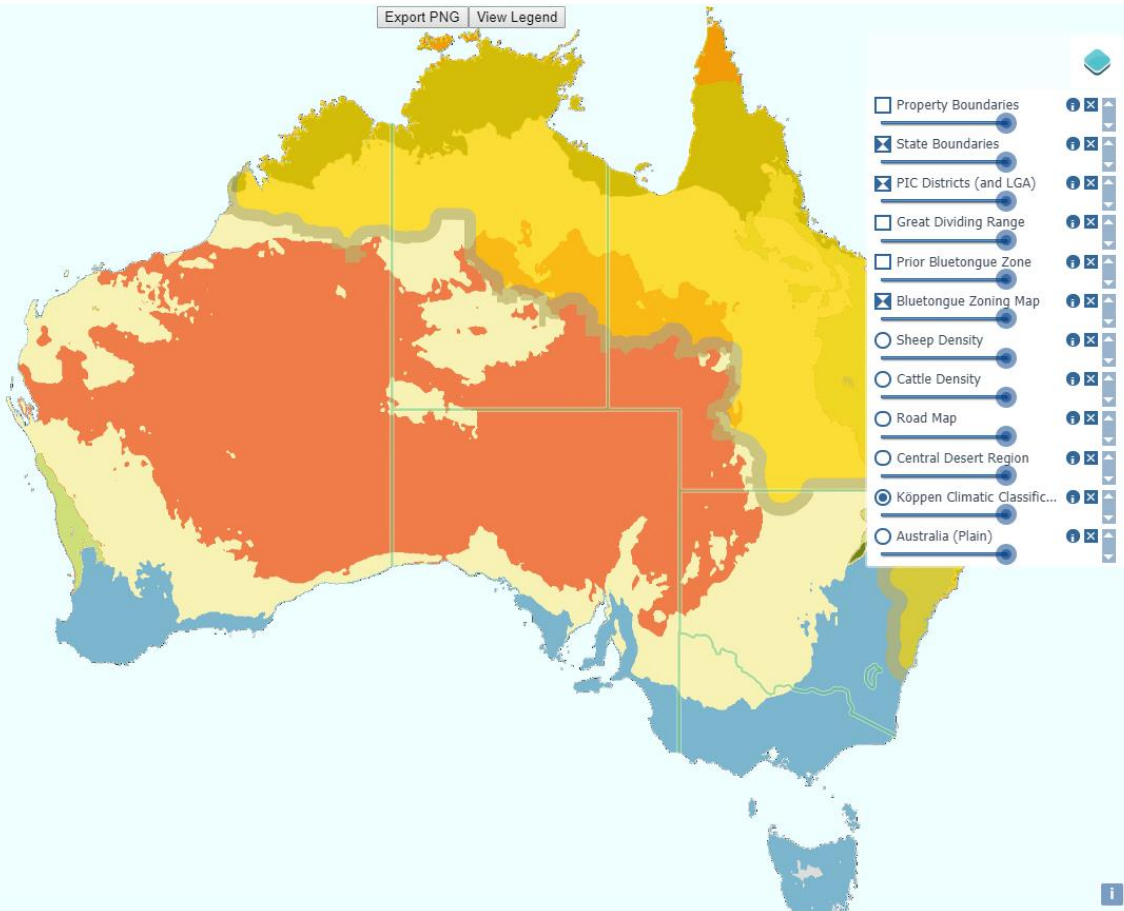
TSE surveillance future

- Cases of classical BSE disappearing
- Scrapie continues to be an issue worldwide
- Chronic wasting disease (CWD) in deer
- New TSE - Camel prion disease
- Looking to scale back surveillance
 - Still meet OIE requirements
 - But secondary benefit of the surveillance is useful

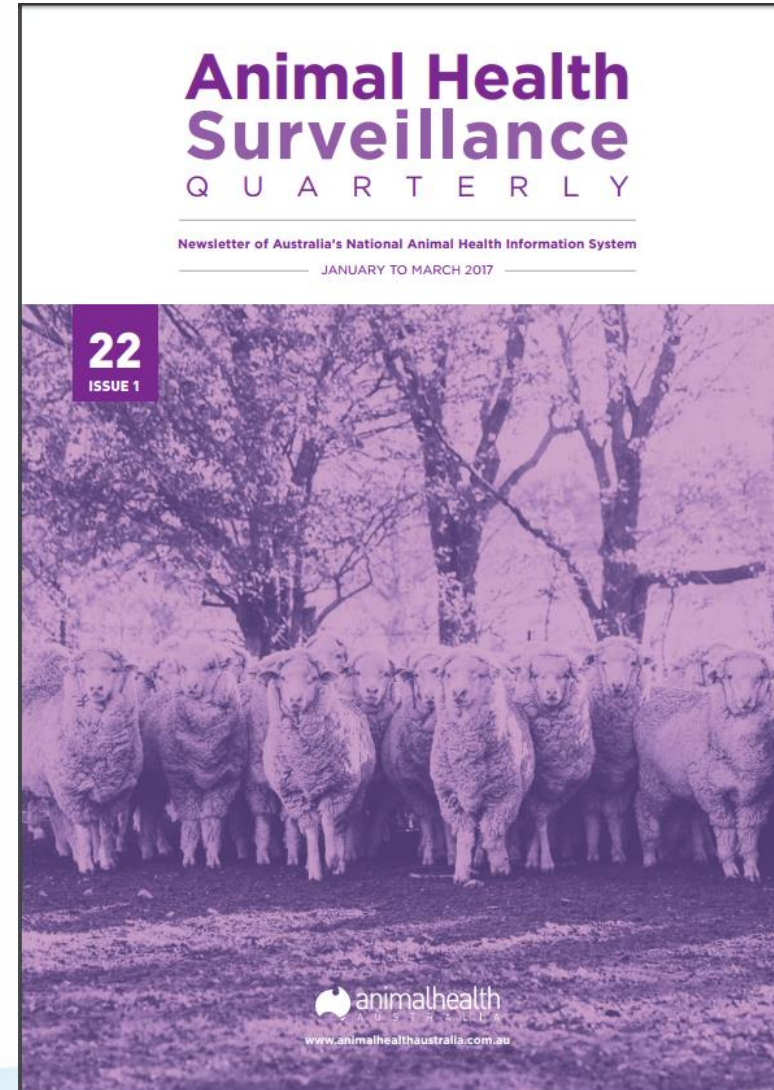


National Arbovirus Monitoring Program (NAMP)

Bluetongue map

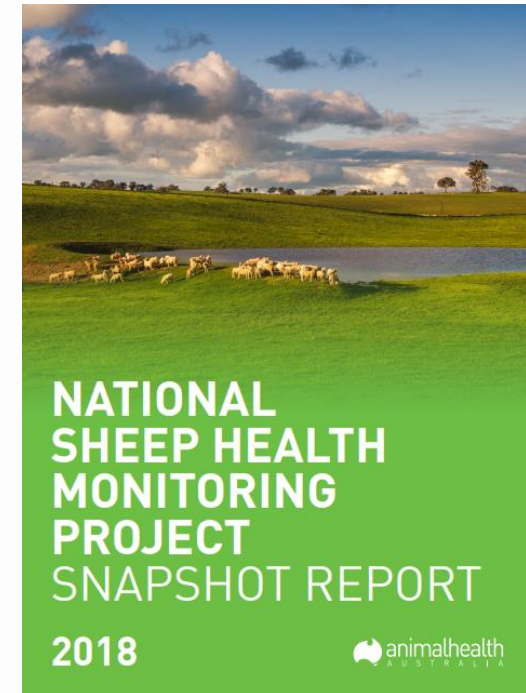


National Animal Health Information System (NAHIS) Program Publications



National Sheep Health Monitoring Project

- qualified meat inspectors monitor lines of sheep for 19 different conditions that reduce farm profit through productivity losses or increased meat processing wastage.
- producers can receive reports on direct lines of sheep sent from departments or abattoirs, plus Livestock Data Link.
- data from the monitoring is collected and entered into a national database (Endemic Disease Information System). The data can be analysed to highlight regional variation and trends in the monitored conditions over time.
- Enhanced Abattoir Surveillance Program (EASP) in SA – managed by PIRSA
- MINTRAC help coordinate for AHA.



Why monitor sheep health conditions at the abattoir?

- Enhance productivity by improving the quality of product entering the supply chain.
- To support market access and to demonstrate the high quality and health status of Australian sheep meat product.
- To increase profitability and welfare in the supply chain and enhance biosecurity.



Fact Sheet

Caseous Lymphadenitis (CLA) Cheesy Gland

Key Messages

1. Caseous lymphadenitis (CLA) or cheesy gland, is a common contagious bacterial disease causing abscesses in the lymph nodes of sheep.
2. It is a common cause of wastage at abattoirs.
3. It is easily prevented through vaccination and management changes.

What is CLA?

CLA is caused by the bacterium *Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis* and results in the formation of lymph node abscesses throughout the body. Most commonly these abscesses are superficial but they can also be found in the lungs, liver, spleen and kidneys. The abscesses are initially pus filled which over time dries and becomes "cheesy" progressing to multi-layered capsules resembling "onion rings".

Disease on farm

The majority of sheep flocks in Australia are affected with CLA, however the level varies depending on the management and vaccination program. Flocks that don't vaccinate will have on average 30% of adult sheep infected. Most infected animals show no clinical signs, apart from the occasional ruptured abscess at shearing. In the first year that sheep are infected they grow 4-7% less wool. Occasionally sheep will have a severe chronic infection resulting in ill thrift and wasting. The level of infection is usually low in lambs but increases rapidly after the first and second adult shearing.

How is it spread?

Most spread occurs at shearing, when infected animals with lung lesions, cough bacteria on to the skin of freshly shorn sheep, with bacteria entering the body through cuts or intact skin. Confining sheep together after shearing for off shears lice treatment or other reasons increases the chance of infection. Infection can also occur through the rupture of superficial or skin abscesses.

Figure 1. Infected lymph node being trimmed at the abattoir (Zemil).

March 2015

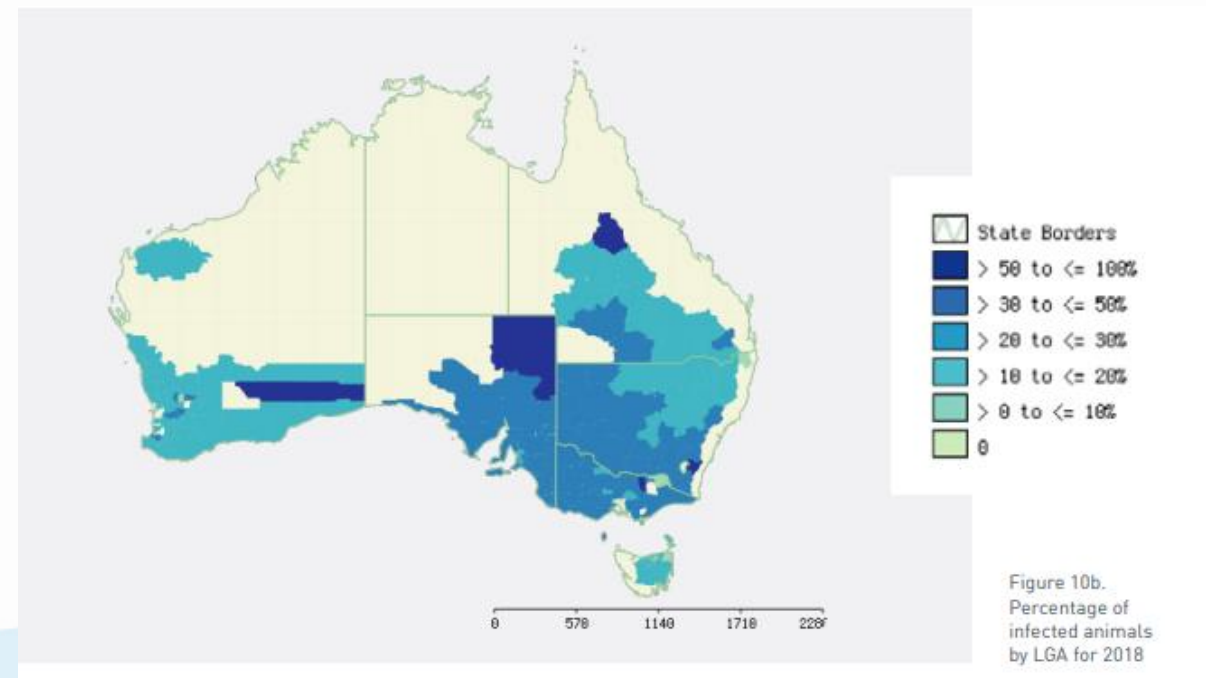
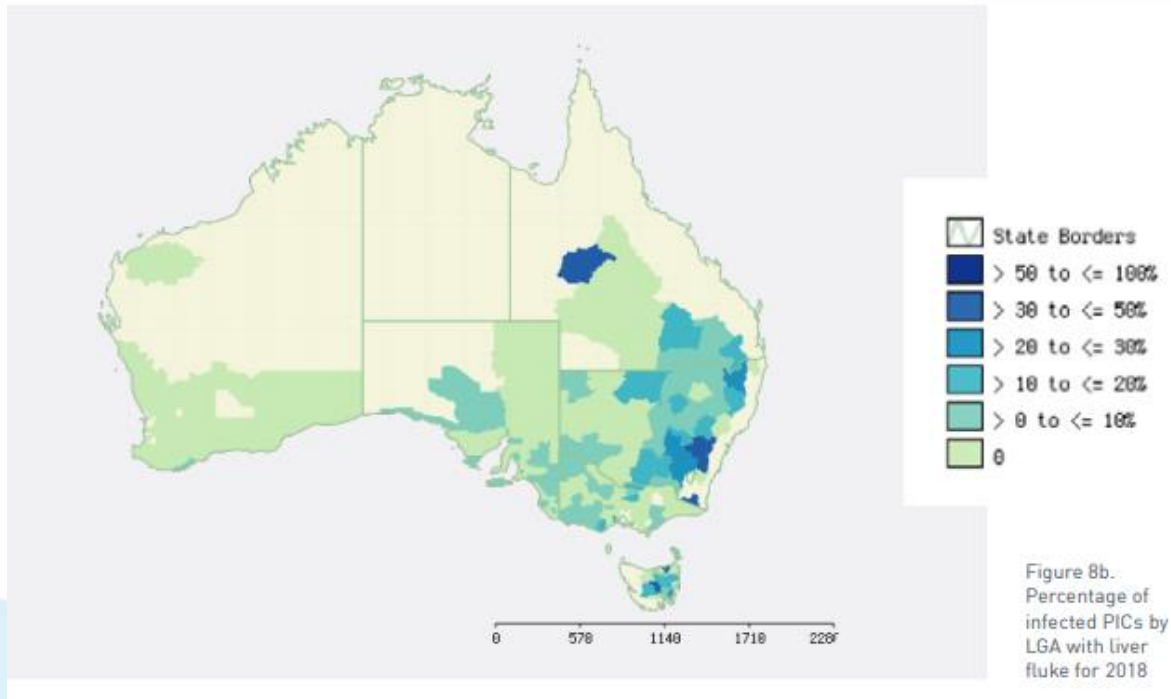
Conditions monitored

- Arthritis
- Bladder worm
- Bruising
- Cheesy gland
- Cirrhosis
- Dog bites
- Fever/ Septicaemia
- Grass seeds
- Hydatids
- Knotty gut
- Liver fluke
- Lung worm
- Nephritis
- Pleurisy & pneumonia
- Rib Fractures
- Sarcocystis
- Sheep measles
- Vaccine Lesions
- Ovine Johne's disease on request by the producer



NSHMP

- 11 participating sheep plants
- Around 8 million sheep in 37,000 lines from 9,000 properties in 2018.



Next steps for NSHMP

- Include information from Rural R&DfP 'Health for Wealth' project, and SA MDC project
- Concentrate more on producer extension and adoption.
- Validation of data and ease of collection.

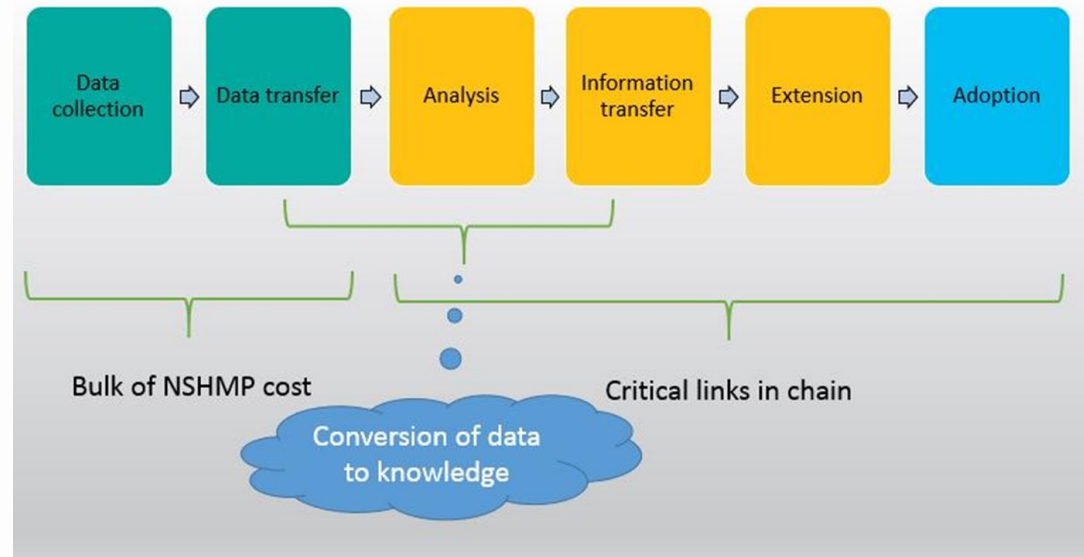


Image: Greenleaf



Grazing Beef Industry Surveillance Project

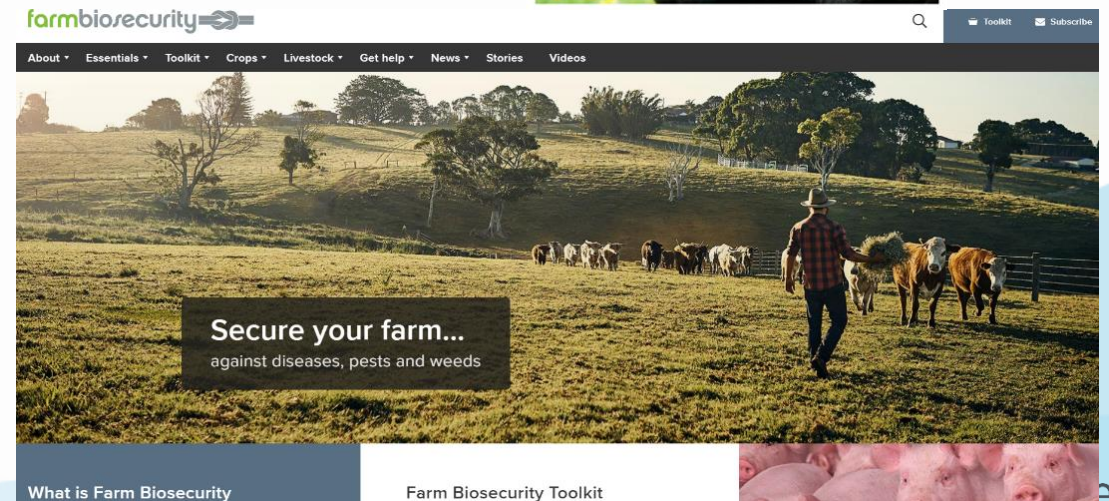
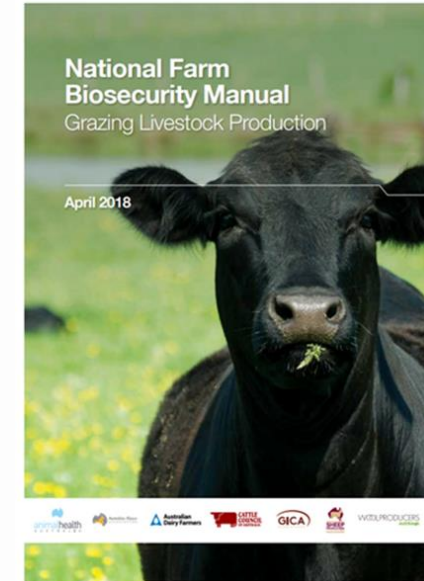
- Develop and implement surveillance on an agreed list of priority disease of relevance to grazing beef production
- Commonwealth funding
- Some EADs- diseases that trading partners question us on (evidence of absence)
- Some endemic conditions – chosen by cattle producers

Other Biosecurity Projects

- **On-farm and Supply Chain Biosecurity**

- Biosecurity planning & extension
- Traceability and training projects
- Industry-specific projects
- Farm biosecurity project

(www.farmbiosecurity.com.au)



Welfare projects

- AHA
 - plays a role in supporting the livestock industries and governments to take a strategic approach to livestock welfare management
 - provides leadership through collaboration and coordination to facilitate solutions for livestock welfare issues and contributes to the development and communications of livestock welfare policy initiatives on behalf of our members.

Livestock Welfare

- Development of Welfare Standards and Guidelines

The welfare standards and guidelines are based on the revision of the current Model Codes of Practice for the Welfare of Animals (MCOP), the sectors and species who have undergone this process are:

- Land Transport, Saleyards and depots, Sheep, Cattle, Exhibited animals,
- Poultry is almost complete with pigs expected to be next.
- A progress report on which jurisdictions have implemented which S&G can be found here:

www.animalwelfarestandards.net.au

- Review of national governance framework for S&G development under way.



QUESTIONS?



www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au