Biosecurity alert **Hendra virus – information for industry**17 August 2011

Hendra virus – 2011 summary

The number of locations in Queensland with confirmed cases of Hendra virus this year is eight.

The number of confirmed horse deaths from Hendra virus in Queensland this year is ten.

The quarantine on a property in the Boonah area was revoked yesterday evening following completion of the required three rounds of negative testing for Hendra virus.

Three properties in the Park Ridge area were released from quarantine last week.

There are currently seven premises in Queensland under quarantine in four separate localities, including properties in Kuranda, Hervey Bay, Zillmere and Chinchilla.

Horses are being monitored daily on the remaining quarantined properties in Queensland by Biosecurity Queensland staff in conjunction with the horse owners. All horses are reported as clinically normal.

Community engagement

The DEEDI mobile office is at the Brisbane Ekka, located between the Beef Cattle Pavilion and the Chill Out Zone (S3 on the Ekka map) until Saturday 20 August 2011.

Biosecurity Queensland officers can provide general biosecurity and Hendra virus information, printed material and answer any questions.

Hendra virus information pack

Biosecurity Queensland has launched a campaign to encourage all Queensland horse owners and handlers to access the Hendra virus information pack.

The information pack outlines how horse owners can reduce the risk of their horses becoming infected and includes information on:

- · what Hendra virus is
- how to protect your horses
- what to do if your horse becomes ill.

Horse owners can access the pack by subscribing online at www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au

More information

Notify suspected Hendra virus cases by contacting Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23 (during business hours) or the Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline on 1800 675 888 (24-hour hotline). More information is available at www.biosecurity.gld.gov.au

Contact your GP, local Queensland Health Accident and Emergency Department or local Public Health Unit if you have concerns about possible exposure of people to a horse with Hendra virus infection. General enquiries about Hendra virus infection in humans may be directed to the Queensland Health Hotline on 13HEALTH (13 43 25 84).

Contact Workplace Health and Safety Queensland on 1300 369 915 or visit www.worksafe.qld.gov.au for information about managing Hendra virus risks at workplaces.

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