Biosecurity Queensland alert Hendra virus - information for industry 05 June 2012

Further positive Hendra virus results

First round test results were received last night for samples taken from animals quarantined on two properties - one near Rockhampton and the other near Ingham.

Rockhampton case

Two horses on the Rockhampton property where a horse died of Hendra virus on the 26 May 2012 have returned positive test results.

The two horses have not shown any clinical signs.

There are eight horses remaining on the property. The other six horses have returned negative results.

Biosecurity Queensland officers were on the property this morning and re-sampled the eight horses to corroborate the results.

Ingham case

A positive result was received on a sample from one dog on the Ingham property where a horse died of Hendra virus on 28 May 2012.

Biosecurity Queensland officers were on the property this morning and re-sampled the dog. Further testing on the dog is needed for corroboration as three out of the four samples collected from the dog were negative.

There are five horses, five dogs and three cats being monitored and tested on this property.

All other first round test results have been negative.

More information

All horse owners are encouraged to remain vigilant about the health of their horses.

Frequently asked questions and answers about dogs and Hendra virus are available at www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au

Hendra virus information pack for horse owners outlines how to reduce the risk of horses becoming infected with Hendra virus is available on the Biosecurity Queensland website.

Notify suspected Hendra virus cases by contacting Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23 (business hours) or the Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline on 1800 675 888 (24-hour hotline).

Contact your GP, local Queensland Health **Emergency Department or local Public Health** Unit if you have concerns about possible exposure of people to a horse with Hendra virus infection.

For general enquiries about the infection of Hendra virus in humans, call the Queensland Health Hotline on 13HEALTH (13 43 25 84) or visit www.health.qld.qov.au

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

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