

Biosecurity Queensland alert

# Hendra virus – information for industry

28 June 2012

## New Hendra virus case in Mackay

Biosecurity Queensland is managing a new Hendra virus incident near Mackay after a positive test result was received last night, 27 June 2012.

The property manager contacted a veterinarian after discovering a horse was gravely ill on Tuesday, 26 June 2012.

The horse had not been seen for several days and was found lying down. The private veterinarian took samples and the horse was euthanased and buried on the property.

There are a number of other animals including horses on the property and on adjoining properties.

Tracing is underway to determine what contact the infected horse had with other animals on all properties.

The property has been quarantined.

## Movement restrictions

Restrictions will apply to moving horses and horse materials on and off the infected property, and the property will be quarantined for at least one month.

Horse owners need to remain vigilant in taking steps to reduce the risk of infection as Hendra virus can occur year round but is more common during the cooler months. If a horse becomes sick, owners should contact their veterinarian immediately as happened in this case.

## Rockhampton and Ingham cases

Testing is continuing on both the Ingham and Rockhampton properties which are still under quarantine.

## More information

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

Hendra virus information pack for horse owners outlines how to reduce the risk of horses becoming infected with Hendra virus is available at [www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au](http://www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au)

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.gov.au](http://www.health.qld.gov.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](http://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au)

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