

AGRICULTURAL SHOW BIOSECURITY PLAN

This document should be used by Agricultural Societies to assist in the development and implementation of their biosecurity plan. It can be used as a template or as a guide.

Biosecurity measures are venue specific and can vary greatly depending on factors such as site design, management, climate and type of event, so it is important to develop your own biosecurity plan to suit the specific requirements of your event and venue.

A good plan identifies potential biosecurity risks, documents and implements sound management practices. This assists with preventing the introduction of disease onto the grounds, the spread of disease within the grounds and traceability should an animal disease incident occur.

Traceability is a component of a disease control program that Biosecurity Queensland may implement in the event of a disease response. It assists Biosecurity Queensland to identify and locate the origin of the disease and possible areas of spread.

All event organisers, competitors and spectators have a joint responsibility to ensure the successful implementation of a biosecurity plan.

By documenting your Agricultural Societies actions and procedures and maintaining accurate records your Society will ensure a consistent approach and understanding of the biosecurity plan by all parties involved.

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PERSON NOMINATED AS THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY BIOSECURITY MANAGER

Name of Event _____

Address of Venue _____

PIC of Event _____

Date of Event _____

Date of first livestock arrivals _____

Date of last livestock departure _____

Person responsible for Biosecurity _____

Phone _____

Email _____

QCAS Contact details:

Email: admin@queenslandshows.com.au

Web: www.queenslandshows.com.au

1 PREVENTION OF THE INTRODUCTION OF DISEASE ONTO THE GROUND

This is a critical first step in biosecurity planning. Biosecurity is everyone’s business, it is therefore the responsibility of everyone involved, including event organisers, competitors and spectators to understand and implement the measures below.

Biosecurity rules

- All persons in charge of horse/livestock entering grounds are encouraged to actively practice good Biosecurity principles within their property management.
- Animal(s) demonstrating signs of illness will not be allowed to enter the grounds.
- A Horse Health Declaration will accompany all horses entering the grounds.
 - Event entry will be refused until the Horse Health Declaration is handed to officials at point of entry or designated registration point.
 - The Property Identification Code (PIC) of origin must be on the Horse Health Declaration. If horses are moving to a different PIC after the show, the PIC of destination should be on the Horse Health Declaration or reported to the section Chief Steward.
- Health Declarations for other Livestock will be at the discretion of the Management Committee.
- There should only be one entry and exit point for each type of livestock entering the grounds as follows:

Section	Entry/Exit Point	Chief Steward:

Event Biosecurity Manager

- The Event Biosecurity Manager along with the Section Chief Steward, are to be contacted if there is a problem with animal health on the grounds prior to, during or on completion of the event.
- The Event Biosecurity Manager will instigate a lock down of the grounds if required and will direct someone to record the details of any person leaving the grounds with animal(s) during the lockdown period. **Note event staff do not have the legal powers to quarantine a property or restrict the movement of people, however they can advise of voluntary actions to implement to manage the immediate situation including disease transmission.**

Record Keeping

- This Biosecurity Plan, Health declarations, and any other documentation required by the Societies Management Committee will be kept on file by the Societies Secretary for traceability purposes for a minimum period of 6 months from the last day of the event.

2 PREVENTION OF SPREAD OF DISEASE ON GROUNDS

At Agricultural Shows there is an increased risk of spread of disease in animals. Animal(s) from diverse geographic regions are usually confined in close proximity to each other and public access to them is often uncontrolled. Handling of multiple animals by competitors and officials can facilitate the spread of disease e.g. gear check, lameness examination, health examination.

People

- People should minimize (as much as practical) contact with animals; in particular other people's animals.
- Animal Carers should monitor and restrict public access to their animals as much as practical.
- Animal Carers should actively discourage the public from feeding animals (other than in petting zoos with designated food). Swill feeding (feeding food or food scraps containing animal matter to pigs, poultry or ruminants) is banned in Queensland. It is advised that reasonable steps are taken to minimise the risk of swill feeding at shows. This could include preventing the public from carrying food into animal exhibits and/or signage requesting that the public do not feed animals.
- Disinfectant will be made available and Animal Handlers are urged to use disinfectant when washing hands on a regular basis.
- Chief Stewards, Competitors and Animal Carers are urged to promote the washing of hands by the public whenever they have been in contact with an animal.
- Animal Carers are encouraged to ensure they carry a Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Kit. The contents of the PPE Kit include disposable gloves, overalls, boots/boot covers, P2 respirators and safety glasses.

Animals

- Where practicable, no communal water troughs will be supplied.
- Minimise contact with other animals (as much as practical) on the grounds and do not share water or feed buckets or equipment unless decontaminating between animals.
- All Cattle Handlers are to comply with N.L.I.S. procedures in accordance with the QCAS Fact Sheet.
- There are a number of animal diseases that are notifiable – that is, there is a legal obligation to report their suspicion or presence to Biosecurity Queensland. A list of notifiable diseases in Queensland can be found at: http://www.daff.qld.gov.au/4790_11656.htm
- Clinical signs or observations that may indicate an emergency animal disease include;
 - Unusually high numbers of sick or dead animals
 - rapid spread of disease through a herd or flock
 - animals that are lame, drooling or salivating excessively
 - animals that have ulcers, erosions or blisters around the feet, muzzle, udder or teats and/or in the mouth
 - unusual nervous signs
 - profuse bloody diarrhoea
 - respiratory distress or persistent coughing in horses
 - deep smelly, fly struck wounds

3 MINIMISING THE EFFECT AND SPREAD OF A DISEASE INCIDENT WITHIN THE GROUNDS

If after all precautions have been taken it is found that an animal is on the grounds with an illness, the following steps should be taken to minimise the spread and effects of this disease amongst the other animals at the venue. Quick and correct actions in dealing with a disease outbreak in a timely and effective manner will greatly assist in minimizing the extent of the incident.

Event Veterinarian

- The Societies Honourary Vet is: _____ Phone: _____
- The Honourary Vet will be on site during the following times:

Date	From	To

- In the event that there is no Honourary Vet the nearest available Vet to the event is:
_____ Phone: _____
- Designated Vet/Isolation yards are located as follows:

Section	Location	Chief Steward

- Disposal area to bury or burn deceased animals is: _____
- The local Bio-hazard storage and disposal procedures are controlled by the Regional Council. The point of contact with the local government authorities is:
_____ Phone: _____

Lockdown Procedures

- All animal movement will cease other than moving affected animals to designated isolation bay
- No public to enter affected area.
- Biosecurity perimeter to be set up by the Biosecurity Manager around the affected area.
- Entry through perimeter will be strictly limited to essential personnel.
- Strict disinfection and other biosecurity measures as determined by the Biosecurity Manager will be enforced.
- Communications in the event of a lockdown or outbreak will be as follows:

Emergency Contact List

Organisation	Phone No.	Mobile No.	Comments
Emergency Disease Watch Hotline	1800 675 888		To be informed as noted below
Biosecurity Queensland	13 25 23		To be informed as noted below
QCAS CEO (Mark Bryant)	07 3252 1630	0439 894 439	Advise in the event of an outbreak
Person in Charge			
Second in Charge			
Event Veterinarian			
Local Veterinarian 1			
Local Veterinarian 2			
Body disposal company or contact			
Local police			
Agricultural Society President			

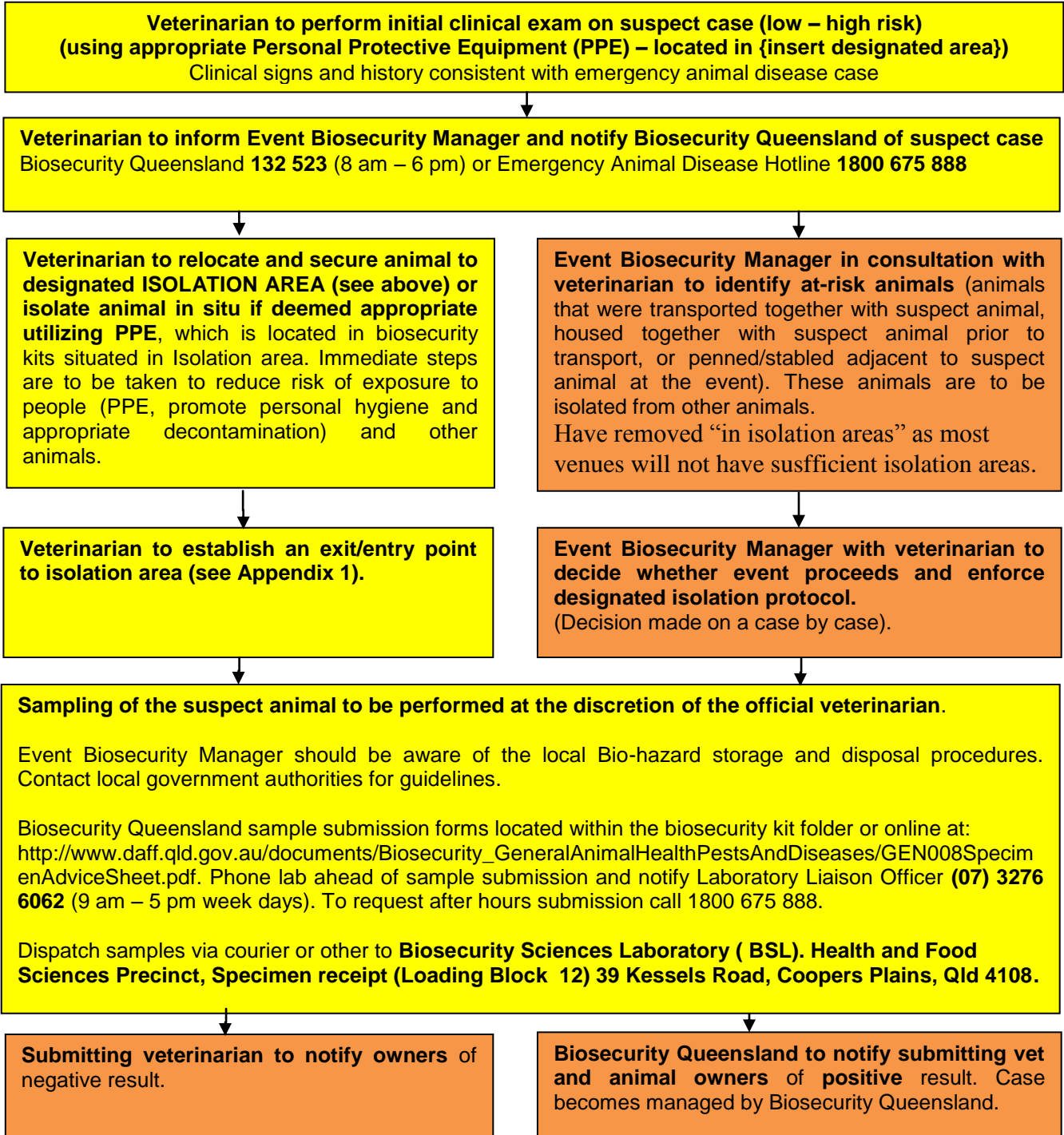
Equipment to have on hand

Item	Location 1	Location 2	Location 3
Adequate hand sanitiser (antiseptic gel, wipes or soap)			
Personal protective equipment (gloves, overalls, boots/boot covers, P2 respirators, safety glasses)			
Decontamination equipment (buckets, spray bottles, scrubbing brush foot bath – kitty litter tray works well, disinfectant)			
Paper hand towels			
Heavy duty garbage bags			
Biohazard waste bags			
Large tarpaulin			
Hazard tape			
Star pickets or panel fencing			
Rolls of hessian			
*Microchip scanner			
Public address system			
Human first aid kit			

- Microchip scanner is not essential for Event Management at the current time. Scanners may be required in the future.

Contingency Plan

In the event of a disease incident being declared, a standstill or quarantine zone may be imposed. In this case all participants should remain at the venue until cleared to leave by Biosecurity Queensland or event organisers. Biosecurity Queensland manages emergency animal disease incidents in conjunction with event organizers and affected animal owners. If movement restrictions are imposed, event organizers will need to facilitate the daily husbandry/welfare needs of animals remaining on the grounds. Animal owners will need to cover any costs associated with feeding/watering their animals during movement restrictions. Planning for this worst case scenario should occur. Thorough biosecurity planning and implementation will greatly assist the ease of operations in the event of quarantine.



4 WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

A horse event may be a workplace for some persons but not others. Horse industry associations that conduct a business or undertaking have duties under work health and safety legislation to ensure the health and safety of themselves, their workers and other persons so far as is reasonably practicable. Workplace health and safety requirements for Events/Venues are available in the Safework Australia Volunteer Resource Kit which can be accessed via <http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/aws/model-whs-laws/guidelines/volunteers/pages/resource-kit>

Society Management Committee’s and/or Event organisers should ensure:

- adequate training of Volunteers and Workers re: Horse Biosecurity and how to manage a Biosecurity Risk should it arise. Refer to <http://www.ava.com.au/suit-up> for further information. Training records should be maintained.
- provision and maintenance of adequate hygiene and first aid amenities.
- horse areas are maintained in a clean and hygienic condition.
- horse owners/handlers are aware of their responsibility to clean and disinfect horse equipment that has been in contact with a horse’s blood and body fluids.
- Personal Protective Equipment [PPE] appropriate to the level of contact with a horse’s blood and body fluids is used. This includes contact with all healthy horses and their blood and body substance. If a horse is suspected of being a biosecurity risk then full PPE may be required depending on the nature of the risk (e.g. Hendra virus, EI).
- Management of accidental contamination with a horse’s blood and body fluids.
- good personal hygiene practices are adopted for all contact with horses and their blood and body substances.

5 ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Management Committee’s and/or Biosecurity Managers should include any specific information regarding their event in this section. This might include: Collection Points for Horse Health Declarations, Entry/Exit Point details, stabling requirements, camping details, WPS issues etc.

6 ENTRY/EXIT PROCESS

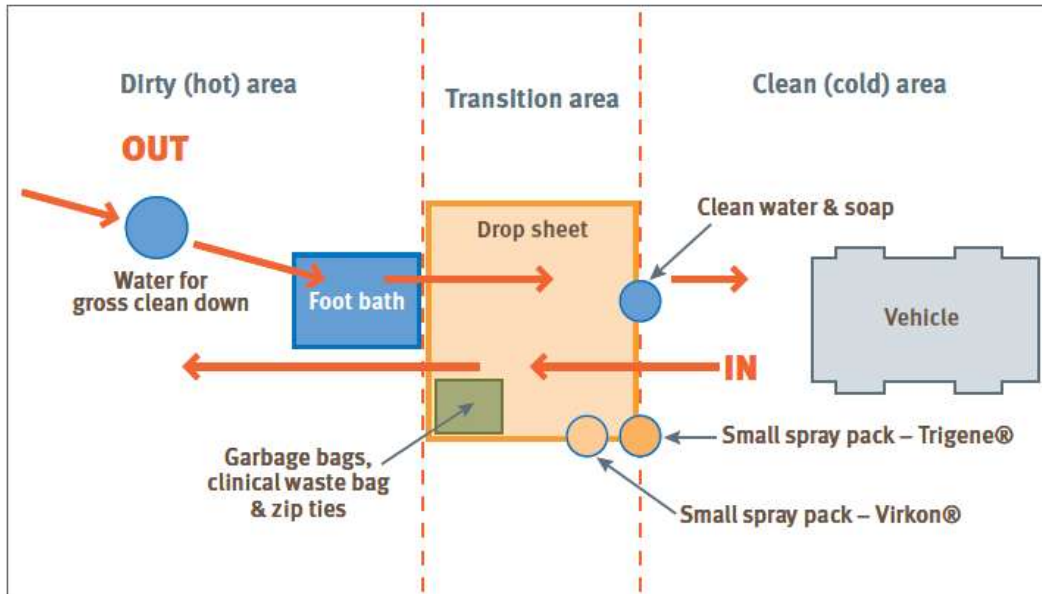
Copyright source: State of Queensland, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Guidelines for veterinarians handling potential Hendra virus Version 5.0

Set up an entry/exit

At the selected entry/exit point, identify a 'clean' (cold) area, a 'dirty' (hot) area (i.e. the contaminated area where the possible case is situated) and a small transition area between the clean/cold and dirty/ hot areas (see Figure 1).

On the clean side, lay out all equipment required for the investigation and, before donning PPE, double check that nothing has been missed and that no unnecessary equipment is being taken into the dirty area. Leave vehicles in the clean area. If vehicles are taken into the dirty area, they will need to be decontaminated.

Figure 1. Suitable entry/exit decontamination site



Entering the hot area

Make sure containers of disinfectant, along with soap and clean water, are available and placed at the entry/exit point for use during exit.

Don PPE in the following sequence to assist best personal protection:

- Wash hands with soap/detergent and dry hands.
- Don overalls then boots (overall legs go outside boots).
- Don first pair of gloves*
- Don respirator and perform fit check of the respirator.
- Don safety eye wear
- Pull overalls hood up if present and zip to chin.
- Perform respirator fit check.
- Double-glove*

* Secure one set of gloves onto the sleeves of the overalls with tape. It is personal preference as to whether the inner or outer pair of gloves are taped to the overall sleeves.

If using a PAPR:

- Wash hands with soap/detergent and dry hands.
- Don overalls then boots (overall legs go outside boots).
- Pull overalls hood up if present and zip to chin.

- Don PAPR then gloves.
- Double-glove*

**Secure one set of gloves onto the sleeves of the overalls with tape. It is personal preference as to whether the inner or outer pair of gloves are taped to the overall sleeves.*

Enter the hot area

- You should enter the hot area only after fully dressed in PPE and with all required equipment.
- Any person assisting or in close proximity must wear the same standard of PPE.

Undertake the required sampling

- Make sure that samples are uniquely AND clearly labelled.
- Do not place yourself or assistants at risk of injury at any time.
- Use techniques that minimise the chance of contamination of people and their PPE.
- Undertake safe sharps handling and disposal of waste to prevent accidental exposure via needle stick injury (i.e. do not re-cap needles, use sharps container).

When sampling is completed

- Place labelled samples in a clip seal bag for removal.

Exiting the hot area

- Remove gross contamination from self and equipment. Do this before reaching the entry/exit point to minimise the risk of spreading contamination beyond the designated hot/dirty area.
- Use a brush and soap or detergent and water.
- Clean the treads of the boots (e.g. at a tap on site or a bucket strategically placed back from the entry/exit site).
- Go to the hot/dirty side of the entry/exit point.
- Double-bag the samples in clip seal bags and disinfect them to the clean side. Be careful not to contaminate the samples with disinfectant.
- Spray disinfectant on the outer gloves.

Removal (doffing) of PPE

- If non-disposable PPE cannot be adequately decontaminated on site, double-bag it and remove it for later attention — this is not a preferred option.
- Handle used PPE with care to avoid dispersal of contaminants.

To remove PPE where a disposable P2 respirator or reusable half-face or full-face respirator is used:

- Remove the outer pair of gloves to garbage bag.
- Wash hands, still encased in the inner pair of gloves, in disinfectant.
- Peel disposable overalls down and over boots
 - Step out of boots and onto plastic drop sheet (transition area)
 - Place disposable overalls in garbage bag.
- Remove hat/cap to garbage bag or soak in disinfectant, double bag and remove for laundering.
- Remove and disinfect safety eyewear, carefully avoiding splashes.
- Remove respirator (disposable respirators to garbage bag or mist/wipe reusable respirators with disinfectant solution). Do not touch the front of the respirator; handle by the straps.

- Disinfect boots and place in clean/cold area.
- Tie off the garbage bag and then:
 - Disinfect it.
 - Double bag it in a biological waste bag and tie off and place in clean/cold area
- Disinfect yourself:
 - Disinfect and scrub all potentially contaminated areas and exposed skin with an approved disinfectant.
 - Put on clean shoes.
 - Do not walk back over contaminated ground.
- Carefully, without contaminating your clean clothes, disinfect/rinse the drop sheet and buckets/containers and brushes in the foot bath, ensuring they are free of contamination and then place them in the clean/cold area.
 - Take off the 2nd (inner) pair of gloves and put them in a biological waste bag and tie off.
 - Tip out the tub/footbath with the disinfectant and spray undersides with disinfectant spray.
 - Pack buckets, brushes, drop sheet in footbath.
 - Apply a final spray with disinfectant from the spray pack to all bags to leave the site.
- Wash hands in clean water with disinfectant or use an alcohol-based hand rub.

Where the respirator is a powered air purifying respirator (PAPR):

- Remove the outer pair of gloves to garbage bag.
- Wash hands, still encased in the inner pair of gloves, in disinfectant.
- Remove and disinfect the PAPR.
- Peel disposable overalls down and over boots
 - Step out of boots and onto plastic drop sheet (transition area)
 - Place disposable overalls in garbage bag
- Then follow the above process from step 7 (above).

This template has been developed by the Queensland Chamber of Agricultural Societies Inc. on advice from various State Government and Horse Industry organisations specifically for use by Queensland Agricultural Show Societies and organisations using Agricultural Show Society facilities.

The information provided in this document is for guidance only. No responsibility for Biosecurity at individual events is taken by the Queensland Chamber of Agricultural Societies Inc.

Suggested amendments or changes to this template should be directed to admin@queenslandshows.com.au

