

Biosecurity alert

Hendra virus – information for Industry

16 July 2011

Current Situation

Hendra virus in Hervey Bay

One property in the Hervey Bay area is under quarantine after test results came back positive for Hendra virus last night.

A private veterinarian attended to the sick horse during the week and took appropriate samples for testing. The horse has been disposed of on the property. There is one horse remaining on the property.

Biosecurity officers will assess and sample the remaining horse on the property and trace the movements of the horses to determine if contact has been made with the infected horse or material.

Hendra virus in Boondall

Two properties in the Boondall area have been quarantined today following confirmation of the virus.

A private veterinarian attended to the sick horse and took appropriate samples for testing. There are no horses remaining on this property, however there are six horses on the adjoining property, which is also quarantined.

Officers from Biosecurity Queensland and Queensland Health are working closely with the property owners of the quarantined properties.

Biosecurity officers will assess and sample the remaining horses on the property today and trace the movements of the horses to determine if contact has been made with the infected horse or material.

Hendra virus in North Queensland

Biosecurity Queensland continues to work closely with the property owners of the quarantined Kuranda property. The first round of testing of the 36 horses located on the property has been completed.

Hendra virus in South East Queensland

The horses located on the quarantined properties at Beaudesert will undergo their third round of testing at the end of this month.

The horses located on the quarantined properties in the Mt Alford and Park Ridge areas will undergo their second round of testing over the next two weeks.

Hendra virus – 2011 summary

In Queensland there are currently six separate locations where Hendra virus cases are being managed by Biosecurity Queensland.

The current cases are located at Beaudesert, Mt Alford, Park Ridge, Kuranda and now Hervey Bay and Boondall.

One property in the Park Ridge area has been removed from being under quarantine.

The total number of properties quarantined as a result of Hendra virus in Queensland is 11.

There have been eight confirmed horse deaths since June 2011.

Only the properties under quarantine have movement restrictions for Hendra virus.

It is imperative that horse owners do not take unwell horses to horse events and practise good biosecurity before, during and after the event.

Horse owners are urged to review their biosecurity procedures and contact a veterinarian if they suspect Hendra virus. Horse owners around the state should be vigilant throughout the year for signs consistent with Hendra virus.

For information on **biosecurity planning** for managers of all horse venues including racecourses; showgrounds; riding and pony club venues; agistment properties; and horse events, visit the [Animal Health Australia website](#).

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.qld.gov.au.

Contact your GP, local 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 if you need information about managing Hendra virus risks at workplaces.

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