

Biosecurity alert

# Hendra virus – information for Industry

18 July 2011

## Current Situation

### Hendra virus – 2011 summary

In Queensland there are currently six separate locations where Hendra virus cases are being managed by Biosecurity Queensland. These are located in the Beaudesert, Mt Alford, Park Ridge, Kuranda, Hervey Bay and Boondall areas.

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

There are 83 horses that are being monitored on a daily basis. All horses currently appear to be clinically normal.

There have been eight confirmed horse deaths in Queensland since June 2011.

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

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

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](#).

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.

### Hendra virus in Boondall

Two properties in the Boondall area have been quarantined following confirmation of Hendra virus on Saturday 16 July 2011.

A private veterinarian attended the sick horse and took appropriate samples for testing before euthanasing the animal

There are no horses remaining on the property where the horse was euthanased, however six horses on the adjoining property, which had been running with the sick animal have also been quarantined.

All six horses have been sampled for Hendra virus testing. Biosecurity Queensland officers will continue to monitor these horses in conjunction with the horse owners.

The horse owners from the properties that were quarantined over the weekend are to be commended for the good biosecurity measures taken - including isolating the sick horse, calling their veterinarian and wearing the appropriate personal protective equipment when handling the sick horse.

### Hendra virus in Hervey Bay

One property in the Hervey Bay area is under quarantine after test results from a horse came back positive for Hendra virus. The property was quarantined on Saturday 16 July 2011.

A private veterinarian attended the sick horse and subsequently euthanased it.

The one horse remaining on the property is being monitored by Biosecurity Queensland officers and samples have been taken.

It is expected that the properties in the Hervey Bay and Boondall areas will be quarantined for a minimum of 32 days as per protocol.

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

### **Hendra virus in North Queensland**

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

### **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.

### **Community Engagement**

Community engagement officers will be in a number of locations in north Queensland and south east Queensland during the week. Officers will be providing information and answering any questions residents, horse owners and businesses may have on the situation.

Community information sessions will be held at Marburg, Moggill, Kuranda, Tallebudgera and Eatons Hill this month.

A workshop for event organisers on biosecurity planning will be held on Tuesday night at Boonah.

Visit the [community engagement calendar](#) on the Biosecurity Queensland website for more information

### **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](http://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](http://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au) if you need information about managing Hendra virus risks at workplaces.

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