

Protect your cattle
from diseases and pests

Zoonotic Diseases some diseases may pass between animals and humans, including Q fever, Leptospirosis, Hydatids and Hendra virus.

Stock feed In Australia, it is illegal to feed animal material such as meat and bone meal, fish meal and feather meal to ruminants (cattle, sheep, goats or deer). This ban is to help prevent mad cow disease. Ensure that products containing restricted animal material (such as pig and poultry feed) are not fed to ruminants. If the source of feed is unknown, ask for a Commodity Vendor Declaration.

Consult a Greater Sydney Local Land Services District Veterinarian for expert advice and assistance on managing livestock health including

- emergency disease prevention, preparedness and response
- disease surveillance and reporting
- advisory services
- movement advice
- certification
- regulation

If you see something unusual, contact the 24-hour emergency animal disease hotline on 1800 675 888.

Contact Us



1300 795 299



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Biosecurity is a shared responsibility.

Are you introducing cattle?

There are many diseases that can be introduced with new stock. Before introducing stock, you should determine the best breed for your needs. Always

- get a National Vendor Declaration (NVD)
- ask for a National Cattle Health Statement that provides information on the disease status and treatment history of the stock
- ensure cattle are identified with a National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) device
- transfer cattle on the NLIS database if purchased directly from another producer. If the cattle are purchased through a saleyard, they will do this task for you
- if introducing cattle from the cattle tick zone in Queensland, ensure they meet movement requirements and inspect for ticks on arrival.

Introduced stock should be isolated from the rest of the herd for 7-10 days and monitored for any signs of disease. This time also provides an opportunity to check pregnancy status and give any vaccinations & drenches and allows time for weed seeds and worm eggs that cattle may be carrying in their gut to pass. Your quarantine area should be monitored for new weed species and dealt with quickly.

As well as being a potential source for new diseases, introduced cattle are potentially at risk from diseases already on your property. We commonly see problems with Theileria in stock introduced from outside the region. Theileriosis is caused by a small red blood cell parasite spread by bush ticks.

Cattle that have not previously been exposed to ticks are at risk of:

- abortion
- weight loss
- death

Depending on where cattle have come from, introduced cattle may also be at risk of insect-borne diseases such as Akabane and Three Day Sickness.

Are you selling cattle?

All cattle leaving your property must be identified with a NLIS device and you should complete an NVD and National Cattle Health Statement.

Poisonous Plants

Greater Sydney is home to many plant species toxic to stock. You should be aware of what potentially poisonous plants are on your property.

If agisting cattle, check the property for poisonous plants prior. Cattle introduced to unfamiliar plants and hungry cattle are especially susceptible to plant poisonings. Some of the more common toxic plants in the Greater Sydney Region are

- Green Cestrum
- Poison Peach
- Mother-of-millions
- Lantana
- Solanum spp.
- Fireweed
- Bracken fern
- St John's Wort.

Certain pasture plants, such as kikuyu and Brassica spp., can also cause problems if they become the dominant species.

Vaccinations

There are many vaccines available for cattle to help prevent disease.

For some vaccines, the decision is a simple one

5 in 1 vaccine protects against the Clostridial diseases including



- Blackleg
- Tetanus
- Pulpy Kidney
- Black Disease
- Malignant Oedema

Blackleg in particular is a common cause of death in young cattle in the Greater Sydney region. The 5 in 1 vaccine is relatively inexpensive and very effective – it should be considered a must.

7 in 1 - the leptospirosis component of the 7 in 1 vaccine protects against 2 strains of Leptosporosis. Humans can develop leptospirosis so this vaccine helps protect your health, the health of your workers and your cattle.

Vibriosis is a common cause of reproductive failure in cattle. We recommend vaccinating all bulls to control vibriosis. For other vaccines, it is worth considering the likelihood of the disease occurring and the consequences against the cost of prevention. A vaccination program is an integral part of your farm plan.