



**Primary
Industries**

**PRIMARY INDUSTRIES
Biosecurity**

Locked Bag 21, Orange NSW 2800
Tel: 02 6391 3100 Fax: :02 6361 9976

FACT SHEET – SENTINEL PROGRAM (AVG)

Successful decontamination of abalone holding tanks and equipment after detection of Abalone Viral Ganglioneuritis (AVG) relies on complete removal of any organic matter and effective cleaning according to the Technical Guidelines provided on the Quarantine Order or Undertaking.

Following satisfactory completion of the decontamination procedures sentinel abalone are required to be introduced into each of the cleaned abalone holding tanks in premises. Sentinel abalone have a dual role, to check that toxic chemical residues have been thoroughly removed and to monitor for reoccurrence of AVG infection.

How do I implement the sentinel program?

1. Refill tanks and equipment with clean seawater
2. Source and introduce live, healthy, abalone into the abalone holding tanks (this is day 0)
 - 10 live abalone are required for each separate holding tank
 - Sentinel animals are to be purchased from: Coastal Seafarms (03) 5529 5599; 0419 899 696

How to appropriately collect and submit appropriate samples from the sentinel population

3. At 10 days after introduction submit five (5) sentinel abalone for AVG testing at the laboratory (following submission advice outlined below). Any abalone which die prior to Day 10 must be immediately frozen whole and submitted to the laboratory with the Day 10 samples.
4. At 15 days after introduction submit remaining sentinel abalone for AVG testing at the laboratory (following submission advice as outlined below).

Submission advice

DPI cover the costs of laboratory expenses and courier/freight costs involved with the sentinel program. Abalone are to be sampled live, placed in sealed plastic zip-lock bag, and chilled/on ice in an esky. Attach the completed laboratory submission to the esky that describes the sample (e.g. date taken, day 10 sentinel abalone) and full name and contact details of the premises. Samples are to be couriered to the laboratory by Metrostate Couriers – call (02) 9645 9700 to arrange pick up.

Samples must be packaged with the attached Submission Form completed, and addressed to

Dr P. D. Kirkland
Virology Laboratory,
Elizabeth Macarthur Agriculture Institute,
Woodbridge Rd,
Menangle NSW 2567

Quarantine restrictions may be revoked following satisfactory completion of decontamination procedures and receipt of negative AVG test results from sentinel program at premises.

For more information contact

Manager Aquatic Biosecurity and Risk Management
(02) 4916 3904; 0407 272 947



Veterinary Laboratory Specimen Advice

Diagnostic and Analytical Services

ABALONE VIRAL GANGLIONEURITIS (AVG) – SENTINEL TEST

SUBMITTER NAME.....
Property Address.....
Town/Suburb.....
Postcode.....
Telephone no..... Fax no.....
Email Address.....
Date sampled..... Date Submitted.....

Please write specimen details below:

Table with 7 columns: Tank identification number, Number of abalone in tank, Age of abalone, Breed (Black, Green, Hybrid), Number collected from tank, Number Alive, Number Dead

How many separate water recirculation systems are there?.....
Were abalone Healthy or Diseased?.....
Date when abalone arrived at the premises?.....

Any other relevant information/comments regarding animal history and/or premises:

.....
.....

Signature..... Date

Test results and findings may be provided to authorised staff and used for statistical, surveillance, extension, certification and regulatory purposes in accordance with Departmental policies.