CVO Bulletin for Veterinarians

December 2019

Biosecurity Regulation amendments which impact pig biosecurity

Amendments to the Biosecurity Regulation 2017(the Regulation) include two changes in relation to pig biosecurity.

These changes:

- reduce requirements for pigs moving into NSW from Queensland, Western Australia and Northern Territory, and
- strengthen protections against emerging and increasing risks posed by emergency animal diseases such as African Swine Fever and Foot and Mouth Disease.

Movement of commercial pigs into NSW

Commercial pigs are now able to be moved into NSW from Queensland and any part of Western Australia or the Northern Territory **without any importation conditions** such as a Biosecurity Certificate, Record of Movement and the related testing requirements.

Requirements for pigs to be identified and accompanied by a PigPass National Vendor declaration still apply. *Brucella suis* (brucellosis) remains notifiable under schedule 1, part 1 of the Regulation. The NSW Porcine Brucellosis Herd Accreditation Program provides a *Brucella suis* biosecurity risk management option for the NSW pig industry.

NSW Biosecurity legislation places an emphasis on 'shared responsibility'. Pig producers can also minimise the risk of porcine brucellosis by satisfying their general biosecurity duty. For example, preventing feral pig having direct/indirect contact with their pigs, to help reduce the risk of infection in commercial pigs.

For more information on Porcine Brucellosis please see the NSW DPI Brucellosis in pigs and the NSW Porcine Brucellosis Herd Accreditation Program webpages.

For more information on moving and selling pigs refer to the 'Moving Pigs into and within NSW'; 'NLIS Pigs - selling pigs' and the '8-Step guide for moving and selling pigs', all publications available on the NSW DPI 'NLIS Pigs' webpage.

Prohibited Pig Feed

The definition of prohibited pig feed (also known as swill feeding) has been broadened beyond **stock feed** to include **any material** containing mammalian product, unless the feeding of the mammal product to the pig is otherwise authorised by the Regulation. The definition of **feed** has also been broadened, which in relation to prohibited pig feed means that it is illegal to:

- feed pigs or allow pigs access to or
- allow or direct another person to feed pigs or allow pigs access to or
- fail to prevent pigs access to

any material which contains or has been in contact with products of mammalian origin, including meat (raw or cooked), bone, blood, offal or hide. This strengthens protections against emerging and increasing risks posed by diseases like African swine fever and Foot and mouth disease. These restrictions apply to <u>all</u> pigs, including pet pigs.

Examples of prohibited pig feed include:

- Meat (raw, cooked or processed), bone, blood, offal or hide derived from a mammal
- Meat pies, sausage rolls, bacon and cheese rolls, pizza, deli meats, table scraps that contain or have been in contact with meat
- Household, commercial or industrial food waste, including restaurant food and discarded cooking oils
- Illegally imported dairy products
- Anything that has been in contact with prohibited pig feed via collection, storage or transport in contaminated containers (such as meat trays and take-away food containers)
- Mammalian carcases, unless the feeding of the carcase(s) to the pigs is otherwise authorised by the Biosecurity Regulation 2017
- Organic fertilizers and soil amendments that contain mammalian product and have not been treated either in accordance with the relevant Australian Standard dealing with the rendering of animal products or by a process approved by a Chief Veterinary Officer.

Please note that 'stock food' has <u>not</u> been replaced by 'material' in clause 37(6) which means the amendment does not impact on people's ability to have meat in their homes or on farm for human and pet (such as cats and dogs) consumption, as long as this is not accessible to pigs.

Further information on this amendment can be found on the DPI FAQ webpage.

For more information on swill feeding please refer to Primefact 637 Swill feeding.

Details of changes to legislative requirements

The changes to the Biosecurity Regulation 2017 are:

• Clause 17 of the Biosecurity Regulation has been removed.

• Clauses 36 and 37 have been amended to broaden the definition of prohibited pig feed to include **any material** containing mammalian product, unless the feeding of the mammal product to the pig is otherwise authorised by the Regulation

For further information on the amendments please refer to the NSW DPI summary of the key amendments on the Biosecurity Amendment (Miscellaneous) Regulation 2019 webpage.

Your Reference number (PUB19/647)

© State of New South Wales through the Department of Industry, 2021. You may copy, distribute and otherwise freely deal with this publication for any purpose, provided that you attribute the NSW Department of Primary Industries as the owner.

Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (December 2019). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the Department of Primary Industries or the user's independent adviser.