Conditions of the NSW Porcine Brucellosis Herd Accreditation Program

1. These conditions outline the minimum standards of the NSW Porcine Brucellosis Herd Accreditation Program (the Program).
2. Herds must have an acceptable pig herd health history, which includes:
   a) a documented assessment of *Brucella suis* free status, including laboratory test results for any reproductive issue investigations (e.g. abortions, boar infertility) during the previous 2 years; and
   b) no unresolved infertility or other reproductive issues in the herd indicative of *Brucella suis* infection during the previous 2 years; and
   c) no known exposure to *Brucella suis* during the previous 5 years; and
   d) a documented risk assessment for the potential contact between feral pigs and their products with applicant herd pigs; and
   e) regular use (i.e. at least one visit every 3 months) of a registered private veterinarian with pig health knowledge and expertise.
3. Herds must be a closed herd for a minimum of 2 years prior to application.
4. Only registered private veterinarians with pig health knowledge and expertise can apply to be approved veterinarians in the Program.
5. Boundary fencing must be well maintained high security fencing consisting of stock-proof (rigid) partitions sufficient to prohibit the entry of feral pigs. Gates must be rigid and lockable.
6. Herd owners/managers must maintain a register of all pig and pig semen introductions and approved veterinarian visits to the accredited herd. The register must record details of numbers, gender and property of origin of introduced pigs.
7. Herd owners/managers must keep copies of all approved veterinarian reports, including laboratory reports, received.
8. Approved veterinarians must monitor accredited herds. This includes a minimum of one property visit every 3 months. Visits must include an inspection of the boundary fencing, a clinical examination of breeders and a review of reproductive records and the pig introduction register.
9. No pig or pig semen is to be introduced into an accredited herd, or into a herd after the first initial accreditation blood test, except under the following conditions:
   a) the pig or pig semen is from another accredited herd (or from an accredited herd in an equivalent accreditation program in other jurisdictions); or
   b) the pig is from another jurisdiction, or part of another jurisdiction, where there is no evidence of *Brucella suis* infection in domestic or feral pigs, kept in isolation and blood tested for *Brucella suis* within 30 days of introduction with negative results; or
   c) the pig semen is from a boar from another jurisdiction, or part of another jurisdiction, where there is no evidence of *Brucella suis* infection in domestic or feral pigs, and the boar has been kept in isolation and blood tested for *Brucella suis* within 30 days prior to introduction of the semen with negative results; or
   d) the pig comes from a herd with an acceptable pig herd health history and has been blood tested twice for *Brucella suis* with negative results. The interval between the tests is to be a minimum of 60 days. The pig must not show any clinical signs indicative of *Brucella suis* infection. During this interval, the pig is to be kept in isolation to the satisfaction of the approved veterinarian.
10. All boars intended for use as breeders must be individually permanently identified.
11. A herd management plan must be in place, which outlines how stray pigs (feral pigs and returned pigs from the accredited herd) will be managed.
12. Laboratory costs for the Program are the responsibility of the herd owner or sample submitter.
13. The blood testing protocol for initial accreditation is only valid if the first blood testing occurs at least 60 days after the requirements of the guidelines and conditions have been adopted, particularly secure boundary fencing.
14. The approved veterinarian is responsible for interpreting all laboratory test results and providing reports and advice to herd owners/managers.