

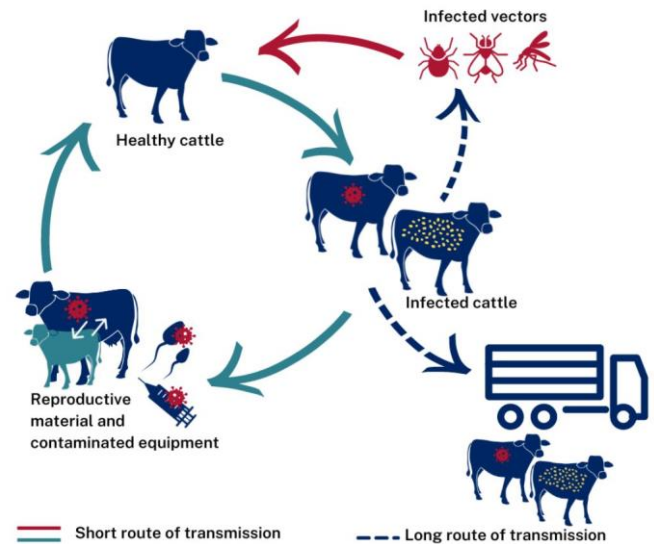
Lumpy Skin Disease in cattle fact sheet

Lumpy skin disease (LSD) is a highly infectious viral disease that affects all breeds of cattle and water buffalo. It does not affect other types of livestock or humans.

LSD is primarily spread by biting insects. Insects such as mosquitoes, biting flies and possibly ticks mechanically transfer the virus. It can also be spread through direct contact between animals via secretions and excretions. Contaminated feed, water, vehicles, and iatrogenic means (for example, repeated use of needles on different animals) can all spread the disease.

In addition, LSD may be shed in semen and may be present in milk of infected animals as shown in the LSD viral pathways diagram (right)

Viral pathway of lumpy skin disease



Who do I call?

Lumpy skin disease is a nationally notifiable disease. Cattle or water buffalo showing signs of LSD must be reported to your veterinarian, a Local Land Services District Veterinarian (DV) on 1300 795 299 or the **Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline** on **1800 675 888**.



Skin lesions

Skin nodules up to 50mm on the neck of an affected cow



Lesion wounds

Nodule scabs fall off leaving open wounds



Nasal lesions

Necrotic ulcers on the muzzle

(Source: Dr Massimo Scacchia, Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell'Abruzzo e del Molise "G.Caporale")

Signs of lumpy skin disease in cattle

Animals infected with LSD present with fever, depression, and characteristic skin nodules.

Once in a herd, LSD is very difficult to eradicate due to subclinical infections and the presence of insects capable of spreading the virus.

Clinical signs include:

- Firm raised skin nodules up to 50mm in diameter develop around the head, neck, genitals and limbs.
- Nodules can develop on any part of the body.
- Scabs develop in the centre of the nodules after which the scabs fall off, leaving large holes that may become infected.
- Swelling of limbs, brisket and genitals may occur
- Reluctance to move and eat
- Nasal and ocular (eye) discharges
- Enlarged superficial lymph nodes
- Drop in milk production
- Abortion

Protecting your cattle

Biting flies, mosquitoes and possibly ticks play a major role in spreading LSD between animals on the farm and between farms.

The best way to protect your cattle is by developing and implementing an integrated insect management plan. This involves targeting all stages of the stable fly and mosquito life cycles to break the breeding cycle. It also needs to consider tick control.

Effective insect management on-farm includes:

- Monitoring larval and adult fly and mosquito numbers to know when to take action
- Environmental management to reduce the number of breeding and resting sites of insects
 - For example, fill potholes, remove standing water from containers, and ensure drains are free flowing
- Applying larvicide control in large bodies of water
- Applying adulticide control, such as residual spraying and fogging
- Maintaining chemical and mosquito control records.

Lumpy skin disease in Australia

LSD is an exotic animal disease. Australia maintains a disease-free status for LSD.

The geographical distribution of LSD has been rapidly expanding through south Asia in 2021. In March 2022 Indonesia reported cases of LSD on the island of Sumatra.

We are now on high alert for spread of the disease to Australia from the region.

An incursion of LSD would have severe negative animal welfare and economic implications along with substantial trade impacts.

Safe chemical use and livestock

- Always use chemicals strictly as per the product label
- Seek professional advice if you are unsure about how to use a chemical
- Chemical residues in cattle are a trade and food quality risk
- Misuse of chemicals can create environmental risks to bees, wildlife, aquatic life and people

More information

NSW Department of Primary Industries:

- www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/lsd
- Email: animal biosecurity@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Local Land Services:

- Call 1300 795 299 to speak to your District Veterinarian

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry:

- www.awe.gov.au/lumpyskin

Vector control for cattle:

- <http://www.flyboss.com.au/cattle/flies-diseases/feedlot-flies/stable-fly.php>

Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline:

- **1800 675 888**

© State of New South Wales through Regional NSW 2022. The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing August 2022. However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that the information upon which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the Regional NSW or the user's independent adviser.