

Biosecurity & Food Safety Compliance REGULATORY PRIORITIES 2017 – 2018

Biosecurity & Food Safety (BFS) protects the NSW economy, environment and community from biosecurity and food safety risks. BFS reviews its regulatory priorities annually to ensure that it adopts a risk based approach to its enduring priorities, as well as new and emerging biosecurity threats and food safety risks. These priorities are determined in consultation with key industry and community stakeholders and are set in the context of NSW Government priorities and the NSW Department of Primary Industries Strategic Plan.

Enduring priorities

Many regulatory activities conducted by BFS are fundamental to protecting the community from biosecurity and food safety risks and require a constant focus. These include:

- audits and inspections to verify food in NSW is safe to eat and labelled accurately
- inspection and certification services to maintain market access for NSW primary producers
- investigation of unlicensed/unregistered operations and complaints
- responding to, and investigating foodborne illness outbreaks and pest and disease issues, and assisting in emergency management operations as necessary.

Other priorities in 2017 – 2018 include:



Biosecurity

Peri-urban project (North Coast Piggeries)

Identify and inspect small properties that hold pigs in Northern NSW to measure hobby farmers' knowledge of biosecurity and conduct surveillance for illegal swill feeding practices.

Operation Mary 3.0

Monitor traceability standards and compliance with legislative requirements in saleyards and abattoirs in Northern NSW.

Targeted Apiary Operations

Identify and act upon areas of high non-compliance in relation to notifiable pests and diseases, unregistered bee keepers and bee pollination movements.

Operation Negaban

Assess and evaluate biosecurity risk to surrounding commercial orchards from abandoned/neglected horticultural operations.



System Enhancement

Compliance and Enforcement Systems harmonisation

Revise and update operational procedures to promote consistent application across the BFS compliance team.

Review BFS Policies and Procedures

Review and update BFS compliance policy and procedures in line with the *Biosecurity Act 2015*.

Implementation of Audit Programs

Implement audit programs targeting Exhibited Animals, Non-indigenous Animals, Industrial Hemp, Alkaloid Poppies and ICA/CA.

Exhibited Animals Baseline Program

Implement baseline audit program under the *Exhibited Animals Protection Act 1985* to increase compliance.



Food Safety

Pathogen Reduction

Assess compliance of high risk retail food premises with the use of raw egg foods to decrease salmonella outbreaks.

Retail Deli Investigations

Monitor food safety practices in retail delicatessens in the Sydney Metro area.

Importer and Allergen Awareness

Increase compliance and knowledge of allergen risks and food recall requirements with small to medium food importers.

Food Fraud

Participate in Operation Opson VII with Commonwealth agencies looking at food fraud detection.



Performance Enhancement

Local Land Services Compliance Consistency

Training program implemented and resources developed for LLS staff to achieve consistency across biosecurity regulatory activities.

Biosecurity Act 2015 Training

Authorised Officers from DPI, LLS and LCAs to participate in compliance and enforcement training under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*.

Food Act 2003 Online Training

Develop online food safety modules to help Authorised Officers achieve consistency and knowledge of regulatory activities under the *Food Act 2003*.