

# BIOSECURITY ACT 2015

## Biosecurity Regulation 2017

## Biosecurity (National Livestock Identification System) Regulation 2017

### CATTLE

There are around 5.6 million cattle in NSW, contributing to a national cattle industry worth \$14.3 billion. A number of endemic pests and diseases impact cattle health. Cattle ticks are the most serious external parasite of cattle in Australia. These cause significant economic damage to the beef and dairy industries.

The biosecurity framework and tools safeguard our economy, environment and community.

**This factsheet provides a summary of management arrangements for cattle biosecurity risks in NSW. More detailed information is available in the Biosecurity Regulation 2017 and Biosecurity (National Livestock Identification System) Regulation 2017, Biosecurity Order (Permitted Activities) 2017 and other documents at [dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurityact](http://dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurityact)**



### ! GENERAL BIOSECURITY DUTY

#### ● OUTCOME IS TO MANAGE & CONTROL THE RISK

- Any cattle producer or person working with animals and carriers has a responsibility for managing biosecurity risks that they know about or could reasonably be expected to know about
- Following industry standards, codes and guidelines, requesting or providing a National Cattle Health Declaration are some ways you can discharge your duty
- National Farm Biosecurity Reference Manual - Grazing Livestock Production sets out good biosecurity guidelines

### ! MANDATORY MEASURES

#### ● OUTCOME IS TO MANAGE & CONTROL THE RISK

##### Notifiable pests and diseases

- Duty applies to all dealings with animals and carriers
- Offences apply for failing to meet these obligations
- Duty to notify within one working day of becoming aware of the presence or suspected presence of anaplasmosis, babesiosis, bovine cysticercosis, enzootic bovine leucosis, Johne's disease, cattle tick and trichomoniasis.

##### Cattle Tick

- A person must not import cattle from QLD, NT or WA unless certain conditions are met

##### National Livestock Identification System

- Duty to identify and record the movement of cattle
- A property where cattle are kept must have a property identification code (PIC)

### ! EMERGENCY ORDER

#### ● OUTCOME IS TO CONTAIN & ERADICATE

- Responds to an incursion of a pest or disease that poses a significant biosecurity risk
- Presence of exotic prohibited matter likely to trigger an emergency response. eg. Foot and mouth disease
- Action can be taken regardless of whether the matter is a prohibited matter

## ! PROHIBITED MATTER

### ● OUTCOME IS TO PREVENT ENTRY INTO NSW

- Listed in Schedule 2 of the Biosecurity Act e.g. Foot and mouth disease, Anthrax
- Duty to immediately notify of presence or suspected presence

- Offence to deal with or possess prohibited matter
- Authorised officers may accept a biosecurity undertaking from an owner or issue a biosecurity direction to manage, for example, Anthrax
- Duty not to test, or attempt to test unless certain conditions are met

## DEFINITIONS

### General biosecurity duty

The general biosecurity duty can apply to anyone. It provides that any person who deals with biosecurity matter or a carrier, who knows (or ought reasonably to know) of the biosecurity risk posed (or likely to be posed), has a biosecurity duty to ensure that the risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised – so far as is reasonably practicable.

### Mandatory measures

Mandatory measures are requirements set out in regulation for a person who deals with biosecurity matter or carriers to take specified actions to prevent, eliminate or minimise a biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by the biosecurity matter, carrier or dealing.

### Emergency orders and powers

The Act contains rapid response powers enabling swift and decisive action to be taken in emergency situations. If such action is not taken quickly, highly pathogenic and contagious matter such as highly pathogenic avian influenza, foot and mouth disease, *Phytophthora ramorum* (sudden oak death) or potato cyst nematode could quickly spread and cripple industries with devastating impacts on the economy, environment and community.

If an authorised officer reasonably suspects an emergency is occurring or is imminent, he or she

will be able to activate some limited emergency powers until an emergency order is made by the Secretary or delegate.

An emergency order may prohibit, regulate or control the doing of anything, or require or authorise the doing of anything.

### Prohibited matter

Prohibited matter is biosecurity matter that is listed in Schedule 2 of the Biosecurity Act.

This listed matter is biosecurity matter that could have significant adverse consequences to the economy, environment or community. Examples of prohibited matter include foot and mouth disease, highly pathogenic avian influenza, citrus canker, and parthenium weed. Notification obligations apply with respect to prohibited matter. It is also an offence to deal with prohibited matter.

### Dealing

Dealing is used in the context of 'dealing with' biosecurity matter or a carrier or to 'engage in a dealing'.

A Dealing can include to keep, possess, care for, have custody of, control, produce, manufacture, supply, import, acquire, buy, sell, dispose of, move, release, use, treat, breed, propagate, grow, raise, feed, culture, experiment with, display, enter into an agreement that deals with, agree to deal with, and/or cause or permit a dealing.

For further information about the Act, visit our website or contact us:

W [dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurityact](http://dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurityact)

E [biosecuritylegislation@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:biosecuritylegislation@dpi.nsw.gov.au)