



eQuiNEWS

5 May 2010

What's on?

Protection against another horse disease emergency

Message from Dr Mike Bond Chief Executive Officer Animal Health Australia

Protection against another horse disease emergency

Primary Industries Ministers from the Commonwealth and all of Australia's states and territories have now clearly indicated that they won't support a nationally cost shared response to any exotic horse disease incursion until there is a cost sharing agreement in place. Ministers have set 1 December 2010 as the deadline for the horse industry to reach agreement on a mechanism to allow it to meet its share of response costs.

All the major livestock industries have signed the Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement (EADRA), administered by Animal Health Australia. However to date, no horse industry body has signed the Agreement.

The EADRA guarantees that the Australian Government will underwrite the costs of an emergency response, enabling decisive action to be taken immediately. Such rapid action is critical in the effective control and eradication of an exotic disease – as we saw with equine influenza in 2007. It should be noted that more than a third of the 65 diseases presently listed in the EADRA, can affect horses.

After an emergency response that is managed under the EADRA, the Australian Government allows up to 10 years to repay an industry's share of costs. Some industries have chosen to collect a levy regularly, and use the collected monies to establish a 'fighting fund' that can be used in an emergency but also for other purposes as that industry sees fit.

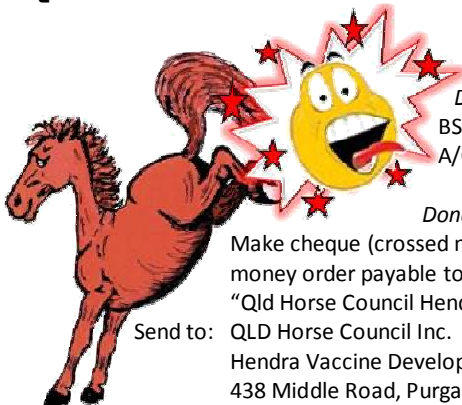
Another option is to establish a 'zero-based' levy arrangement, where no money is collected until an emergency actually occurs. When the emergency response is agreed, the levy is triggered and set to an agreed value. Monies are then collected through the agreed mechanism, and the response costs that are due to the Commonwealth are repaid once the outbreak has been eradicated or otherwise resolved. This option means that until an actual emergency disease incursion occurs, industry pays nothing. When there is an incursion, the Australian Government guarantees that it will meet the response costs immediately, and industry can pay back its debt over time.

There is considerable flexibility as to the method of collecting a levy, and various mechanisms have been suggested. The Australian Government has some guidelines that must be followed, including a requirement for simplicity and ease of collection. While such a collection mechanism(s) should be as fair and equitable as possible, it is generally accepted that whatever the methods used, it will never be possible to 'capture' 100% of horse owners.

Becoming a signatory to the EADRA requires a number of criteria to be met, the most important of which is a 'watertight' arrangement for the debt incurred by the Australian Government on behalf of the affected industries to be repaid within a reasonable time – generally up to 10 years. There are other obligations within the EADRA including the requirement of signatories to demonstrate biosecurity risk minimisation processes; an example would be the *Horse Venue Biosecurity Workbook* which is almost complete.

Dr Mike Bond
Chief Executive Officer, Animal Health Australia
30 April 2010

QHC Hendra Virus Horse Vaccine Development Trust Fund



HOW TO DONATE

Donate by EFT:

BSB No.: 034189; A/C No.: 300490

A/C Name: Qld Horse Council Hendra Vaccine Fund

Or.....

Donate by mail:

Make cheque (crossed not negotiable) or money order payable to "Qld Horse Council Hendra Vaccine Fund"

Send to: QLD Horse Council Inc.

Hendra Vaccine Development Fund
438 Middle Road, Purga QLD 4306

For further info visit www.qldhorsecouncil.com

check for cancellations

QUEENSLAND POLO ASSOCIATION

- 4-May SEQPC Kooralbyn 4 Goal.
- 5-May BIDDPC. Biddaddaba Creek Ladies League.
- 6-May SEQPC Kooralbyn 4 Goal.
admin@queenslandpolo.com.au ph 0458 QPA QLD
- 6-May IPSWICH & ROMA SHOWS
- 6-May **SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**
Recreational Trail Strategy Workshop
Mooloolah Valley Community Centre, 43 Bray Rd
Ph: 5420 8913 ellie.starkey@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au
- 7-May MUNDUBBERA, BARCALDINE & CROWS NEST SHOWS
- 8-May BUDERIM PONY CLUB
Hack Day
- 8-May BARALABA SHOW
- 8-May NORTH QUEENSLAND EQUESTRIAN GROUP
Townsville. NQEG Classic
- 8-May ACDSQB - Cooloola Club
Come and try Day at Wolvi. Ph: 5484 3210
- 8-May PCAQ ZONE 1 - Redlands Pony Club
Zone 1 Dressage & Combined Training
- 8-May QUEENSLAND POLO ASSOCIATION
SEQPC Kooralbyn 4 Goal. ph 0458 QPA QLD
- 9-May MOUNT ISA & DISTRICT PONY CLUB
Open Hack Day
- 9-May NERANG & DISTRICT EQUESTRIAN CLUB
Show Jumping
- 10-May MITCHELL & THEODORE SHOWS
SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL
- 10-May **Recreational Trail Strategy Workshops**
Coolool—Coolool Beach Christian College. C/room P2
- 11-May Cooroy—Uniting Church Hall, 15 Maple St Cooroy
Ph: 5420 8913 ellie.starkey@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au
- 12-May QUEENSLAND POLO ASSOCIATION
BIDDPC Biddaddaba Ck Ladies League ph 0458QPA QLD
- 13-May GYMPIE, LONGREACH & CHARLEVILLE SHOWS
- 14-May BOONAH & CALLIDE VALLEY SHOWS
- 14-May BROOKFIELD SHOW
- 15-May BLACKBUTT SHOW
- 15-May MOUNT ISA & DISTRICT PONY CLUB
Showjumping School. Ph 042 995 3394
- 15-May WARWICK HORSE TRIALS
CIC 3*** ODE. Details www.wht.org.au
- 15-May BIGGENDEN SHOW
- 15-May QUEENSLAND POLO ASSOCIATION
GMVPC Induction Weekend
SEQPC City Auction. ph 0458 QPA QLD
- 15-May FAR NORTH EQUESTRIAN GROUP
Dressage Competition Kerribee Park, Mareeba
- 15-May ACDSQB—Warwick Club
Level 4 CDE Goombungee Ph 4696 7580
- 16-May PCAQ ZONE 2 - Beaudesert Pony Club
Gymkhana
- 16-May SUNSHINE COAST AREA TRAIL & ENDURANCE RIDERS
Navigation ride, Landsborough Ph 0417 645 597.
- 16-May ACDSQB - Jimboomba Club
Show Driving Day Ph 5541 2557



IMPORTANT Hendra virus Seminars

Samford Farmers Hall

Main St Samford
Wed 12 May 7pm

Cost: Donation HeV Vacc Fund
Contact: Samford Valley Vet
Phone: 3289 1322

Peak Crossing Hall

Fassifern St, Peak Crossing
Wed 26 May 6:30 for 7pm

Cost: Donation HeV Vacc Fund
Contact: Linda
Phone: 042 712 5811