

Biosecurity alert

# Hendra virus – information for industry

8 July 2011

## Current Situation

### Hendra virus in South East Queensland

Biosecurity Queensland has quarantined five properties located in the Park Ridge area after a horse died of Hendra virus infection on Monday 4 July.

Three properties in the Beaudesert area and one property at Mt Alford remain under quarantine.

A total of nine properties are under quarantine in Queensland.

All horses on these properties are being monitored on a daily basis. There are two more rounds of testing for Hendra virus to be conducted before quarantine can be lifted.

### Community Engagement

Biosecurity Queensland will be holding more information sessions in south east Queensland to provide horse owners with information to help protect themselves and their horses against Hendra virus.

Community information sessions will be held at Boonah, Kooralbyn, Burpengary and Eatons Hill throughout July.

Go to the [community engagement calendar](#) page on the Biosecurity Queensland website for dates and locations. Please note: due to limited seating, bookings must be made in advance for the sessions held at Burpengary and Eatons Hill.

Community engagement officers from Biosecurity Queensland and Queensland Health will continue to visit a range of locations around the south east to provide information to residents about Hendra virus.

DEEDI has two mobile offices which will be visiting local centres and major events over the coming days.

Go to the [community engagement calendar](#) to find out the locations of where Biosecurity Queensland staff and the DEEDI mobile offices will visit next.

### Movement of horses

The only horse properties that have movement restrictions in place are the nine properties under quarantine. As Hendra virus is not highly contagious, the wider Queensland horse industry is not subject to movement restrictions for Hendra virus.

Although these cases are located in the south east region, all horse owners should be vigilant throughout the year for signs consistent with Hendra virus.

### Best practice – reducing the risk on your horse property

There are a number of measures horse owners can take to reduce the risk of horses becoming infected with Hendra virus.

Ensure that sick horses are isolated from other horses, people and animals until you have obtained a veterinarian's opinion.

Horses should be removed from paddocks where flowering/fruited trees are attracting flying foxes. Horses may be returned after the trees have stopped flowering/fruited and the flying foxes have left.

If it is not possible to remove horses from paddocks, try to temporarily remove your horses during times of peak flying fox activity (usually at dusk and during the night) or fence off access to

trees that are identified as attractive to flying foxes

Horse feed and water containers should be removed from under trees. If possible, place feed and water containers under a shelter.

### **More information**

Notify suspected Hendra virus cases by contacting Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23 (during business hours) or the Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline on 1800 675 888 (24-hour hotline). More information is available at [www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au](http://www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au)

If you have missed any information that has been previously distributed by Biosecurity Queensland, visit the [News and Updates](#) page on the website.

For human related enquiries, contact the Queensland Health Hotline on 13HEALTH (13 43 25 84).

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