



# NATIONAL CATTLE HEALTH DECLARATION EXPLANATORY NOTES

## OVERVIEW

**The Cattle Health Declaration is a legal document. Please complete accurately before signing.**

Cattle Health Declarations are a way for producers to provide information about the health status of the cattle they are selling. Buyers should ask vendors for a Declaration and use the information provided to determine the health risks associated with the animals offered for sale.

Some states require testing or certification additional to that outlined in this document. e.g. Johne's disease (JD) in WA. Please check the entry requirements for any interstate movements at:

[www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/what-we-do/endemic-disease/livestock-movements/](http://www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/what-we-do/endemic-disease/livestock-movements/)

The original is to be attached to the National Vendor Declaration (NVD) form accompanying the cattle, if applicable. A duplicate remains with the vendor; it is recommended the vendor retains a copy of this declaration for seven (7) years.

## QUESTION 3: PESTIVIRUS TESTING

Persistently infected animals can be detected by conducting a pestivirus antigen test. This test only needs to be conducted once in an animal's life. Cattle that test positive in most cases are persistently infected animals. Pestivirus antibody testing may be done to check the pestivirus status of the herd. Contact your veterinarian for assistance in understanding the test results.

## QUESTIONS 4 & 5 – ENZOOTIC BOVINE LEUCOSIS (EBL)

All cattle entering Tasmania must meet at least **ONE** of the following criteria:

- Cattle have been tested for EBL with the ELISA test within 42 days before shipment with negative results and evidence supplied via an attached laboratory report. If samples were pooled, no more than 10 sera or 30 milk samples were combined in each pool. Unweaned calves less than 12-weeks-of-age transported with their dam do not require testing for EBL; **OR**
- Dairy cattle from a registered dairy herd must be accredited as Monitored Negative (MN) or better, according to the national guidelines for EBL Control; **OR**
- Beef or beef-cross breeds must come from herds in Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia (excluding the cattle tick infested area), New South Wales (excluding the former North Coast Livestock Health and Pest Authority District), or Queensland (excluding the cattle tick infested area). The herd of origin must have been in existence for at least three (3) years with no evidence of EBL infection in the last three (3) years.

## QUESTIONS 6, 7 & 8: JOHNE'S DISEASE BEEF CATTLE

**Note: JD is a notifiable disease, so it is important to answer these questions.**

Occurrence of JD refers to clinical disease in the herd or on the property. Clinical disease is an infected animal with chronic diarrhoea and weight-loss that does not respond to treatment.

The **Johne's Beef Assurance Score (J-BAS)** is a tool developed for JD risk profiling. Details are available on the Animal Health Australia website under 'JD in cattle'. The J-BAS is an initial guide and purchasers should ask for more information about JD in the origin herd (see JD in Cattle Biosecurity Checklist on the AHA website under 'JD in cattle'). Transitional arrangements are in place until 30 June 2017. The *National Farm Biosecurity Reference Manual - Grazing Livestock Production* provides a template to use for the property biosecurity plan. All plans should include the JD in Cattle Biosecurity Plan Checklist.

**Check test** – testing of 50 adult animals in the herd (or all eligible animals in a herd if less than 50 adult animals) biased to increase the probability of detecting infection, tested by ELISA, (pooled) faecal culture or (pooled) HT-J faecal PCR.

**Sample test** - screening of the adult herd or a large representative sample of the adult herd by an approved test (ELISA, (pooled) faecal culture or (pooled) HT-J faecal PCR).

## QUESTION 9: JOHNE'S DISEASE DAIRY CATTLE

JD herd status information about Dairy Assurance Score calculation is available at [www.dairyaustralia.com.au/bjd](http://www.dairyaustralia.com.au/bjd)

## QUESTION 10 & 11: TREATMENTS & VACCINATIONS

Provide details on any cattle treatments and vaccinations within the last six (6) months.

Some manufacturers include more than one of the categories listed in the same vaccine, known as a combination vaccine. If you use a combination vaccine, each agent(s), as appropriate, should be detailed.

For vaccinations to be current, you must have followed the manufacturer's recommendation for vaccination. Typically, young animals or first time vaccinated animals need two (2) doses, followed by annual boosters. As variations to this general rule do occur (e.g. Silirum is given once only), you must use the manufacturer's recommendations.

At the date the declaration is made and as a result of the vaccination(s) given, the animals are considered protected from the diseases marked as treated.

## DECLARATION

This section must only be completed by the owner or person responsible for the husbandry of the cattle in the consignment.