

Priority diseases of cattle for Northern Australia, November 2017

In 2017 the NABS Working Group shortlisted diseases that are a **surveillance priority for Northern Australia** given their potential impact on livestock industries – and the beef cattle industry in particular.

2017 priority diseases	Species affected*	Cattle	And watch for...	Zoonoses
FMD viral infection	Multi	✓	pigs (eg peri-urban)	
Screw-worm Fly	Multi	✓		✓
Lumpy Skin Disease	Cattle	✓		
Rift Valley Fever	Multi	✓	and buffalo, camels	✓
Haemorrhagic Septicaemia	Cattle	✓		
Bluetongue (exotic serotypes)	Multi	✓	disease in sheep	
Avian Influenza (highly pathogenic)	Avian		wild birds	
Aujesky's disease	Multi	✓	primarily pigs	
Rabies	Multi	✓		✓
Hendra	Multi		primarily bats, horses	✓
Surra	Multi	✓	and buffalo, camels	
Newcastle Disease	Avian		wild birds	
Glanders	Multi		esp donkeys, camels	

* As per the OIE website <http://www.oie.int/en/animal-health-in-the-world/oie-listed-diseases-2018/>

All of these priority diseases are Emergency Animal Diseases.

Vets are asked to:

- Notify the authorities immediately if they suspect an EAD (via the hotline or state government vet)
- Send samples for disease exclusion testing from cases clinically similar to these priority diseases.

The priority disease list provides a Northern Australia perspective for vets on the surveillance frontline. It is based on a 2017 risk assessment that considered several factors including: the likelihood of the disease or pest entering, establishing and spreading, and the consequence for the environment and economy.

Other EADs and Notifiable Diseases should still be acted on when encountered.