

# Cattle skin survey 2023-2024

## Instructions for vets



Northern Australia Biosecurity Surveillance network

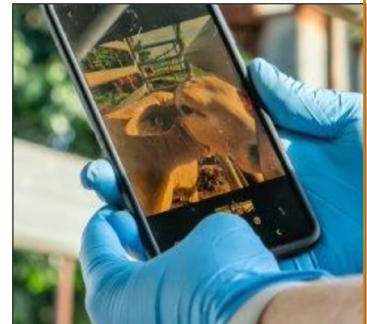
### The survey

NABSnet practitioners are invited to participate in a project to sample cattle skin lesions that they see during routine work in 2023 and 2024 – not LSD suspect cases, but any other skin diseases. This helps describe the typical range of skin conditions in northern Australia and contributes to the ‘evidence of absence’ of LSD. It is also an opportunity to remind people who work with cattle to watch for skin lesions. Each property submission can be invoiced through NABSnet for \$500 + freight where relevant.

Please note any suspect LSD lesions should be treated as EAD-urgent.

### The process

- Observe cattle for skin lesions during routine cattle work on property.
- Draft up to 2 affected animals with the clinical condition for sampling.
  - » Take photos of the lesions, this is an important and required step.
  - » Email to the lab OR **text photos to Teagan Fitzwater 0466 614 706**, NABSnet project manager.
  - » Collect 2 biopsies from each animal: a formalin fixed & fresh sample (technique demonstrated on [NTG's skin biopsy video](#)).
  - » If in the NT or QLD, collect Serum and EDTA blood from each animal if possible (not critical).
- Repeat for each different clinical condition: eg 2 animals with Dermatophilus, 2 with papillomas etc.
- Fill in **two submission forms** for the samples: the State Laboratory submission AND the NABSnet Cattle Skin survey form (download at [nabsnet.com.au/project/skin-survey/](https://nabsnet.com.au/project/skin-survey/)).
- Pack the samples and send to the state laboratory with forms to arrive the next day.
- **Notify Kevin 0427 433 244** that samples have been sent and get the OK to send an invoice.
- Once approved **send invoice** (\$500 + GST) to [NABS@aff.gov.au](mailto:NABS@aff.gov.au), Attn: Teagan Fitzwater.
- Report the results to the property owner once received (no written report needed).



Any questions - talk to Kevin or Teagan



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Teagan Fitzwater  
0466 614 706  
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If you suspect an EXOTIC DISEASE call 1800 675 888