

Cattle skin survey 2024-2025

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 2024 and 2025 – 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.

All photos and information reported by the project will be de-identified and untraceable.

Each property submission can be invoiced through NABSnet for \$600 + GST + 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 photos to the lab (see address below) AND text to Teagan Fitzwater 0466 614 706.**
 - » Collect 2 biopsies from each animal: a formalin fixed & fresh sample (technique demonstrated on [NTG's skin biopsy video](#)).
 - » 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/2024-2025-cattle-skin-survey/).
- Pack the samples and send to the state laboratory with forms to arrive the next day.
- Once approved **send invoice** (\$600 + GST) to NABS@aff.gov.au, Attn: Teagan Fitzwater.
- Report the results to the property owner and Teagan once received from the lab.



Email images to your state lab :

NT: BVL.DITT@nt.gov.au

QLD: bslclo@daf.qld.gov.au

WA: DDLs@dpird.wa.gov.au

Any questions - talk to:

Teagan Fitzwater

NABSnet project manager

0466 614 706

NABS@aff.gov.au



If you suspect an EXOTIC DISEASE call 1800 675 888

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