

FOR INFORMATION

NAHIP Advisory Committee Virtual Meeting Oct 2024

Agenda Item 1.1

Last updated: **12 October 2024**

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NAHIP COORDINATOR REPORT 2023-24 - QUEENSLAND**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the NAHIP Advisory Committee NOTE:
 - a. This report on NAHIP activities undertaken by the Queensland Department of Agriculture & Fisheries (DAF) during the 2023-24 financial year.
 - b. As of May 2024, NSDIP coordinator responsibilities have been assigned to Selina Ossedryver.
 - c. Queensland remains committed to participating in the NAHIP Data Quality subgroup to facilitate improvement in consistency of data reporting, interpretation of data and data standards.
 - d. Queensland welcomes the opportunity to continue to work with AHA, DAFF, PHA and other jurisdictions with the aim of improving NAHIP, particularly regarding data standards, data sharing agreements and uploading and viewing of data (e.g. AUSPestCheck, DMU policies, MoU).

BACKGROUND

2. Queensland collects, collates and uploads data quarterly into NAHIP, provides report summaries, contributes towards the publications of Animal Health Surveillance Quarterly (AHSQ) and Animal Health in Australia (AHIA), and participates on the NAHIP advisory committee, as per ongoing NAHIP responsibilities.
3. This report discusses NAHIP activities undertaken by Queensland during the 2023-24 financial year.

DISCUSSION

4. During the 2023-24 financial year, Queensland's Biosecurity Sciences Laboratory (BSL) received a total of **3,928** submissions for which animal, location, epidemiological and laboratory testing data formed the bulk of Qld's contribution to NAHIP. Most (2,557; 65%) of these submissions were submitted under Queensland's passive surveillance (disease investigation) program (Figure 1), including those where testing was supported (partly funded) by the NSDIP program.

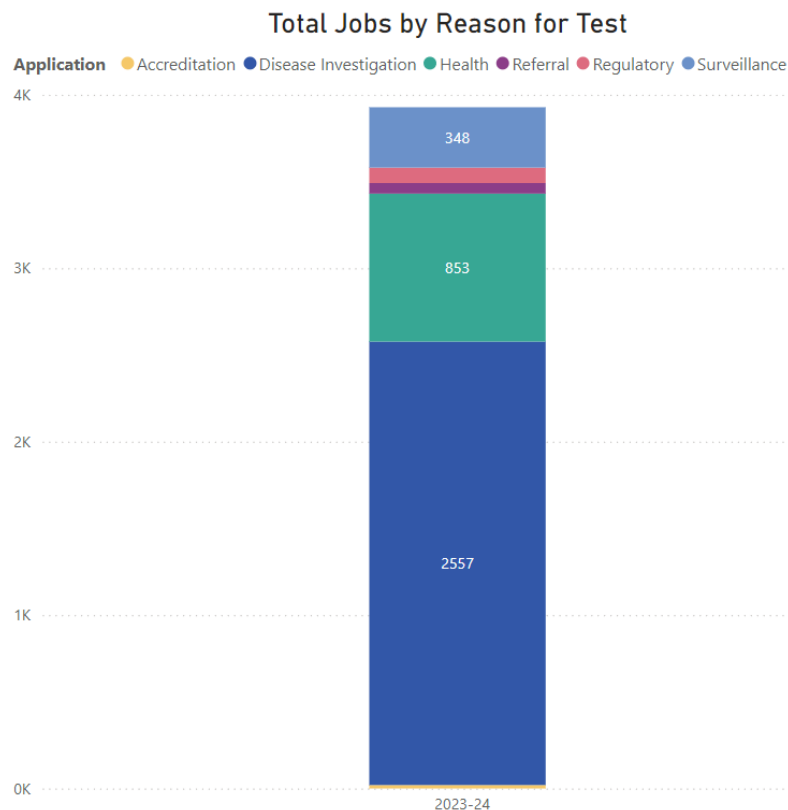


Figure 1 - Terrestrial animal (inc. bee) submissions relevant to NAHIS reporting, by reason.

5. These 2,557 disease investigations submissions to BSL, led to a total of **1,785** entries in NAHIP (1,562 in the NNDI tab and 223 across ATX2, AVI1, BRA3, EHV1, EIA1 and POU1 tabs). Of these, 91 submissions returned positive results – for American & European foulbrood in honeybees and *B. suis* and *E. canis* in dogs). In addition, Qld uploaded **679** entries for health and/or export testing of Qld animals conducted across the national laboratory network. A summary of Queensland's cases uploaded to NAHIS for the 2023-24 financial year appears in Attachment A.
6. During 2023-24 Queensland submitted two case reports for the State and Territory Report within AHSQ.
 - a. *Congenital tremors in piglets associated with atypical porcine pestivirus*; E Lee and S Ossedryver
Volume 28, Issue 3, pp 15-16
 - b. *Emergency exclusion of avian influenza and Newcastle disease in poultry as the cause of mass mortality; botulism confirmed*; S Ossedryver
Volume 29, Issue 2, TBA
7. During 2023-24 Queensland submitted one feature article within AHSQ.
 - a. *Private veterinary practitioner refresher training in Queensland – Significant Disease Investigations and Emergency Animal Diseases*; J Mollinger, S Ossedryver and D Thomson
Volume 28, Issue 4, pp 7-8
8. In 2023-24 Queensland also contributing a short article for inclusion in AHIA.
 - a. *Ehrlichiosis*; in 2.3 Significant disease incidents and status changes of nationally notifiable terrestrial animal diseases in 2023
AHIA Annual Report 2023, pp 30
9. Queensland remains committed to actively participating in the NAHIP Data Quality subgroup to facilitate improvement in consistency of data reporting, interpretation of data and data standards.
 - a. In March 2024, a joint SCAHLS-NAHIP data quality workshop was held in conjunction with the SCAHLS 48 face-to-face meeting. Qld authored the OOS briefing paper for members and

attended the workshop in person. Qld thanks AHA and virtual attendees from other jurisdictions for their valuable input at this meeting.

- b. Further discussion of the syndrome list occurred at SCAHLS 49 face-to-face meeting resulting in the action item: *QLD to facilitate a workshop for veterinary pathologists from SCAHLS organisations to develop a revised syndrome list, including a definition of each syndrome.*
10. Queensland welcomes the opportunity to continue to work with AHA, DAFF, PHA and other jurisdictions with the aim of improving NAHIP, particularly regarding data standards, data sharing agreements and uploading and viewing of data (e.g., AUSPestCheck, DMU policies and MoU).
11. Phase 2 of an ICT reporting enhancement project on improvements in extracting surveillance data for NAHIP data from our Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) occurred in 2023-24. This work is in preparation to moving NAHIP reporting to AUSPestCheck (APC) as well as improving laboratory data retrieval during responses.
12. The collection, collation and checking of data for uploading to NAHIS remains tedious despite our pursuit of improvements in automated extraction of such data from our Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) with the Queensland coordinator contributing a significant proportion of FTE to this task. This effort reflects a considerable in-kind contribution by Queensland to meet the responsibilities of this program.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

13. The provision of funds via the APC project has provided a valuable contribution towards greater automation of data collation, thereby reducing the burden on the coordinator. Qld thanks DAFF and PHA for this opportunity.

CONSULTATION/COMMUNICATION

14. Thorough consultation has taken place between SCAHLS and NAHIP members in relation to revision of the national syndrome list. Implementation of a revised list for NAHIS reporting is pending SCAHLS activities.

NEXT STEPS/ACTIONS

15. Queensland is looking forward to an update from AHA on the program's DMU policies and overarching MoU.
16. The Qld NAHIP (and NSDIP) coordinator will continue to work with the Qld SCAHLS member to progress revision of the national syndrome list with the understanding that the newly SCAHLS-approved list will be included in the updated data standards for the NAHIS and NDSI programs.
17. Qld is looking forward to working with other members of the NAHIP data quality subgroup following completion of action item 7 from the May 2024 AC meeting (DAFF to advise on priority diseases and hosts where additional negative case definitions would be valuable and AHA to facilitate looking at how that data can be incorporated into the national database system).

Attachment A: *Summary of NAHIS – Qld 2023-24*

FEEDBACK

18. Queensland provides the following responses regarding the performance of the NAHIP over the 2023-24 year and to offer feedback and suggested changes for continual improvement.

Q1 My organisation's needs and expectations of the NAHIP are being met.				
Strongly agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<i>Please explain your answer, including any suggested changes:</i> More information and analysis could be provided about what NNDs detections/exclusions are being reported, in what numbers, by each jurisdiction and relative to each jurisdictions trade animal population, with assessment of how well or not the data sets meet national needs and what gaps are evident. Such information would allow the NAHIP committee, CVOs, and AHC to critically assess the adequacy and efficiency of surveillance efforts, to consider how gaps and risks might be addressed, what additional data should be prioritised. Feedback on Qld's expectations of a well-performing NAHIS is provided further in answer to Q 2 – 4 below.				

Q2 My organisation is satisfied that the outputs of NAHIP, such as the Animal Health in Australia report are Animal Health Surveillance Quarterly, are credible and robust.				
Strongly agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<i>Please explain your answer, including any suggested changes:</i> AHiA – This publication is primarily used by DAFF to maintain/expand/regain market access. Queensland is satisfied that AHiA is credible to the extent that DAFF considers it fit for purpose. Improvements are expected, pending the outcome of 2024 AC meeting action item 17 (DAFF to confirm diseases, markets or populations that are a priority for trading partners and AHA to mock up what this data would look like on a summary page). Animal Health Surveillance Quarterly – Queensland thanks AHA for an update on report analytics and readership of AHSQ provided at the 2024 AC meeting and looks forward to additional information being made available to the committee in future reports. The data contained in these publications is only as good as the data entered into NAHIS and Queensland welcomes the opportunity to work with AC members on data quality to ensure all data uploaded by jurisdictions is accurate and comparable. Credibility of the summary data is dependent on the accuracy and consistency of the data. The lack of clear case definitions and reporting criteria and different reporting protocols across jurisdictions raises concerns whether it is comparable and nationally uniform. Further work by the data quality subgroup with guidance from DAFF and implementation of improved DMU policies would alleviate this concern.				

Q3 The format and protocols in place for uploading and transferring national surveillance data are fit for purpose.				
Strongly agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<i>Please explain your answer, including any suggested changes:</i> The collection, collection and checking of data for uploading to NAHIS remains onerous despite our pursuit of improvements in automated extraction of such data from our Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS). Delay in progressing the DMU policy and implementation of APC has meant there has been limited progress on automation for NAHIP data upload.				

Furthermore, there is uncertainty regarding the reporting criteria for some notifiable disease investigations. Progress on case definitions and reporting criteria for some NND exclusions would alleviate this confusion.

Q4 NAHIP satisfies national surveillance data and reporting requirements. (Please outline any requirements not being met).				
Strongly agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<i>Please explain your answer, including any suggested changes:</i> Queensland acknowledges the need for a system to facilitate meeting its obligation to national animal health information reporting; however, guidance at the national level is required to ensure that the inputs and outputs of the current and future reporting system(s) meet the national surveillance data and reporting requirements.				

Attachment A: Summary of NAHIS – Qld 2023-24

NAHIS reporting 2023-2024	# submissions		
National notifiable disease investigations (NNDI)	negative	positive	total
Anatid herpesvirus-1	1		1
Bluetongue - clinical disease	11		11
Duck virus hepatitis	1		1
Infection of bees with <i>Melissococcus plutonius</i> (European foulbrood)	45	17	62
Infection of bees with <i>Paenibacillus larvae</i> (American foulbrood)	39	23	62
Infection with African horse sickness virus	29		29
Infection with African swine fever virus	23		23
Infection with Aujeszky's disease virus (pseudorabies virus)	8		8
Infection with Australian bat lyssavirus	38		38
Infection with bovine leukaemia virus (enzootic bovine leucosis)	4		4
Infection with bovine virus diarrhoea virus (type 2)	248		248
Infection with <i>Brucella canis</i>	36		36
Infection with <i>Brucella melitensis</i>	1		1
Infection with <i>Brucella suis</i>	160	21	181
Infection with Bungowannah virus	1		1
Infection with <i>Chlamydia abortus</i> (enzootic abortion of ewes, ovine chlamydiosis)	11		11
Infection with classical swine fever virus	22		22
Infection with eastern, western or Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis viruses	34		34
Infection with <i>Ehrlichia canis</i> (Ehrlichiosis)	129	30	159
Infection with foot and mouth disease virus	17		17
Infection with Hendra virus	453		453
Infection with influenza A viruses in swine	11		11
Infection with Japanese encephalitis virus	25		25
Infection with lumpy skin disease virus	57		57
Infection with <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>	1		1
Infection with Nipah virus	1		1
Infection with porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus	5		5
Infection with Rift Valley fever virus	1		1
Infection with <i>Salmonella enteritidis</i> in poultry	9		9
Infection with <i>Theileria parva</i> (East Coast fever) or <i>T. annulata</i> (Mediterranean theileriosis)	1		1
Infection with <i>Trypanosoma evansi</i> (surra)	1		1
Infection with vesicular stomatitis virus	11		11
Paratuberculosis - Johne's disease	25		25
Teschevirus encephalomyelitis	2		2
West Nile Virus (clinical disease)	10		10
SUB-TOTAL	1471	91	1562
Other disease investigations			
Anthrax (ATX2)	9		9
Avian influenza (AVI1 & POU1)	59		59
Brucellosis (BRA3)	14		14
Equine herpesvirus (EHV1)	72		72
Equine infectious anaemia (EIA1)	8		8
Newcastle disease (AVI1 & POU1)	61		61
SUB-TOTAL	223	0	223
Other - health/export submissions			
Avian influenza (AVI1)	13		13
Brucellosis (BRA2)	67		67
Enzootic bovine leucosis (EBL2)	117		117
Equine herpesvirus (EHV1)	19		19
Equine infectious anaemia (EIA1)	276		276
Equine viral arteritis (EVA1)	176		176
Newcastle disease (AVI1)	11		11
SUB-TOTAL	679	0	679
GRAND TOTAL	2373	91	4928