

FOR INFORMATION

NSDIP Advisory Committee Annual Meeting 2023

Agenda Item 1

Last updated: 11th August 2023

Prepared by D. Miller

NSDIP – STATE COORDINATOR REPORT, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the NSDIP Advisory Committee **NOTE:**
 - a. The status of the National Significant Disease Investigation Program (NSDIP) in South Australia for the financial year 2022-23.

BACKGROUND

2. As reported in the 2023 Annual NSDIP Coordinators Report, South Australia utilises the funding from the National Significant Disease Investigation Program (NSDIP) to enhance surveillance capacity within the state. This is achieved through providing subsidies to private veterinarians to carry out disease investigations, and for associated laboratory fees, in livestock with clinical signs consistent with a notifiable disease.

DISCUSSION

1. From 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023, 334 disease investigations for cattle, sheep, goats and pigs were approved by PIRSA. Out of these 334, 20 were approved for the NSDIP subsidy. Most of these investigations were for cattle and sheep (Table 1). Table 2 shows the syndromes identified in the South Australian submissions. Although the private practitioners are happy to utilise Significant Disease Investigation (SDI) program, the main issue that seems to occur is invoicing PIRSA for the subsidy. An online system for invoicing PIRSA has been established for the private practitioners, some who use it well and others to a lesser degree.

Table 1.

SPECIES	TOTAL NUMBER OF INVESTIGATIONS	NSDIP INVESTIGATIONS
CATTLE	106	7
SHEEP	188	10
GOATS	17	1
PIGS	23	2
TOTAL	334	20

Table 2.

SYNDROME	NUMBER OF INVESTIGATIONS
SUDDEN DEATH	4
SKIN LESIONS	3
FOUND DEAD	2
ABORTION/STILLBIRTH	2
NERVOUS SIGNS	2
RESPIRATORY SIGNS	2
ACUTE FEBRILE DISEASE	1
LAMENESS	1
DIARRHOEA	1
ORAL LESIONS OR SALIVATION	1
NO SUITABLE SYNDROME	1

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- South Australia was allocated \$18,386 for the 2022/23 budget, all of which was utilised through the 20 disease investigations described above.

FEEDBACK

- Feedback on the performance of NSDIP over the 2022-23 financial year is as indicated below.

Q1 My organisation's needs and expectations of the NSDIP are being met.				
Strongly agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Please explain your answer, including any suggested changes:				
NSDIP enhances the disease surveillance capacity of animal health in South Australia to support disease investigations carried out by private veterinarians.				

Q2 The National Significant Disease Investigation Program has provided opportunities to private veterinarians for gaining the necessary knowledge and skills to investigate and report on disease events.				
Strongly agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Please explain your answer, including any suggested changes:				
The NSDIP funding increases opportunity for engagement with private veterinarians with government animal health services and allows private veterinarians to thoroughly investigate cases of disease that may otherwise not have been fully investigated due to the lack of funding.				

Q3	The National Significant Disease Investigation Program has helped to improve the level of notifiable disease investigations through effective engagement with private veterinarians and assisting in funding investigations that may not have progressed otherwise.			
Strongly agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Please explain your answer, including any suggested changes: As described above, NSDIP allows private veterinarians to investigate cases of disease that may otherwise not have been fully investigated due to the lack of funds.				