

FOR INFORMATION

NSDIP Advisory Committee Teleconference Meeting 2023

Agenda Item 1

Last updated: **28 August 2023**

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NATIONAL SIGNIFICANT DISEASE INVESTIGATION PROGRAM (NSDIP) REPORT FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIA 01-07-2022 TO 30-06-2023**RECOMMENDATION**

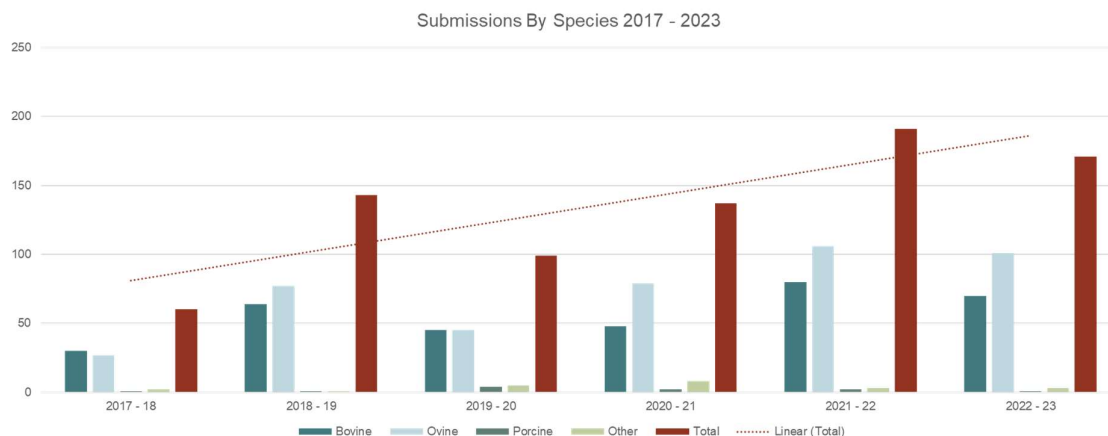
That the NSDIP Advisory Committee NOTE and ACCEPT the information contained in the Western Australia report

BACKGROUND

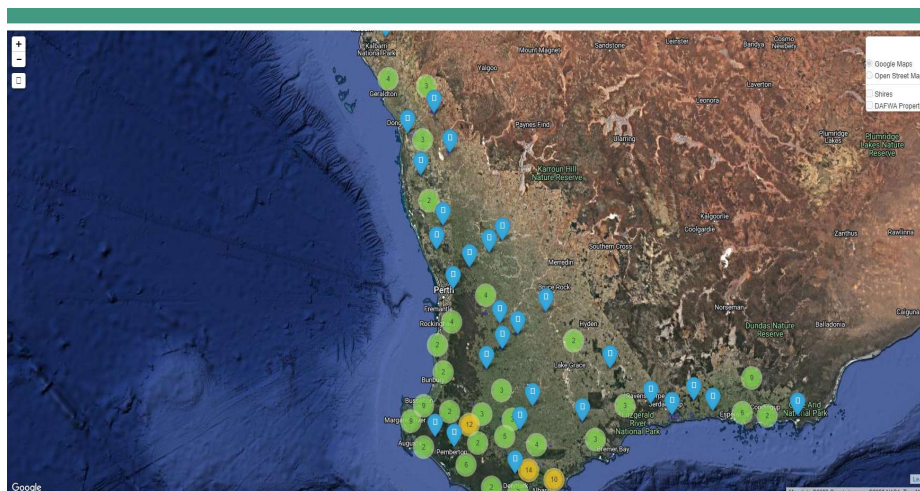
1. The Western Australian Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) values a strong relationship with rural private veterinarians to assist with the reporting and investigation of significant livestock disease events to support early detection of a notifiable disease and provide evidence of absence of trade sensitive diseases. The NSDIP is a contributing funding source for disease investigations in WA, DPIRD uses all funds to provide diagnostic testing and financial subsidies to private veterinary practitioners to investigate cases of significant disease in livestock.

DISCUSSION

2. In 2022/23, At total of 170 cases were accepted for a subsidised disease investigation. NSDIP provided funding support for 9 of these cases.
3. A total of 27 veterinary businesses submitted cases. Of the 170 investigations 62 cases were syndromically consistent with a nationally notifiable disease and exclusion testing performed.
4. Additionally, DPIRD provided diagnostic kits for Foot and mouth disease, Japanese Encephalitis and lumpy skin disease to veterinarians and introduced some modified sampling protocols for these specific diseases providing a sampling subsidy in the absence of a post mortem. These were:
 - Samples of blood, vesicle swabs in viral transport medium, and epithelial tags from cases in cattle sheep and pigs with lameness and lesions on the coronary band nose or mouth for vesicular disease testing.
 - Skin biopsies fresh and fixed for lumpy skin disease testing.
 - Paired serum samples, two weeks apart, from horses with neurological disease when seeking additional information on presence or absence of Japanese encephalitis virus.



The trendline for numbers of subsidised disease investigations submitted in Western Australian line continues to be upwards. The program demonstrates excellent geographic reach:



(Note – North Western WA is serviced by the NABS program).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- The total cost of significant disease investigations where private veterinary practitioners received a subsidy for collecting the samples in WA during 2022-23 incurred a cost of \$292,572. In total, veterinarians were paid \$61,614 in subsidies and the subsidised laboratory fees for these investigations was \$231,138.

NSDIP supported funding for 9 of the 170 cases: the subsidy from AHA totaled \$18,356. These cases were entered into NSDIP. This accounted for ~6% of WA DPIRD's expenditure for significant livestock disease investigation where private vets received subsidies for sample collection. National funding was not used for the modified submissions for FMD, JEV and LSD.

FEEDBACK

In the absence of increased funding Nationally, DPIRD continues to subsidise the program using State funds.