

FOR INFORMATION

NSDIP Advisory Committee Annual Meeting Oct 2024

Agenda Item 2.1

Last updated: 8 October 2024

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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 2023-24.

BACKGROUND

2. As reported in the 2023 Annual NSDIP Coordinators Report, South Australia (SA) 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

3. From 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024, 309 disease investigations for cattle, sheep and alpacas were approved by the Department of Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA). Out of these 309, 13 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 SA submissions. Although the private veterinarians are generally supportive of utilising the Significant Disease Investigation (SDI) program, invoicing PIRSA for the subsidy can impede use. Accordingly, an online system for invoicing PIRSA has been established for the private veterinarians, some who use it well and others to a lesser degree.

Table 1.

SPECIES	TOTAL NUMBER OF INVESTIGATIONS	NSDIP INVESTIGATIONS
CATTLE	95	5
SHEEP	213	7
ALPACA	1	1
TOTAL	309	13

Table 2.

SYNDROME	NUMBER OF INVESTIGATIONS
NERVOUS SIGNS	3
SUDDEN DEATH	2
ABORTION/STILLBIRTH	2
SKIN LESIONS	1
FOUND DEAD	1
ORAL LESIONS OR SALIVATION	1
WEAKNESS/DEPRESSION	1
PRODUCTION DROP INCLUDING MASTITIS	1
CIRCULATORY/ANAEMIA/OEDEMA	1

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- SA was allocated \$18,846 for the 2023/24 budget, all of which was utilised through the 13 disease investigations described above.

FEEDBACK

- Feedback on the performance of NSDIP over the 2023-24 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 SA 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 funding.				