

FOR INFORMATION

NAHIP Advisory Committee Virtual Meeting Oct 2025

Agenda Item 1.1

Last updated: **13 October 2025**

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NAHIP COORDINATOR REPORT 2024-25 - QUEENSLAND**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the NAHIP Advisory Committee NOTE:
 - a. This report on NAHIP activities undertaken by the Queensland Department of Primary Industries (DPI) during the 2024-25 financial year.
 - b. Queensland acknowledges the great work of Animal Health Australia and the committee to finalise the NAHIP Data Management & Use (DMU) policy and NNDI workbook for reporting beginning Q1 2025.
 - c. Substantial progress in the review of the National Syndrome List (SCAHL50 action item 2) has taken place. SCAHLS has agreed to circulate the revised list to the national laboratory network and Animal Health Australia once endorsed.
 - d. Queensland remains committed to improvement in consistency of data reporting, interpretation of data and data quality and would like to nominate to participate in the NAHIP Data Quality subgroup – to look at case definitions for *Brucella suis*, BVDV and Johne's disease.

BACKGROUND

2. Queensland collects, collates and uploads data quarterly into NAHIS, 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. A change in the reporting scope and criteria occurred from January 2025, with the finalisation of the NAHIP DMU and updated workbook. Feedback on the updated data reporting was provided by Queensland at the May 2025 NAHIP meeting in Canberra.
4. This report discusses NAHIP activities undertaken by Queensland during the 2024-25 financial year.

DISCUSSION

5. During the 2024-25 financial year, Queensland's Biosecurity Sciences Laboratory (BSL) received a total of **4,250** submissions (4,061 excluding aquatic and non-animal species).
 - a. Most (2,250; 55%) of these submissions were accepted under BSL's specimen receipt policy as passive surveillance (Reason = *disease investigation*) testing ([Figure 1](#)).
 - b. Diagnostic testing for all disease investigations, as well as some other categories of testing – for example: TSE surveillance (46), varroa mite surveillance (259), wild bird avian influenza surveillance (27), cattle tick (113) and acaricide resistance surveillance (54) – to exclude prohibited, restricted or regulated matter, is conducted at no charge to the submitter through full fee subsidisation by the Queensland DPI and/or supported (funded or partly funded) by a national surveillance program such as NSDIP, NTSESP or NAIWBP.

- c. 57 submissions to BSL were referred from private or interstate laboratories. A large proportion of this referral testing is for exclusion of a nationally notifiable disease (NND) in an animal in Queensland, and in these cases this testing may also subsidised.

Total Jobs by Reason for Test

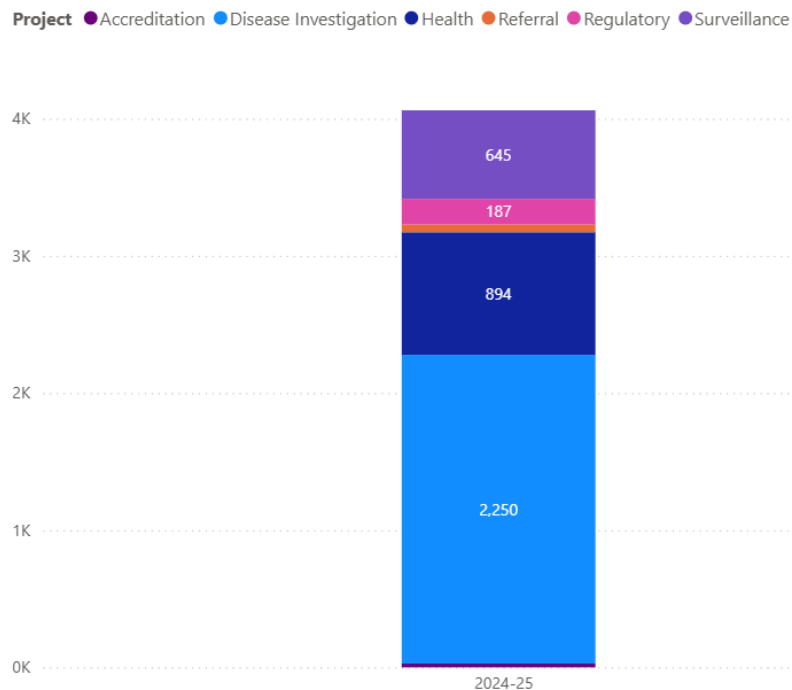


Figure 1 - Terrestrial animal (inc. bee) submissions received by BSL in 2024-25, by reason.

6. Laboratory submissions to BSL, led to a total of **1,826** entries being uploaded to NAHIS. A summary of Queensland's uploaded data for the 2024-25 financial year appears in [Attachment A](#). This included:
- 1,522** disease investigation entries in the NNDI (old and new) project.
 - 129** disease investigation entries across ATX2, AVI1, BRA2, BRA3, EHV1, EIA1, EVA1 and POU1 projects. This includes 81 records in AVI1 and POU1 where both avian influenza and Newcastle disease were excluded.
 - 175** entries for health and/or export testing of Qld animals conducted across the national laboratory network. This includes 2 records in AVI1 and POU1 in which testing for both avian influenza and Newcastle disease was carried out.
 - Of the total 1,651 disease investigations that included testing for a nationally notifiable disease, **92** returned **positive** results ([Figure 2](#)). This included the first detection of *V. destructor* and the re-emergence of Japanese encephalitis virus in pigs.

POSITIVE NNDIs	Species					
Disease	Bees	Cattle	Chicken	Dog	Pig	Grand Total
Infection of bees with <i>Paenibacillus</i> larvae (American foulbrood)	19					19
Infection with <i>Babesia</i> bovis, <i>B. bigemina</i> or <i>B. divergens</i> (bovine babesiosis) in tick free areas		4				4
Infection with <i>Brucella suis</i>				26		26
Infection with Japanese encephalitis virus					17	17
Infection with <i>Mycobacterium avium</i> (avian tuberculosis) in birds			1			1
Infection with <i>Salmonella enteritidis</i> in poultry			2			2
Infestation of bees with <i>Varroa destructor</i> or <i>V. jacobsoni</i> (Varroosis)	23					23
Grand Total	42	4	3	26	17	92

Figure 2 - Positive NNDIs during 2024-25, by disease.

7. As per the updated DMU, data pertaining to health/export testing ceased being uploaded at the end of 2024. While entries for disease investigations for anthrax, avian influenza, Newcastle diseases, bovine

- brucellosis, equine herpesvirus, equine infectious anaemia and equine viral arteritis were moved to reporting in the new NNDI project worksheet at the beginning of 2025.
8. During 2024-25 Queensland submitted a case report for the State and Territory Report within AHSQ.
 - a. *Avian mycobacteriosis in a wildlife park*; E Lee and S Ossedryver
AHSQ Volume 29, Issue 4, pp 20-21
 9. In 2024-25 Queensland also co-authored a case report that appeared in Wildlife Health Australia's (WHA) section within AHSQ.
 - a. *Endemic leishmaniasis detected in captive quokkas in Queensland*;
AHSQ Volume 29, Issue 4, pp 11-12
 10. 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. Presently this work has been focused on review of the National Syndrome List.
 - a. In May 2024, Queensland authored an OOS briefing paper (SCAHL549-OOS02) recommending that SCAHLS:
 - i. **AGREES** to review the SCAHLS syndrome list (2013)
 - ii. **AGREES** to circulate a revised SCAHLS syndrome list once endorsed to the national laboratory network and Animal Health Australia to facilitate national consistency.
 - b. Following the joint SCAHLS-NAHIP Data Standards workshop and OOS paper in 2024, discussion of the syndrome list occurred at SCAHLS 49 and 50 face-to-face meetings 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.*
 - c. Chaired by the Queensland NAHIP coordinator, and including a representative from each jurisdiction and WHA, the syndrome list review group met on three occasions (24/07/25, 14/08/25, and 21/08/25), with additional out-of-session emails. Following the third meeting a draft document including the purpose, aims and the proposed syndrome list (including definitions/examples of signs) was drafted by the working group chair and circulated to all members for final internal consultation and feedback. The group's final meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 14 October.
 - d. It is anticipated that the draft update National Syndrome List will be provided to SCAHLS by November 2025, for their consideration.
 11. Phase 2 of an ICT project in Queensland - aimed at improving extraction of surveillance data from our Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS), initially in preparation for reporting into AUSPestCheck (APC) - was extended into 2024-25 and outputs modified to suit the new NAHIP DMU policy and accompanying workbook. This work lays the foundation for transitioning NAHIP reporting to a semi-automated process, while also enhancing laboratory data visualisation and retrieval during response activities.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

12. Funding provided through the APC project has significantly advanced the automation of data extraction and validation, easing the workload for staff. Queensland thanks DAFF for this funding.
13. As the data collection and collation ICT project is nearing completion, it is anticipated that by the time Q4 2025 reporting is due, Queensland's reliance on in-kind human resources, and subsequent financial burden, to fulfil its NAHIP reporting obligations will be significantly reduced.

CONSULTATION/COMMUNICATION

14. As per May 2025 meeting action item 7, the Queensland NAHIP coordinator (and review group chair) provided names of all the jurisdictional National Syndrome List review group members to NAHIP members and vice versa. This allowed for effective internal consultation to occur. Additionally, the NT and WHA NAHIP representatives were active members of the syndrome list review group.

15. Following agreement at the NAHIP meeting in May that representatives would cease responsibility for reporting on numbers of ovine brucellosis (OB) accredited flocks, Queensland undertook internal consultation to ensure the appropriate staff responsible for OB accreditation were aware of the implications of the NAHIP committee's decision.

NEXT STEPS/ACTIONS

16. The Queensland NAHIP (and NSDIP) coordinator will continue to work with the Qld SCAHLS member to progress revision of the national syndrome list with the hope that the newly SCAHLS-approved list will be included in the updated data standards for the NAHIS and NDSI programs in early 2026.
17. Queensland is looking forward to working with other members of the NAHIP data quality subgroup to progress work on understanding jurisdictional differences, initially for *Brucella suis*, BVDV and Johne's disease.

Attachment A: Summary of NAHIS – Qld 2024-25

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 national trends in NNDs detections/exclusions. 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. Animal Health Surveillance Quarterly – Queensland thanks AHA for an update on report analytics and readership of AHSQ provided at the 2025 AC meeting. Work done over the last 12-24 months to finalise the NAHIP DMU and workbook has resulted in significant improvements in data standards, however credibility and comparative analysis of the 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 should help alleviate these concerns.				

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> Finalisation and implementation of the DMU as well as work carried out in Qld using APC funding, has created marked improvements in the collection, collection and checking of data for uploading to NAHIS. However, there remains some uncertainty regarding the reporting criteria for some notifiable disease investigations. Progress on case definitions 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 and acknowledges recent feedback from DAFF supports that NAHIP satisfies their needs for international reporting; however, NAHIP is the only source of national animal health data and Queensland believes this data has the potential to provide valuable information to a broad range of stakeholders, such as trends, beyond what is currently published in AHSQ and AHIA.				

Attachment A: Summary of NAHIS – Qld 2024-25

NAHIS reporting 2024-2025	# submissions		
National notifiable disease investigations (NNDI)	negative	positive	total
Bluetongue - clinical disease	6		6
Infection of bees with Paenibacillus larvae (American foulbrood)	26	19	45
Infection with African horse sickness virus	17		17
Infection with African swine fever virus	19		19
Infection with Anaplasma marginale (bovine anaplasmosis) in tick free areas	38		38
Infection with Aujeszky's disease virus (pseudorabies virus)	6		6
Infection with Australian bat lyssavirus	14		14
Infection with Babesia bovis, B. bigemina or B. divergens (bovine babesiosis) in tick free areas	35	4	39
Infection with Bacillus anthracis (anthrax)	7		7
Infection with bovine leukaemia virus (enzootic bovine leucosis)	6		6
Infection with bovine virus diarrhoea virus (type 2)	179		179
Infection with Brucella abortus	6		6
Infection with Brucella canis	34		34
Infection with Brucella suis	150	26	176
Infection with Chlamydia abortus (enzootic abortion of ewes, ovine chlamydiosis)	1		1
Infection with classical swine fever virus	19		19
Infection with eastern, western or Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis viruses	17		17
Infection with equine herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1)	22		22
Infection with equine infectious anaemia virus	6		6
Infection with equine influenza virus	3		3
Infection with foot and mouth disease virus	7		7
Infection with Hendra virus	340		340
Infection with influenza A viruses in birds	58		58
Infection with influenza A viruses in swine	6		6
Infection with Japanese encephalitis virus	21	17	38
Infection with Leishmania spp.	1		1
Infection with lumpy skin disease virus	42		42
Infection with Menangle virus	2		2
Infection with Mycobacterium avium (avian tuberculosis) in birds	0	1	1
Infection with Newcastle disease virus (virulent)	58		58
Infection with porcine epidemic diarrhoea virus	6		6
Infection with porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus	12		12
Infection with Salmonella enteritidis in poultry	17	2	19
Infection with sheep pox virus or goat pox virus	1		1
Infection with transmissible gastroenteritis coronavirus	6		6
Infection with vesicular stomatitis virus	7		7
Infestation of bees with Acarapis woodi (Acarasis tracheal mite)	2		2
Infestation of bees with Tropilaelaps clareae or T. mercedesae (Tropilaelaps mite)	65		65
Infestation of bees with Varroa destructor or V. jacobsoni (Varroosis)	103	23	126
Infestation with Chrysomya bezziana (Old World screwworm)	2		2
Infestation with Cochliomyia hominivorax (New World screwworm)	2		2
Infestation with Warble-fly (warble-fly myiasis)	2		2
Paratuberculosis - Johne's disease	34		34
Teschovirus encephalomyelitis	1		1
Transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (bovine spongiform encephalopathy, chronic wasting disease, fel)	19		19
West Nile Virus (clinical disease)	5		5
SUB-TOTAL	1430	92	1522
Other disease investigations			
Anthrax (ATX2)	4		4
Avian influenza (AVI1 & POU1)	93		93
Brucellosis (BRA2 & BRA3)	8		8
Equine herpesvirus-1 (EHV1)	19		19
Equine infectious anaemia (EIA1)	4		4
Equine viral arteritis (EVA1)	1		1
Newcastle disease (AVI1 & POU1)	81		81
SUB-TOTAL	210	0	210
Other - health/export submissions			
Avian influenza (AVI1 & POU1)	8		8
Brucellosis (BRA2 & BRA3)	27		27
Enzootic bovine leucosis (EBL2)	41		41
Equine herpesvirus-1 (EHV1)	9		9
Equine infectious anaemia (EIA1)	47		47
Equine viral arteritis (EVA1)	41		41
Newcastle disease (AVI1 & POU1)	4		4
SUB-TOTAL	177	0	177
GRAND TOTAL	1817	92	1909