

FOR INFORMATION

NAHIP Advisory Committee Annual Meeting 2026

Agenda Item 4.2

Last updated: **5 May 2026**

Prepared by M Bowling

(INTENSIVE INDUSTRY REPORT)**RECOMMENDATION**

- a. That the NAHIP Advisory Committee NOTE the update on surveillance activities within the Australian pork industry.

BACKGROUND

This paper provides an update on key surveillance activities undertaken by the pork industry.

DISCUSSION**1. JEV Surveillance Project Update**

APL funded Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV) surveillance in domestic pigs through serological testing of samples collected at processing facilities. The project commenced in November 2025 and concluded in March 2026.

Samples were collected from pigs in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia and tested using a JEV ELISA assay.

Sampling targets by state were as follows:

- QLD, NSW, SA: 2 farms per week (20 samples per farm)
- VIC: 1 farm per week (20 samples)

Weekly results were reported in the APL Weekly Update distributed to producers and industry, providing an indication of potential JEV exposure across states. Additional detections identified through routine surveillance activities were also included.

Positive detections were recorded in all participating states, with final results summarised below (positive / total):

- QLD: 69 / 568
- NSW: 70 / 439
- VIC: 10 / 199
- SA: 8 / 60
- Overall: 157 / 1,266

Additional detections from other surveillance sources included:

- QLD: piggery effluent
- NSW: feral pigs, sentinel chickens, human case
- VIC: mosquitoes, piggery effluent, human case
- SA: no detections reported

APL will fund and undertake repeat serological surveillance during the 2026–27 spring–summer period in participating states. Findings will inform preparedness, communication, and risk mitigation strategies, including considerations supporting JEV vaccine access for pigs.

2. Influenza A Virus Surveillance Project

(Influenza A virus: baselining endemicity in Australian domestic swine populations in preparedness for emerging threats)

APL is funding a surveillance project for Influenza A virus (IAV) in domestic pigs. The project aims to:

- Generate baseline IAV serological data from healthy pigs in commercial piggeries
- Update relevant virus antigens for H1 and H3 serotyping, including preparedness for potential H5N1 incursion
- Strengthen multi-sectoral partnerships and testing networks between industry and government

The project is ongoing, with Phase 1 now complete. A total of 420 serum samples were collected from sows and market pigs at processing facilities across Queensland, New South Wales, and Victoria (7 farms).

Results from Phase 1 indicate IAV seropositivity in all three states across both market pigs and sows. No pigs showed clinical signs of disease. Subtyping is currently underway.

The next phase will involve further sample collection from healthy market progeny on the same sentinel farms. Discussions are also underway regarding national expansion of the project to include additional states.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

2. N/A

CONSULTATION/COMMUNICATION

3. N/A

NEXT STEPS/ACTIONS

4. N/A