

NSW disease investigation and emergency animal disease training proposal - NSDIP 2020-2021

Project Overview

NSW DPI has conducted EAD webinars and engaged with more than 54 private veterinarians in just the last twelve months, through the provision of NSDIP funding in 2019-2020.

It has been identified that due to logistics and resourcing limitations, face to face seminars are not the best method of communication with all practitioners, and particularly that our engagement with, and provision of training opportunities for our more remote PVPs has been deficient.

The aim of this proposed training is to improve and continue the engagement through webinars and continue the competence and confidence of remote non-government (private) veterinarians in the recognition of significant disease events, appropriate disease investigation, and in collaborating with NSW government veterinarians through a series of webinars and live online discussions. This will help capture those vets in remote areas who are more difficult to engage with via face-to-face seminars, but who are key to our EAD surveillance.

This webinar series was run earlier this year (2019-2020) with combined DAWR and NSDIP funding, and the individual presentations themselves remain available to existing and new registrants. We are seeking funding to record and run internally the 12th webinar, and to host and facilitate two further live Q&A sessions> These live sessions give participants the opportunity to interact with the presenters and to obtain structured CPD points.

Objectives and Scope

To increase the knowledge, skill and confidence of private veterinarians in:

- identifying significant disease events,
- being aware of notifiable diseases and emergency animal diseases
- notifying , and collaborating with, NSW government veterinary authorities of potential notifiable and emergency animal diseases,
- using appropriate personal protective equipment
- conducting appropriate necropsies and collecting and submitting appropriate samples to the NSW State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory,
- obtaining thorough case histories and collecting appropriate epidemiological information

The objectives of this proposal are consistent with NSDI Program Objectives:

1. To improve the quality and increase the quantity of livestock and wildlife disease investigations conducted by non-government veterinary practitioners in collaboration with governments;
2. To promote effective collaboration between non-government veterinary practitioners and Governments in livestock and wildlife disease investigations

Outcomes

It is anticipated that subsequent to viewing the pre-recorded presentations and participating in the live Q&A sessions, there will be an increase in the number of appropriate disease investigations, submission of appropriate samples to the NSW State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at Elizabeth McArthur

Agriculture Institute (EMAI) and notifications to NSW government veterinary authorities by the participants.

Outputs

- An additional pre-recorded presentation on “Swill Feeding and African Swine Fever” will be added to the webinar program.
- Two live panel discussions will be hosted by the presenters for participants to engage in a Q&A type discussion
- On-line links to information for private veterinarians on recognition of significant disease events, notifiable disease notification to NSW Government veterinary authorities, sample collection and submission, PPE and collecting epidemiological information in notifiable and emergency animal disease exclusions will be made available to the participants.

Methods

We anticipate that this year we will use internal NSW platforms and will engage with Redback Connect – (*Approved Government ICT supplier to Federal, NSW, VIC and QLD state governments*) or other equivalent platform to present the material already developed in existing presentations. Some material may need slight modification and be re-recorded.

Registration pages will be produced for each event so that we can promote those events to the PVPs to register their interest. On the day, all our presenters will login using their own computers and use their phone to do their presentation and address live questions.

Post-webinar/discussion surveys will be conducted.

Topics presented are as below:

- Emergency Animal Diseases, obligations and reporting
- Submitting samples to the NSW State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory
- Australian Bat Lyssavirus – bats and pets, and Brucella suis
- Wildlife disease investigations
- Poultry Emergency Animal Diseases
- The TSE program and prion diseases
- Management of non-native animal reports
- Q-fever and other zoonotic diseases (from a human health perspective)
- Hendra Virus - investigating HeV: experience from the field
- Antimicrobial resistance: the role of veterinarians, human health professionals and the community
- Swill Feeding and African Swine Fever

Timeframe and Schedule

The two live discussions will be conducted by Friday 30th of April 2021.

Surveys will be collected from participants and evaluated by Friday 28th of May 2021.

Key Stakeholders and Responsibilities

- NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Biosecurity and Food Safety Branch: project management, develop advertisement, technical input
- Local Land Services: technical input and advertising the event
- Australian Veterinary Association: promote the event

Budget

Estimate costs to download, process and deliver on internal platform including accessing material from Redback (or equivalent) per Live panel discussion is \$3,000 ex GST	\$6,000
Estimate cost to record additional presentation using suitable software	\$1,000
BALANCE, requested from NSDIP	\$7,000