

JOHNE'S DISEASE IN CATTLE INFORMATION SHEET

The BJD Framework document: *A Fresh Approach to the Management of Johne's Disease in Cattle: Management Plan for Cattle Production Conditions* is available [here](#)

CURRENT SITUATION

Most state jurisdictions removed Johne's disease (JD) in cattle regulation on 1 July 2016; however, Western Australia will continue to regulate JD and the Northern Territory has interim arrangements in place.

Western Australia have now announced their interim entry requirements for the state. This decision was made after state industry requested them to maintain a program (essentially making them a large Cooperative Biosecurity Group¹).

In February 2017, the Northern Territory announced its interim JD entry requirements while they await their industry to make a final decision on what they want the NT Department of Primary Industry and Resources to implement indefinitely.

Producers should continue to monitor their websites for details.

- [Department of Agriculture and Food WA](#)
- [Department of Primary Industry and Resources NT](#)

TOOLS/RESOURCES

The following tools are available to assist producers:

- Farm Biosecurity [website](#):
 - [Farm Biosecurity Action Planner](#)
 - [FarmBiosecurity smartphone app](#)
 - [National Cattle Health Declaration](#) (formerly the Cattle Health Statement)
 - [National Farm Biosecurity Reference Manual – Grazing Livestock Production](#)
- Animal Health Australia [website](#):
 - New approach to Johne's disease in cattle [fact sheet](#)
 - [Johne's Beef Assurance Score](#) (J-BAS)
 - [JD Biosecurity Checklist](#)
 - [Cooperative Biosecurity Group Guidelines](#)
- Revised [Dairy Score](#) for dairy herds
- Livestock Biosecurity Network [website](#)
- Vaccination (Silirum) may be an option for herds that have JD, but producers should consult with their local government veterinarian about its use as there are restrictions in some states and permanent identification requirements.

EXTENSION SUPPORT

For help with biosecurity planning contact your regional Livestock Biosecurity Network Manager:

- NSW – Ms Rachel Gordon rgordon@lbn.org.au m 0488 400 207
- Victoria – Dr Patrick Kluver pkluver@lbn.org.au m 0499 077 213
- Qld – Ms Rachael O'Brien e robrien@lbn.org.au m 0418 7224 61
- WA – Ms Frances Gartrell fgartrell@lbn.org.au m 0497 700 113

¹ A Cooperative Biosecurity Group is an aggregation of producers from a defined geographical region or a defined group of producers with common interests and production systems who are all committed to working together to prevent and respond to an incursion of specified disease(s).

BACKGROUND

JD in cattle is endemic in some cattle production areas of Australia but in other areas the disease is not known to exist (or exists at a low to very low level).

JD in cattle policy and direction is set by the peak industry councils representing the cattle production sectors, in conjunction with the Australian and state/territory governments.

Review process

In 2015, at the request of the BJD Steering Committee and the Animal Health Committee, AHA commenced coordination of the BJD Review process. The process allowed for all parties (including industry, government and community) to provide input into how Australia was going to manage JD in cattle into the future.

Review outcome

The Review was completed in February 2016. The Review identified there was general support for JD to be addressed under a common biosecurity approach for endemic diseases, with less emphasis placed on an individual disease.

Through an extensive consultative process a revised plan was developed for implementation in mid-2016 – the [JD in cattle Framework](#) (the Framework). This has been a collaborative effort of industry and governments.

The Framework

The Framework sets out the key elements and rationale of an approach better suited to handling JD in cattle:

- **Focus** more attention on biosecurity and less on individual diseases in matters of farm management.
- **Improve** the biosecurity credentials of Australia's cattle industry.
- **Provide** tools and information to reduce the prevalence of economically important production diseases and improve the management of these diseases where they occur.
- **Establish** a biosecure environment within which producers may trade livestock with minimal risk.
- **Implement** improvements in diagnostic tests and management practices that will provide economic benefit to producers having to manage these diseases as they become available.
- **Obtain** as great a level of consistency as possible between States and Territories in managing endemic production diseases.
- **Facilitate** business and trade, whether it be local, national or international.
- **Lower** costs and lessen the regulatory burden associated with endemic production diseases.

SCENARIOS

Following are some state-by-state scenarios outlining what the WA and NT restrictions mean for the producer.

SCENARIO ONE: Qld beef cattle producer looking to sell cattle to WA

Wallace is a cattle producer from northern Qld. He is looking to sell 100 head of cattle to a producer in WA.

Wallace was not part of the previous CattleMAP system. Under the transitional arrangements and the new approach his herd has been transferred to J-BAS 7. To maintain this Wallace will need to implement a biosecurity plan on his property by 30 June 2017. He will then need to engage with his preferred private veterinarian and undertake a Check Test of his herd (with negative results) by 30 June 2018. A Check Test will be required every three years after this to retain his J-BAS 7 status.

For entry of his cattle to WA, he will need to maintain the J-BAS 7, but will also require a negative property of origin Check Test within 12 months prior to movement. Wallace will need to provide a completed [LB1 Form](#) at least three days before the cattle cross into WA.

On the LB1 form, Wallace will have to declare that his cattle have been born and raised only on eligible properties in Qld or the NT. If dairy or dairy cross cattle have grazed on the property in the past 24 months it may not be eligible.

Wallace must also declare on the LB1 form that his cattle are not from a herd infected or suspected to be infected with Johne's disease, have not had contact with cattle of a lower Johne's disease status and have ONLY grazed with eligible cattle

Wallace should continue to monitor entry requirements for WA via the [Department of Agriculture and Food WA](#) website.

SCENARIO TWO: Victorian stud breeder Don, his herd was formerly a CattleMAP herd, looking to transfer bulls into WA

Under the new approach, Don's previous CattleMAP herd has transitioned to a J-BAS 8. He will need to do three yearly Check Tests and have an annual review of his property biosecurity plan by a veterinarian, to maintain this score.

However, to access WA Don will need to meet their entry requirements for JD, as well as other diseases. This means that Don will have to ensure that his herd have a history of three negative Sample Tests over 4 years, plus certification of a negative property Maintenance Test (a variation of the Check Test) every three years after the last sample test.

If the herd had a MN3 status under the previous CattleMAP Don's cattle would be eligible for import into WA provided the status is maintained.

Don will need to provide the above certification and a completed [LB1 Form](#) at least three days before the cattle cross into WA. He will have to declare that his cattle have not had contact with cattle of a lower Johne's disease status.

Don should continue to monitor entry requirements for WA via the [Department of Agriculture and Food WA](#) website.

SCENARIO THREE: NT beef cattle producer looking to sell cattle to WA

Courtenay is a cattle producer from the Northern Territory. She is looking to sell 100 head of cattle to a producer in WA.

Courtenay was not part of the previous CattleMAP system. Under the transitional arrangements and the new approach her herd has been transferred to J-BAS 7. To maintain this Courtenay will need to implement a biosecurity plan on her property by 30 June 2017. She will then need to engage with her preferred private veterinarian and undertake a Check Test of her herd (with negative results) by 30 June 2018. A Check Test will be required every three years after this to retain her J-BAS 7 status.

For entry of her cattle to WA, she will need to declare on the LB1 that her cattle have been born and grazed only in the NT, and been born and grazed only on eligible properties. Courtenay will need to provide a completed [LB1 Form](#) at least three days before the cattle cross into WA.

If dairy or dairy cross cattle have grazed on the property in the past 24 months it may not be eligible.

Courtenay must also declare on the LB1 form that her cattle are not from a herd infected or suspected to be infected with Johne's disease, have not had contact with cattle of a lower Johne's disease status and have ONLY grazed with eligible cattle.

Courtenay should continue to monitor entry requirements for WA via the [Department of Agriculture and Food WA](#) website.

SCENARIO FOUR: SA beef cattle producer looking to sell cattle to WA

John is a cattle producer from SA. He is looking to sell 100 head of cattle to a producer in WA.

John was not part of the previous CattleMAP system. Under the transitional arrangements and the new approach his herd has been transferred to J-BAS 7. To maintain this John will need to implement a biosecurity plan on his property by 30 June 2017. He will then need to engage with his preferred private veterinarian and undertake a Check Test of his herd (with negative results) by 30 June 2018. A Check Test will be required every three years after this to retain his J-BAS 7 status. In order for John to go up to a J-BAS 8 he will have to have a sample test performed and the triennial Check Test.

For entry of his cattle to WA, he will need to progress to a J-BAS score of 8 first, by having a second sample test two years after the first sample test was performed and then ongoing biennial negative property Maintenance Tests (a variation of the Check Test). John will need to provide a completed [LB1 Form](#) at least three days before the cattle cross into WA.

John will have to declare on the LB1 form that his cattle have been born and raised only on eligible properties in SA. If dairy or dairy cross cattle have grazed on the property in the past 24 months it may not be eligible.

John must also declare on the LB1 form that his cattle are not from a herd infected or suspected to be infected with Johne's disease, have not had contact with cattle of a lower Johne's disease status and have ONLY grazed with eligible cattle.

John should continue to monitor entry requirements for WA via the [Department of Agriculture and Food WA](#) website.

SCENARIO FIVE: NSW beef cattle producer looking to sell cattle to WA

Kate is a cattle producer from NSW. She is looking to sell 100 head of cattle to a producer in WA.

Kate was not part of the previous CattleMAP system. Under the transitional arrangements and the new approach her herd has been transferred to J-BAS 7. To maintain this Kate will need to implement a biosecurity plan on her property by 30 June 2017. She will then need to engage with her preferred private veterinarian and undertake a Check Test of her herd (with negative results) by 30 June 2018. A Check Test will be required every three years after this to retain her J-BAS 7 status. In order for Kate to go up to a J-BAS 8 she will have to have a sample test performed (negative result)

For entry of her cattle to WA, Kate will have to progress to a J-BAS score of 8, with a history of two negative biennial sample tests over a two year period plus certification of a negative property Maintenance Test (a variation of the Check Test) every two years after the last sample test, (or triennially if three negative biennial sample tests have been completed).

Kate will need to provide a completed [LB1 Form](#) at least three days before the cattle cross into WA.

She will have to declare on the LB1 that her cattle have been born and raised only on eligible properties in SA. If dairy or dairy cross cattle have grazed on the property in the past 24 months it may not be eligible.

Kate must also declare on the LB1 form that her cattle are not from a herd infected or suspected to be infected with Johne's disease, have not had contact with cattle of a lower Johne's disease status and have ONLY grazed with eligible cattle.

Kate should continue to monitor entry requirements for WA via the [Department of Agriculture and Food WA](#) website.

SCENARIO SIX: Qld beef cattle producer looking to sell cattle to NT

Luke is a beef producer from central Qld. He is looking to sell 100 head of cattle to a producer in NT.

Luke was not part of the previous CattleMAP system. To continue to trade with the NT after June 2017 Luke needs to retain a J-BAS 7 status.

Under the transitional arrangements and the new system Luke's herd has been transferred to J-BAS 7. To maintain this Luke will need to implement a biosecurity plan, engage with his preferred private veterinarian to oversee the plan and ensure his herd undertakes a Check Test with negative results by 30 June 2018. He will then need to repeat the Check Test every three years after this to retain his J-BAS 7 status.

To continue to sell cattle into the NT, based on their interim entry requirements, Luke will need to maintain his J-BAS 7 status. He will have to complete a *National Cattle Health Declaration* and will have to declare that his cattle have been free from Johne's Disease for the preceding 5 years.

Luke should continue to monitor entry requirements for the NT via the [Department of Primary Industry and Resources NT](#) website.

SCENARIO SEVEN: NSW beef cattle producer looking to sell cattle to NT

Malcolm is a beef producer from NW NSW. He is looking to sell 100 head of cattle to a producer in NT. Malcolm was not part of the previous CattleMAP system. To continue to trade with the NT after June 2017 Malcolm needs to retain a J-BAS 7 status.

Under the transitional arrangements and the new system Malcolm's herd has been transferred to J-BAS 7. To maintain this Malcolm will need to implement a biosecurity plan, engage with his preferred private veterinarian to oversee the plan and ensure his herd undertakes a Check Test with negative results by 30 June 2018. He will then need to repeat the Check Test every three years after this to retain his J-BAS 7 status.

To continue to sell cattle into the NT, based on their interim entry requirements, Malcolm will need to maintain his J-BAS 7 status. He will have to complete a *National Cattle Health Declaration* and will have to declare on the Northern Territory health certificate that his cattle have been free from Johnne's Disease for the preceding 5 years and have a herd score of J-BAS 7 or higher.

Malcolm should continue to monitor entry requirements for the NT via the [Department of Primary Industry and Resources NT](#) website.

SCENARIO EIGHT: SA beef cattle producer looking to sell cattle to NT

Fred is a beef producer from the pastoral region of SA. He is looking to sell 100 head of cattle to a producer in NT. Fred was not part of the previous CattleMAP system. To continue to trade with the NT after June 2017 Fred needs to retain a J-BAS 7 status.

Under the transitional arrangements and the new system Fred's herd has been transferred to J-BAS 7. To maintain this Fred will need to implement a biosecurity plan, engage with his preferred private veterinarian to oversee the plan and ensure his herd undertakes a Check Test with negative results by 30 June 2018. He will then need to repeat the Check Test every three years after this to retain his J-BAS 7 status.

To continue to sell cattle into the NT, based on their interim entry requirements, Fred will need to maintain his J-BAS 7 status. He will have to complete a *National Cattle Health Declaration* and will have to declare on the Northern Territory health certificate that his cattle have been free from Johnne's Disease for the preceding 5 years and have a herd score of J-BAS 7 or higher.

Fred should continue to monitor entry requirements for the NT via the [Department of Primary Industry and Resources NT](#) website.

SCENARIO NINE: WA beef cattle producer looking to sell cattle to NT

Hudson is a beef producer from the Pilbara. He is looking to sell 100 head of cattle to an abattoir in the NT. Hudson was not part of the previous CattleMAP system. To continue to trade with the NT after June 2017 Hudson needs to retain a J-BAS 7 status.

Under the transitional arrangements and the new system Hudson's herd has been transferred to J-BAS 8. To maintain this Hudson will need to implement a biosecurity plan, engage with his preferred private veterinarian to oversee the plan and ensure his herd undertakes a Check Test with negative results by 30 June 2018. He will then need to repeat the Check Test every three years after this to retain his J-BAS 8 status.

To continue to sell cattle into the NT, based on their interim entry requirements, Hudson will need to maintain his J-BAS 8 status. He will have to complete a *National Cattle Health Declaration* and will have to declare on the Northern Territory health certificate that his cattle have been free from Johnne's Disease for the preceding 5 years and have a herd score of J-BAS 7 or higher.

Hudson should continue to monitor entry requirements for the NT via the [Department of Primary Industry and Resources NT](#) website.

SCENARIO TEN: Vic and Tas beef cattle producer looking to sell cattle to NT

Mel is a beef producer from Victoria. She is looking to sell 100 head of cattle to a producer in NT. Mel was not part of the previous CattleMAP system. To continue to trade with the NT after June 2017 Mel needs to retain a J-BAS 7 status.

Under the transitional arrangements and the new system Mel's herd has been transferred to J-BAS 7. To maintain this Mel will need to implement a biosecurity plan, engage with her preferred private veterinarian to oversee the plan and ensure her herd undertakes a Check Test with negative results by 30 June 2018. She will then need to repeat the Check Test every three years after this to retain her J-BAS 7 status.

To continue to sell cattle into the NT, based on their interim entry requirements, Mel will need to maintain her J-BAS 7 status. She will have to complete a *National Cattle Health Declaration* and will have to declare on the Northern Territory health certificate that his cattle have been free from Johne's Disease for the preceding 5 years and have a herd score of J-BAS 7 or higher.

Mel should continue to monitor entry requirements for the NT via the [Department of Primary Industry and Resources NT](#) website.