



LBN



Biosecurity Planning : J-BAS, Interstate Movements and LPA Requirements



Why are we here?

- Changes to LPA requirements
- Johne's disease management has been de-regulated
- Western Australia and the Northern Territory have mandated J-BAS status to enter their states

LPA requirements

LPA is an independently audited, on-farm assurance program covering food safety, animal welfare and biosecurity. It provides evidence of livestock history and on-farm practices when transferring livestock through the value chain. It is a part of MLA.

If you have an NVD book you are accredited with LPA.

LPA have recently announced changes to their accreditation.

Producers must now re-accredit with LPA every 3 years and pay a fee of \$60 (plus GST).

LPA are introducing **two** more modules to the program – a biosecurity and an animal welfare standard module.

This means going forward that from 1 October all producers who are members of LPA **will require a biosecurity plan** as part of their accreditation.

LPA frequently asked questions...

Will they take away NVD books ? *No, paper version NVDs will stay.*

Are my NVD books purchased pre-October now able to be used ? *Yes, you can still use them. The current NVD version is the 04/2013 edition.*

What is LPA ? *LPA is an independently audited, on-farm assurance program covering food safety, animal welfare and biosecurity. It provides evidence of livestock history and on-farm practices when transferring livestock through the value chain. It is managed by the Integrity Systems Company a subsidiary of MLA.*

When did I accredit ? *You may have answered some questions online or via the phone at some point before you got your NVD book. This was your accreditation.*

Will I be told when my accreditation is due ? *Yes. LPA will contact you prior to your re-accreditation being due.*

How do I re-accredit ? *By paying a fee of \$60 (excl GST) and completing an assessment. The assessment can be completed via the internet or via the phone. Taking the assessment over the phone requires hard copy book for a small fee.*

Will NVD books still be available ? *Yes the new eNVD system has not replaced NVD books.*

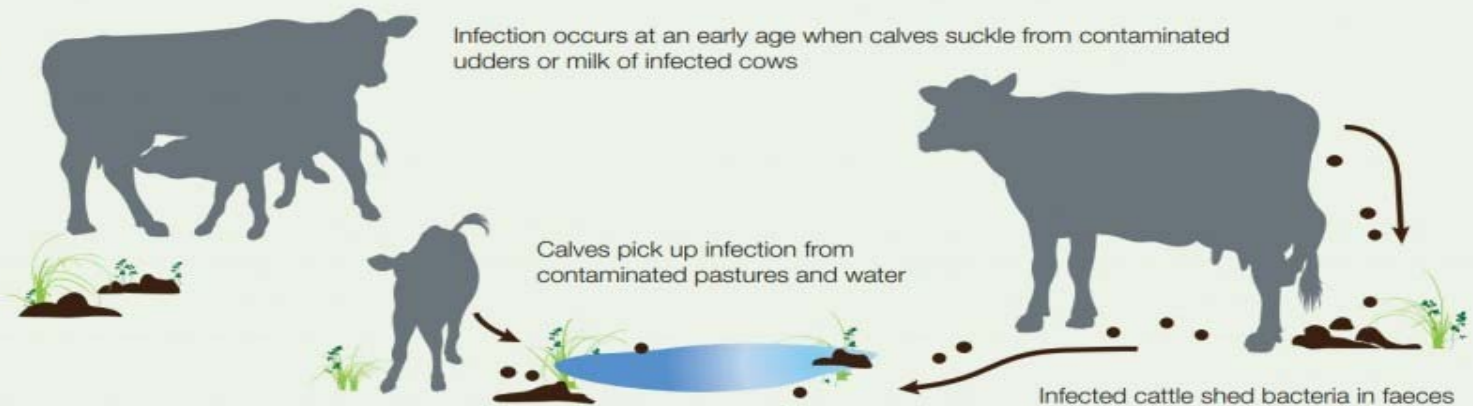
Can I fail my LPA audit ? *While technically yes, you will be given the opportunity to fix where you went wrong to retain your accreditation.*

What is Johne's disease?

- Johne's disease is an incurable wasting disease.
- It thickens the lining of the intestines making it difficult for animals to absorb nutrients.
- That animal then wastes away.
- Chronic disease likely contracted 0 – 3 months. Animals may not show symptoms until 4 years old or older.
- Can exist in the environment for up to 12 months in optimum conditions.
- Producers should understand JD.



BJD TRANSMISSION



Johne's disease FAQs

Can sheep get Johne's disease? *Yes, sheep can get Johne's disease (as can goats, alpacas and deer).*

Do all dairy cattle have Johne's disease? *No, but dairy cattle pose a higher risk than beef animals, particularly in the south-eastern states. Producers buying in dairy cattle that will co-graze with beef cattle should ensure they know the history of the animals and know the risks associated with co-grazing these animals with their herd.*

Can only cows get Johne's disease? *All sexes are susceptible, especially as young animals.*

When are animals infected? *It is more likely that animals become infected at 0-3 months of age but animals can still get Johne's disease later in life, though a lot less likely.*

Will my cattle get Johne's disease from a saleyard or dip yard ? *It is unlikely that your cattle will get Johne's disease this way. There would need to be an infected animal there, that animal would need to be shedding and your animals would need to ingest the bacteria. The risk is lower again for animals over 3 months of age.*



Johne's disease FAQs cont...

Will my cattle catch Johne's disease in a truck? *As above, the risk is minimal.*

Can I vaccinate for Johne's disease? *Yes, but the vaccination does not prevent Johne's disease; it delays disease onset and decreases shedding of the bacteria. It is also approximately \$35 a vaccination (given once in lifetime).*

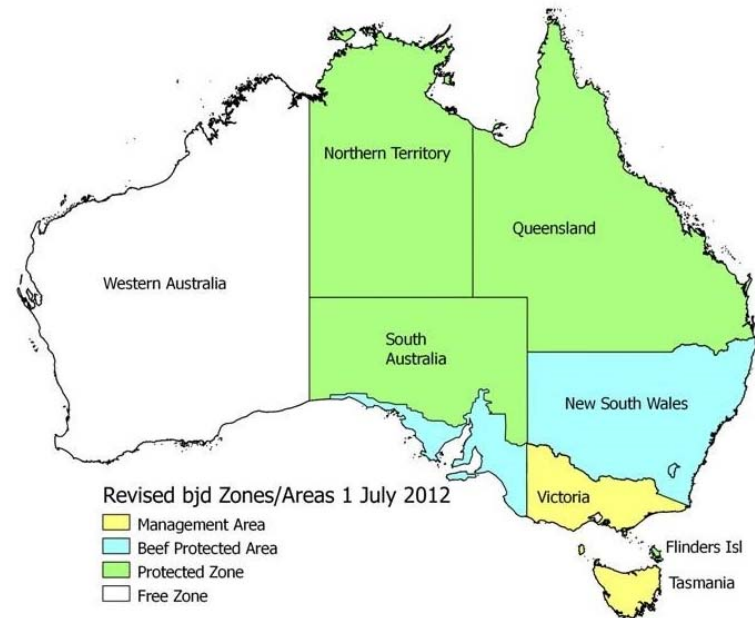
Can I test for Johne's disease? *Yes, there are 3 routine tests. An ELISA blood test (not recommended), faecal culture (takes 3 months) and faecal HT-J PCR (recommended, takes 1-2 weeks)*

Histopathology (requires euthanising the animal and testing key lymph nodes and intestinal tissues) can be used as a confirmatory test, if required. The HT-J PCR is the recommended test as it is quicker than culture and more accurate than ELISA. This and faecal culture are the only tests that WA will accept.



Johne's disease and J-BAS

- J-BAS – Johne's Beef Assurance Score
- National shift from regulatory control to industry managed
- Voluntary
- Market driven
- Self-regulated
- Industry managed



Regulation was...

- Restrictive
- Producers were quarantined
- Stigma associated with quarantine
- Serious lack of market options
- Infected animals were usually slaughtered – lost genetics
- Extremely difficult to get out of quarantine without the specific animals

What is J-BAS?

Johne's Beef Assurance Score (J-BAS) [numbers equate to Dairy Score]				
On-farm biosecurity plan implemented*	Biosecurity plan implemented for minimum of 5 years	Testing, plus veterinary advisor for plan	Two successive negative Sample tests 2 years apart, and ongoing triennial Check Test	8 High assurance
			One negative Sample test a minimum of 5 years after the last confirmed clinical case and ongoing triennial Check Test	7 Assurance
		Minimum 5 years since last clinical case of Johne's disease confirmed on property		6 Managed disease risk
	If previously infected, minimum of 2 years of biosecurity plan implemented and since last clinical case of Johne's disease confirmed on property, plus all high-risk animals identified and removed If no previous infection, biosecurity plan in place		4 Progressing	
	Biosecurity plan in place Clinical case(s) removed		2 First steps	
	Suspect, infected and unknown			0 Unmanaged risk



Version
24/10/2016

Cattle health declarations are available on www.farmbiosecurity.com.au

Request this document when buying cattle to make informed decisions on purchases.

How is J-BAS regulated?

- Request a National Health Cattle Health Declaration going forward to make informed decisions.
- J-BAS is self regulating. You can be asked for your plan by another producer, similarly you can ask to see another producers plan.
- You are making a declaration when declaring a J-BAS status.
- In Queensland, producers have a General Biosecurity Obligation (GBO) under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* –

“A person who deals with a biosecurity matter or a carrier who carries out an activity; if they know or ought to know that it poses a biosecurity risk, must take all reasonable and practical measures to prevent or minimise the risk”

- In English - Johne's disease poses a biosecurity risk and therefore producers must take reasonable steps to prevent it's spread – e.g. If you have Johne's you must report it (it is still notifiable) and you must declare you have/had infection to potential buyers going forward.
- It is not reasonable to on-sell animals that have JD without declaring they are infected but it is reasonable for you to declare they are infected and allow the buyer to make a decision on whether or not to purchase them.

J-BAS frequently asked questions

Can I use J-BAS if I have sheep ? *Yes, co-grazing is OK, however mixed livestock farms must manage the risks accordingly. Sheep, like cattle, pose a risk of spreading Johne's and therefore it is up to the producer to manage this risk so the producer can be confident with the J-BAS level they are choosing to participate at.*

Can I buy a bull from a lower score property ? *Yes, J-BAS allows for the management of multiple scores of cattle with the producer demonstrating how they are managing these risks accordingly (in their biosecurity plan). **However** for producers selling cattle to Western Australia, they will need to check with their veterinarian or the WA Department on import requirements for cattle to enter. The J-BAS of the animals you purchase will come down to your business framework and your appetite for risk. You must be confident in the animals you buy to continue to trade at the level you say you are (and you must meet entry requirements if you are trading to NT and WA).*

What is my J-BAS level? - *Most herds defaulted to J-BAS 6 on June 30. If you had a veterinary-overseen biosecurity plan in place by 30 June, you are a score 7, provided you complete your testing by June 2018. If you did not have a plan in place you can still move to a J-BAS 7, so long as you have your plan overseen by a vet and then undertake the required testing by June 2018. For those of you looking to remain J-BAS 6, a biosecurity plan is all that is required. For now, even without a plan you are a J-BAS 6, but this may change in future.*

Do I need a vet to oversee my plan for a J-BAS 6? *No, there is no vet oversight or testing for J-BAS 6.*

J-BAS frequently asked questions

Can I buy score 0 even though I am a 6 without affecting my score? *There are two components to J-BAS 0 – those who are intentionally not participating and those that have infection. Your trade with either of these scenarios comes down to your appetite for risk and your business requirements. If you are a business that trades directly to slaughter with animals less than 2-3 years old, your appetite for risk is likely to be higher. In this instance the animals are unlikely to be shedding even if they are infected. If you do not on sell to other markets, other than direct to slaughter, then you are unlikely to spread the disease even if there is infection present. These animals will still remain a J-BAS 0, but you can be confident that they pose little risk to your initial herd score so long as you continue to turn off animals to slaughter and before they reach 2-3 years of age. If you are a producer looking to buy these animals as part of a breeding herd, then you want to keep them longer than 2-3 years of age and your concern about the risk should be much higher. You will need to make further enquiries into the health status of these animals, because the risk of purchasing J-BAS 0 in this scenario is higher because you are selling progeny. The producer will need to demonstrate how they are managing the risks (in their biosecurity plan) to confidently continue to still trade as a J-BAS 6 herd. Can you say with confidence that these animals have posed no risk to your J-BAS of 6?*

Will having lower score cattle on my place affect my score? *It could and it comes down to the producer remaining confident that buying animals of a lower score poses no risk to the score they are claiming by managing the risk. If you do buy from a lower score herd, the purchased animals do not automatically acquire your score by moving them onto your property. E.g. you cannot buy J-BAS 0 and then they become a J-BAS 6 by putting them in with your herd. Similarly, you need to be confident that in doing this you have not introduced Johne's disease into your herd to remain a J-BAS 6.*

Interstate requirements

you should ALWAYS contact the importing state before sending cattle interstate to ensure you have the most up to date information.

Western Australia –

- J-BAS 7
- Annual check test – HTJ-PCR test
- No co-grazing with dairy cattle except those dairy score 8 or MN3 for last two years
- No subsequent contact with lower status (means co-grazing)
- Herd must have had a check test within 12 months of entry
- LB1 form and NT health certificate if travelling via NT

Northern Territory

- J-BAS 6
- Cattle health declarations are mandatory for NT bound cattle
- Northern Territory health certificate and waybill

Johne's Beef Assurance Score (J-BAS) [numbers equate to Dairy Score]				
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	Biosecurity plan in place		2	
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Interstate frequently asked questions

Can I send cattle to Western Australia as a Score 6? *No, J-BAS 6 animals are not eligible for these markets. WA requires a J-BAS 7 with additional entry requirements, such as a HT-J PCR Check test within the preceding 12 months of cattle being sent there, no co-grazing with dairy cattle unless they are a Dairy score 8 and no co-grazing with animals of a lower status.*

Can I be a score 6 and just test my cattle going to go to Western Australia? *There are problems associated with just testing one animal and making a claim on its status. Animals can intermittently shed Johne's bacteria so testing an animal once is not an indication of disease-free status, only that the animal was not shedding at the time. J-BAS 7 requires a herd test so that a higher confidence can be given on the assurance of the herd, which increases in confidence over time. To go to WA animals must come from a J-BAS 7 herd, meaning they have this type of testing behind them to give that confidence of higher assurance.*

What J-BAS level do I need to be to send cattle to Western Australia? *J-BAS 7 – always check the entry requirements into the state of entry before sending cattle.*

What J-BAS level do I need to be to send cattle to Northern Territory? *J-BAS 6 with a biosecurity plan – always check the entry requirements into the state of entry before sending cattle.*

Do I need a J-BAS to send cattle to NSW or VIC? – *No, there are no requirements to go to these states (and producers in these states can also participate in J-BAS).*

If I want to buy cattle from NSW or VIC, do they have to be a certain score? *No, there is no requirement to be in J-BAS to bring cattle into Qld. We are no longer regulated for JD in QLD. It is up to the producer to determine what animals are suitable to bring into their herd, by enquiring about their health status (e.g. buying them with a Cattle Health Declaration) and making good decisions around the risk for JD and other diseases.*

Your Biosecurity Plan

Templates available...

- LBN On-farm biosecurity plan
- Animal Heath Australia – On-farm biosecurity template
- Cattle Vets Australia – BioCheck

Why are multiple templates available?

These are available to provide producers with options that suit their businesses .



Your Biosecurity Plan

- Adopt a biosecurity plan that suits your production system.
- Remember that what we have given you is a starting template.
- There will be additional documents required. NO is not a wrong answer. If you identify NO you should improve your practices until you can answer YES.
-
- Biosecurity planning is an evolving process.
- ***Keep it simple.***

Your Biosecurity Plan

The National Farm Biosecurity Reference Manual – Grazing Livestock Production determines a base line for Industry.

Your biosecurity plan must address...

- Inputs
- People, vehicles and equipment
 - production practices
 - pests and weeds
 - outgoing products
 - train, plan and record
 - Johne's optional (must have for J-BAS)

Priority 1 - Inputs

- Make smart purchases – do not bring in problems
- Know purchase history
- Determine segregation periods (a period that you keep animals in yards or smaller holding paddocks before introducing them to your herd)
- Give cattle time to empty out of weed seeds
- Consider your feed coming on to your property
 - Get commodity vendor declarations
 - Do you use RAM? - feed and fertiliser – how do you store these products?
- Consider water points

Priority 2 – People, vehicles and equipment

- Assess your risks and put processes in place to address your risk
- Vehicle management
- Designated roads if required
- Segregation – those who do not need to have contact with the animals should remain excluded
- Minimise lending equipment or be clear with the way equipment is returned
- Implement property entry and exit procedures

Farm gate signs available for sale www.farmbiosecurity.com.au



Priority 3 – Production practices

- Implement monitoring programs to detect disease early, this can be as simple as checking cattle when you feed or check waters
- Increase monitoring over periods of risk – *after rain when insect spread diseases are present, during drought – welfare reasons/ botulism*
- Participate in state based surveillance programs such as ‘*bucks for brains*’
- Report disease - If you think something is wrong call someone to come and look
- Local Vets, Stock Inspectors, Emergency Disease Hotline **1800 675 888**

Priority 3 – Production practices cont...

- Ensure you are disposing of carcasses appropriately
- Manage effluent if it is produced on farm
- Record vaccination programs
- Record chemical usage in animals
- Maintain fences
- Fence off rubbish dumps
- Manage chemical residues – old dips, old yards, old sheds, chemical storage

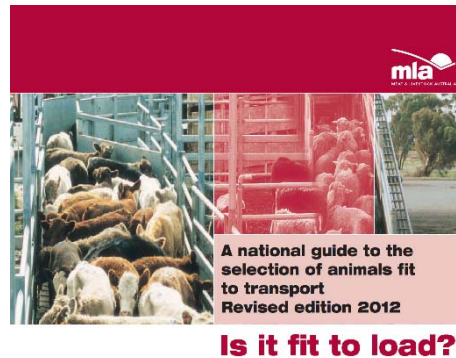


Priority 4 – pests and weeds

- Identify pests of significance and their impact. *Impacts of feral animals include competition for resources, predation on livestock, disease spread damage to infrastructure and fouling water holes*
- Do not encourage feral animals by leaving rubbish dumps unfenced
- Manage carcass dumps to restrict access by feral animals
- Identify weed areas on your property and implement control to prevent spread
- Document chemical usage on your property
- Plan for weed management to avoid wasting time and money

Priority 5 – outputs

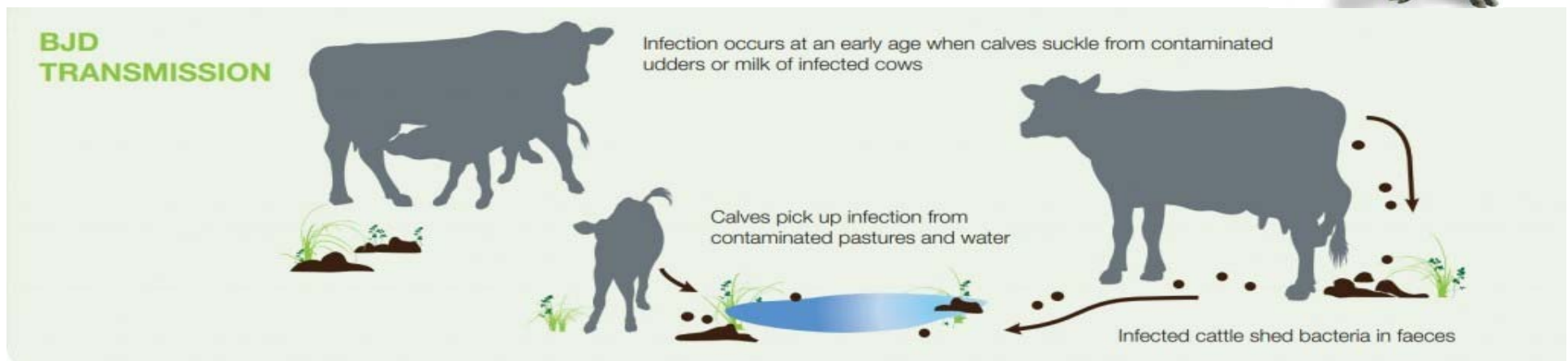
- Familiarise yourself with the land transport of livestock code
- This code determines what is and what is not ok to travel
- MLA brought out a guide called “fit to load” available online
- **These animals are not fit to be loaded**



If in doubt – LEAVE IT OUT!

Priority 6 – Johne's disease

- To participate in J-BAS you require a biosecurity plan
- Within this plan you must include the Johne's disease checklist **OR** fill in the section that specifically addresses how you will manage Johne's disease
- You should have a good understanding of Johne's disease in order to manage it.



Key points

- You cannot fail if you are doing everything that is reasonable and practical
- Biosecurity is an evolving space
- In Queensland, J-BAS and biosecurity planning works in with your *General Biosecurity Obligation* and shared responsibility legislation
- Start thinking about how you could better manage biosecurity risks
 - where has the car that's about to drive into your paddock been?
 - where you are buying your animals from?

Key dates

- **30 June 2017** – Transitional arrangements ended – all properties without a biosecurity plan dropped to a J-BAS 6
- From **1 October 2017** – LPA require a biosecurity plan as part of re-accreditation scheme. By putting a plan in place producers are eligible for a J-BAS 6 by filling in the Johnne's specific sections or attaching the checklist.
- **30 June 2018** – those who claim J-BAS 7 must have completed a check test by this date or drop to J-BAS 6.

Frequently asked questions...

- Do I submit my plan to anyone? *No, you keep your plan at home.*
- When do I need a plan by? *You need a plan for LPA requirements from 1 October 2017.*
- Can I fail an LPA audit? *While technically yes, you will be given the opportunity to fix where you went wrong to retain your accreditation.*
- Agistment... who is responsible? *It's the responsibility of the stock owner to get a plan put in place for J-BAS so if you have cattle you need a plan to describe how you manage that herd. J-BAS status is a herd status not a property status.*
- If I have sheep can I be in J-BAS? *Yes, co-grazing is OK, however mixed livestock farms must manage the risks accordingly. Sheep, like cattle, pose a risk of spreading JD and therefore it is up to the producer to manage this risk so the producer can be confident with the J-BAS level they are choosing to participate at.*
- Do I need a plan for every PIC number? *For LPA re-accreditation, yes you do.*
- What score should I be? *This is entirely up to you J-BAS is market driven.*
- Do I have to participate in J-BAS? *No, you don't. J-BAS is voluntary if you choose not to participate you will default to a J-BAS 0.*
- What happens if I get Johne's? *Johne's disease is notifiable in Qld. This means if you have it you must report it, but you will not be quarantined for it. You may choose to work through the levels of J-BAS to get your original markets back or you may choose to trade as a J-BAS 0 after infection has been identified.*
- Where can I get a Cattle Heath Declaration ? www.farmbiosecurity.com.au

Biosecurity Plans

Animal Health Australia - <https://www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/johnes-disease-frequently-asked-questions/>

Grazing manual biosecurity template

<https://www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/wp-content/uploads/On-Farm-Biosecurity-Plan-Template.pdf>

Livestock Biosecurity Network- www.lbn.org.au

LBN Biosecurity plan template –

<http://www.lbn.org.au/farm-biosecurity-tools/planning-tools/>

Australian Cattle Vets

Link to info about BIOCHECK software <http://www.ava.com.au/cattle/biocheck-public>

Farm Biosecurity App

<http://www.farmbiosecurity.com.au/farmbiosecurity-app/>

LPA Information

<https://www.mla.com.au/meat-safety-and-traceability/red-meat-integrity-system/lpa-changes/>

Thanks to the following organisations for assisting in this space

