

New Queensland strategy for Johne's disease (JD)



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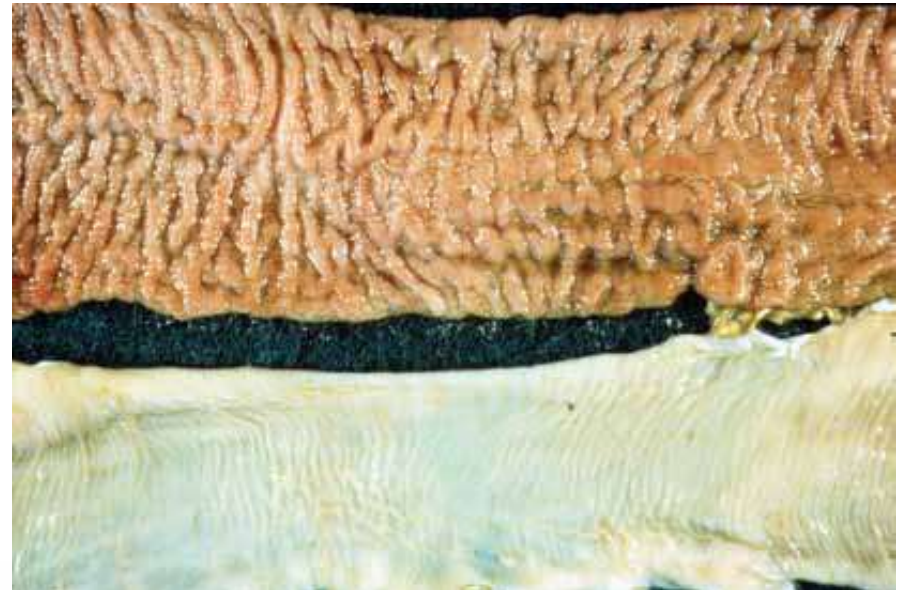
New Queensland strategy for Johne's disease (JD)

Overview

- Introduction to JD
- BJD – Shift to industry management
- *Biosecurity Act 2014*
- JD Strategy for Qld
- Implications for on-farm management of JD in Qld – cattle focus
- Further information

Johne's disease (JD)

- Bacterial infection of gut
- Immune response thickens gut
- Mal-absorption causes wasting, diarrhoea, production losses, death
- Slow-growing
- Strains
- Spread in faeces



Johne's disease (JD)

- Most significant with stress
 - Nutrition
 - Lactation
 - Bullying
- Testing difficult; mostly just for herds, not individuals
- Vaccination of some value



JD occurrence

- Most prevalent in SE Australia
 - Dairy industry
 - Beef with dairy links
 - Beef with sheep links increasing in Victoria
- Increasing prevalence and distribution
- Contrast with low prevalence in Qld
 - Dairy surveys
 - Tracing investigations
 - Ill-thrift investigations
 - Rare cases
 - Associated with recent movements
 - Entry restrictions
- Other low-risk populations



JD – Traditional Queensland perspective

- Low risk populations
- Relatively higher risk interstate populations
 - Trading risks
- Current regulatory protection (*Stock Act 1915*)
 - Entry requirements
 - Quarantine
 - Regulatory response (investigation, tracing)

Bovine Johne's disease (BJD)

- 'C' strain → infection in cattle
- National review
 - Cost-effectiveness of regulatory prevention
 - Sheep risk
- New Framework
 - New objectives
 - Minimise impacts of disease
 - Tools for assessment and management
 - Market-driven industry management
 - Regulatory protection not supported
 - Responsibility of individual producer
 - Notifiable, for export certification

Biosecurity Act 2014

- Commences on 1 July 2016
- Supported by both major parties
- Modern, flexible, integration, accountability:
 - Shared responsibility
 - Risk-based decision-making
 - Decisions under uncertainty
- General biosecurity obligation
- Other tools

General biosecurity obligation

- Requires:
 - **All persons who deal with biosecurity matter or a carrier**
 - If they know or ought reasonably to know that it poses a biosecurity risk
 - To take **all reasonable and practical measures**
 - To **prevent or minimise the risk.**

JD strategy for Queensland

- JD Review Committee
- Industry vision:
 - Low prevalence
 - Industry management
 - Nil/minimal regulatory impost
- GBO:
 - Assess and manage risks
 - Prevent negligent/deliberate spread
- Notifiable

Future management of JD

- Shift to producer responsibility
 - ASSESS & MANAGE RISKS
 - Entry standards
 - Health statement
 - Assess information, ask questions
 - Acceptable risk?
 - Risk management
 - Protect self, herd, trading partners from impacts
 - Flexibility
 - Risk-based – response to increased risks
- Continuing notifiability

Future biosecurity management

- Boundary security
- Introductions
- Monitoring, investigation
- Containment
- Vaccination
- Assurance
- Declarations – both parties

Optional strategy

- Regional/Group Biosecurity Plans
 - Identify group
 - Area/region
 - Group (breed, industry) eg, dairy
 - Shows/sales
 - Leadership
 - Standards of risk management
 - Entry
 - Spread
 - Response to detection
 - Resources
 - Benefits
 - Peer support
 - Common standards
 - Recognition for trade to other Regional Biosecurity Plan areas/groups (WA program unclear)
- Support available from DAF
 - Technical, policy, logistical
 - Not regulatory

Key points

- JD is slow but inexorable
- JD risk management is up to you
- Skill up – it's not too hard
- Mostly, continue on **deliberately**
- Group(s) recommended

Further information

- DAF website:

www.daf.qld.gov.au

- National information on:

- JD (all species)
- BJD Review
- Market Assurance Programs

www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au

- Biosecurity planning

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