

1 July 2017

Notifiable pests and diseases of animals: commencement of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*.

Current Issue

The *Biosecurity Act 2015* (the Act) commences on July 1, 2017. The Act replaces a number of pieces of legislation including the:

- *Stock Diseases Act 1923* (which previously covered the regulation of notifiable pests and diseases of animals in NSW), and the
- *Animal Diseases and Animal Pests (Emergency Outbreaks) Act 1991* (which previously covered the regulation of emergency animal diseases and emergency animal pests in NSW).

There have been some changes to terminology under the Act. Notifiable pests and diseases of animals are now classified and listed as either:

- **Prohibited matter under Schedule 2.** This includes pests and diseases that are exotic to Australia and all diseases that were previously listed as emergency animal diseases. Exotic plant pests and diseases and aquatic pests and diseases are also listed as prohibited matter.
- **Notifiable under Schedule 1.** This list includes endemic animal diseases already present in NSW such as footrot in sheep and goats, chlamydiosis in poultry and other birds and Johne's disease.

The requirements and mechanisms to report any of these animal pests and diseases in NSW remain. If you become aware of, or suspect, the presence of **prohibited matter** in NSW you must notify verbally and immediately by phoning the Animal Biosecurity Emergency Hotline on **1800 675 888** (24 hour hotline) or your Local Land Services on **1300 795 299** (during working hours).

If you become aware of, or suspect, the presence of a pest or disease listed as **Notifiable under Schedule 1** you must notify within one working day. This can be done by either phoning Local Land Services **1300 795 299**, or contacting a NSW Department of Primary Industries authorised officer.

The duty to notify applies to a person consulting in their professional capacity (such as a veterinarian). This duty also applies to an owner, occupier, or person in charge, care, control or custody of a premises (such as a property), or a carrier or thing (such as an animal, animal product, vehicle or equipment) to which the notifiable matter relates.

The full list of pests and diseases of animals that are notifiable (and classified as either prohibited matter or Notifiable under Schedule 1) is contained in the Primefact [Notifiable pests and diseases of animals in NSW](#).

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Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (1 July 2017). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of NSW Department Primary Industries or the user's independent adviser.