

BIOSECURITY BULLETIN # 2

25 August 2015

Second case of Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease Virus 2 detected in a pet rabbit in the ACT

There has been a second isolation of RHDV2 in a rabbit in the Australian Capital Territory. The doe was one of two pet rabbits, housed together on the same property, which died suddenly. Neither rabbit had been vaccinated.

In addition to the basic biosecurity and management measures outlined in the [Biosecurity Bulletin #1 10th July 2015](#), it is suggested that veterinarians may wish to discuss with their clients the option of revising their Cylap vaccination program to help protect their rabbits from challenge with this new strain of RHDV.

Any concerns or enquiries about the vaccine can be directed to Richard L'Estrange, Veterinary Operations Manager-Companion Animal and Equine, Zoetis; Mob 0419291854, email Richard.L'Estrange@zoetis.com

Laboratory samples for diagnosis and surveillance

Any veterinarian who suspects a domestic rabbit may have RHDV2, should submit a fresh frozen (not formalin-fixed) 1 g liver sample to the State Diagnostic Veterinary Laboratory (SVDL) at the Elizabeth Macarthur Institute (EMAI) . See <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/vetmanual> for details of how to pack and send the samples. Please put on the submission form- for "RHDV2 surveillance"

Further information

<http://www.idt-animal-health.com/veterinarian/rabbit/diseases-rabbit/rhd/aetiology/rhdv2/>

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Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (20 August 2015). 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.