

# EMERGENCY ANIMAL DISEASE PREPAREDNESS FOR DAIRY FARMS

15 JULY 2022

**Know the signs for Foot and Mouth Disease and Lumpy Skin Disease.  
Report anything unusual to the Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline on 1800 675 888.**

There is currently a heightened risk of both Foot and Mouth Disease and Lumpy Skin Disease entering Australia following outbreaks in nearby countries.

It's vital that everyone in the Australian dairy industry play their part in preventing outbreaks of these diseases in our country.

## What should farms do now to prepare?

There are some simple steps all farmers and farm workers can undertake to help reduce the risk of Foot and Mouth Disease and Lumpy Skin Disease coming onto their farms.

- 1 Be aware of the signs** of each disease (see signs below) and keep a close eye on your livestock for any signs of disease. Immediately report anything unusual to the **Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline on 1800 675 888**.
- 2 Ensure your farm has an up-to-date biosecurity plan** and everybody on the farm team understands and complies with the plan. There are a range of biosecurity planning tools and resources available. The Animal Health Australia (Farm Biosecurity) tool or App is the recommended plan to use as it is simple and appropriate for Emergency Animal Disease risks. Use the link in the table below to update your farm's plan.
- 3 Limit all unnecessary stock movements on or off your farm**, as the most likely source of infection on-farm is through infected stock. Adhere to all traceability obligations, including meeting your requirements under the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) and completing National Vendor Declarations so they are clear, complete, and correct.
- 4 Ensure that anyone who has travelled outside Australia (especially Bali and Indonesia and excluding FMD-free countries) does not come on-farm for at least 7 days.** Undertake risk assessments for all visitors or staff that come onto your farm. Follow the link in the table below to download a risk assessment template.

## Foot and Mouth Disease signs in cattle

- Blisters and ulcers in and around the mouth, nose, teats and feet
- Drooling
- Excessive salivation
- Lameness
- Fever
- Sudden drop in appetite and/or milk production
- Abortion
- Sudden death in young animals.

## Lumpy Skin Disease signs in cattle

- Skin nodules (lumps) particularly on the head, neck, legs, udder, genitalia and perineum
- Discharge from the eyes and nose
- Drop in milk production
- Fever
- Loss of body condition.

## More information

Regular updates will be shared via the Emergency Animal Disease Preparedness page on the Dairy Australia website [dairyaustralia.com.au/eadpreparedness](http://dairyaustralia.com.au/eadpreparedness).

Links to additional resources below may also be useful in preparing dairy farm businesses in the event of Foot and Mouth Disease and Lumpy Skin Disease entering Australia.

Foot and Mouth Disease	Lumpy Skin Disease
How to prepare your farm	How to prepare your farm
National Response Plan (AUSVETPLAN)	
Update your Farm Biosecurity Plan	
Visitor risk assessment template	
Other useful Biosecurity Links	

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WATCH HOTLINE 1800 675 888**