

Biosecurity - Chemically affected food-producing animals, animal food commodities and stock food

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AUTHORISED BY: Group Director, Animal Biosecurity and Welfare

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1. Purpose

This policy describes what the New South Wales Government will do to manage the risks posed to the economy, community and environment of New South Wales by contaminants that may lead to food producing animals, animal food commodities and stock food becoming chemically affected.

2. Scope

This policy applies to the NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI), an office within the NSW Department of Industry, and Local Land Services (LLS) implementing activities in their roles as authorised officers under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (the Act) and *Local Land Services Act 2013*.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the overarching policy 'Principles for management of animal biosecurity and welfare in NSW'.

Contaminants that lead to food producing animals, animal food commodities and stock foods becoming chemically affected are potentially harmful to the health of humans, animals and the environment.

For the purpose of this policy contaminants are as specified in:

- [Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Instrument No. 4 \(MRL Standard\) 2012](#) and
- [Australian New Zealand Food Standards Code-schedule 19 - Maximum levels of contaminants and natural toxicants.](#)

Chemically affected, food producing animals, animal food commodities and stock food are as defined in the *Animal Biosecurity Regulation 2017* (the Regulation).

3. Safety requirements

The *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* places an obligation on the agency (NSW DPI and LLS) as a person conducting a business or undertaking and workers to provide a safe and healthy workplace. Safe work method statements that support activities included in this policy must be used in identifying, assessing and controlling risks.

NSW DPI and LLS will work together to create a safe and supportive work environment when undertaking any activities for this policy.

4. Outcomes

4.1 Threats to biosecurity and food safety in NSW from chemical contaminants in food producing animals, animal food commodities and stock feed are assessed and managed according to a consistent, robust and systematic decision-making process.

- a. NSW actively contributes to international and national programs and agreements that maintain and enhance international market access and optimal animal health through the prevention of chemicals and chemical residues in animals, animal products and stock foods
- b. Emerging threats from chemical contamination of food producing animals, animal commodities and stock food are identified and evaluated.

4.1.1 Activities

- NSW DPI administers the Act and the *Stock Medicines Act 1989* and both NSW DPI and LLS enforce these Acts (4.1a)
- NSW DPI represents NSW on the Australian Agriculture Senior Officials Committee, the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Task Group and all working groups that sit under the Task Group (4.1a)
- NSW DPI Chemical Residues Coordinator and State Coordinator for Veterinary Chemicals represent NSW on the National Residue Committee, the [National Registration Scheme for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals](#) and the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (4.1a)
- NSW DPI and LLS evaluate emerging threats from chemical contamination of food producing animals, animal food commodities and stock food and manage these threats based on risk assessment (4.1b).

4.2 NSW DPI and LLS activities minimise the incidence and impact of chemically affected food producing animals, animal food commodities and stock feed threats in NSW

- a. Australian animal food producing industries benefit from maintained and enhanced market access for food producing animals and animal food commodities
- b. NSW stock food manufacturers benefit from maintained and enhanced market access for stock food products
- c. Consumers have confidence that animal food commodities produced in NSW meet [National Food Standards 1.4.1 and 1.4.2](#).

4.2.1 Activities

- NSW DPI State Residues Coordinator coordinates the investigation of contaminants detected in NSW food producing animals and animal food commodities, in collaboration with the [National Residue Survey \(NRS\)](#) and LLS (4.2a)(4.2c)
- NSW DPI and LLS staff investigate detections of contaminants in the field and liaise with the State Residues Coordinator as per the procedure for chemically affected food producing animals and animal food commodities (4.2a)(4.2c)
- NSW DPI and LLS implement programs for detection, monitoring and compliance enforcement of chemically affected food producing animals, animal food commodities and stock foods as per the procedures for lead affected food producing animals, National Organochloride Residue Management (NORM) and National Antibacterial Residue Minimisation (NARM) (4.2a)(4.2c)
- NSW DPI and LLS maintain accurate and up-to-date records of chemically affected animals, as per the NSW surveillance policy: Surveillance for Animal Pests and Diseases (4.2a)(4.2c)

- NSW DPI and LLS investigate reports of non-compliance with the stock food provisions in Division 9 (Animal Food) of the Regulation as per the procedure for stock foods (4.2b).

4.3 Stakeholders are empowered to implement best animal biosecurity and welfare practices to minimise the incidence and impact of food producing animals, animal food commodities and stock feed in NSW from becoming chemically affected

- a. Stakeholders understand their obligations under the Act to prevent, eliminate or minimise the risk of food producing animals, animal food commodities and stock foods from becoming chemically affected.

4.3.1 Activities

- NSW DPI develops and implements an animal biosecurity stakeholder engagement plan that includes chemical contaminants (4.3a)
- LLS develop and implement regionally specific stakeholder engagement plans that include chemical contaminants (4.3a)
- NSW DPI and LLS provide advice to stakeholders about their obligations to minimise the risk of food producing animals, animal food commodities and stock food becoming chemically affected (4.3a)
- NSW DPI creates advisory material for stakeholders about their obligations to minimise the risk of food producing animals, animal food commodities and stock food becoming chemically affected (4.3a).

5. Related Procedures

Procedure –Chemical contamination trace back

Procedure –Lead affected food-producing animals

Procedure –National Antibacterial Residue Minimisation

Procedure– Stock foods reporting

Procedure - Biosecurity Collection, use and disclosure if information

6. Definitions and acronyms

FSANZ	Food Standards Australia and New Zealand
LLS	Local Land Services
NARM	National Antibacterial Residue Minimisation
NORM	National Organochloride Residue Management
NRS	National Residue Survey
NSW DPI	NSW Department of Primary Industries

7. Legislation

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (NSW) Act 1994

Animal Research Act 1985

Biosecurity Act 2015

Exhibited Animals Protection Act 1986

Food Act 2003

Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009

Government Sector Employment Act 2013

Local Land Services Act 2013

Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979

State Records Act 1998

Stock Medicines Act 1989

Veterinary Practice Act 2011

Work Health and Safety Act 2011

8. Other related documents

Policy – Biosecurity - Principles for management of animal biosecurity and welfare in NSW
Policy – Biosecurity - Prohibited matter exotic pests and diseases of animals
Policy – Biosecurity - Prohibited matter sporadic pests and diseases of animals
Policy – Biosecurity - Endemic pests and diseases of animals
Policy – Biosecurity - Surveillance for pests and diseases of animals
Policy – Biosecurity - Animal welfare (underdevelopment)
Policy - Biosecurity Collection, use and disclosure of information
Policy - Records Management (IND-I-177)
Policy - Information Security (IND-I-197)
Policy - Classified Information (IND-I-196)
Policy - Government Information (Public Access) (IND-I-178)
Australian Code of Good Manufacturing Practice for the Feed Milling Industry

9. Revision History

Version	Date issued	Notes	By
1.0	01/07/2017	New policy developed in response to the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> .	Animal biosecurity and welfare

10. Contact

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