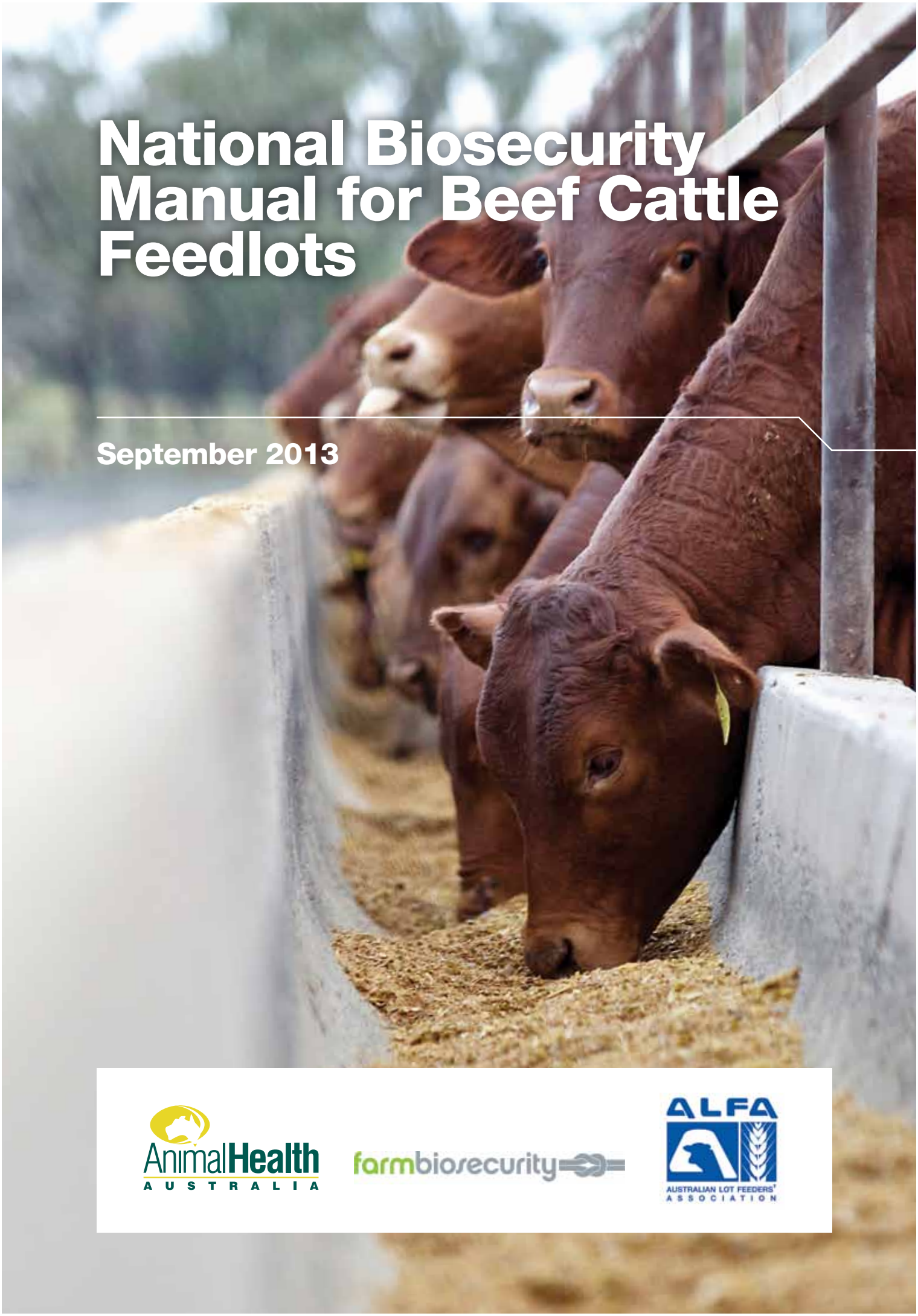

National Biosecurity Manual for Beef Cattle Feedlots

September 2013

Animal Health Australia

farmbiosecurity

ALFA Australian Lot Feeders' Association

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Thank you to the Australian Lot Feeders' Association for their contributions to the development of this manual.

secure your farm: secure your future

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National Biosecurity Manual for Beef Cattle Feedlots

This manual has been produced as a tool that feedlots can use to translate biosecurity practices into operating procedures and work instructions.

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Biosecurity on the feedlot

Biosecurity on the feedlot refers to the measures put in place to protect livestock against exposure to endemic and emergency diseases. It also aims to limit the spread of these diseases within livestock and, in the case of zoonotic diseases, human populations. Infectious diseases, whether they cause clinical (obvious) or subclinical (hidden) disease, significantly reduce the productivity, profitability and long term financial viability of a feedlot.

Biosecurity on the feedlot also includes preventing the spread of diseases, pests and weeds to or from other primary industries.

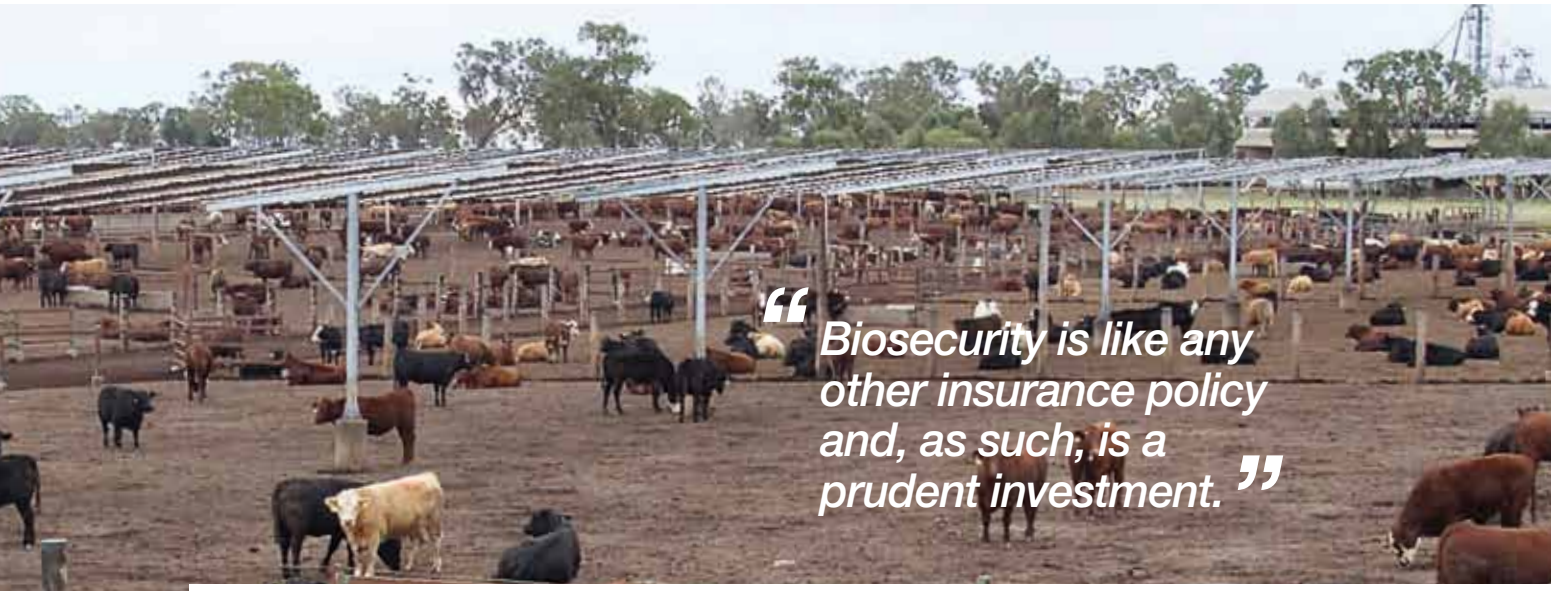
About this manual

This biosecurity manual outlines elements of best management practice that should be followed wherever possible and practicable to achieve the following objectives:

- To protect feedlot operations against the likelihood of disease entering into and spreading through their cattle population and being passed to other livestock operations.
- To minimise the incidence and spread of microorganisms of public health significance.

By implementing the measures outlined in this manual, feedlot operators not only benefit by reducing the risk of diseases, pests and weeds in the feedlot, but also reduce their liability under the Government and Livestock Industries' Cost Sharing Deed for Emergency Animal Disease Response (known as the EAD Response Agreement).

As a signatory to the EAD Response Agreement, the Australian feedlot industry



has developed this biosecurity manual detailing measures which aim to meet the above-mentioned objectives. These measures cover areas of risk common to most cattle feedlots and appropriate measures to minimise these risks.

Major emergency diseases of concern to the beef cattle feedlot industry are for cattle:

- foot and mouth disease
- bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE)
- contagious bovine pleuro-pneumonia
- lumpy skin disease
- Jembrana disease
- rinderpest

for cattle *and* horses:

- anthrax
- brucella abortus
- screw worm fly
- surra
- vesicular stomatitis

National Feedlot Accreditation Scheme (NFAS) and risk assessment

Many of the practices detailed in this manual are currently covered, in part or in whole, within the requirements of the NFAS. However, NFAS-accredited feedlot operators should ensure that the required linkages are made between current elements of the NFAS and the practices set out in the biosecurity manual.

Additionally, management practices employed will vary from site to site. Thus it is important that a risk assessment be conducted for each enterprise to establish the level of risk that exists in each phase of its operations and to identify and implement control measures appropriate to these risks.

When undertaking the risk assessment to determine the feedlot-specific biosecurity measures, it is important to take into account all factors that may impact on sound biosecurity arrangements. These factors include:

- the size of the operation
- the location and layout of property and feedlot
- sources of water supply and feed
- the disease status of the district
- proximity to other feedlots or production sites with cattle or other livestock presence and type of wildlife
- customer/supplier interactions (pick-ups, service, trades, industry personnel, contractors, deliveries of livestock and feed, etc.)
- customer requirements
- any other operational management considerations

A biosecurity self-audit checklist sample for continuous improvement is attached at Appendix 1.

Main ways disease spreads

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Cattle and other animals

- transfer of cattle from one production area to another
- dead cattle disposal
- horse movements
- wild birds
- feral and domestic animals including other livestock, predators and pets
- insects
- rodents e.g. rats and mice
- domestic birds e.g. poultry

People

- farm personnel and family members living on site
- contractors, maintenance personnel, neighbours, service personnel and visitors
- disease transmitted by hands, boots, clothing, dirty hair

Vehicles and equipment

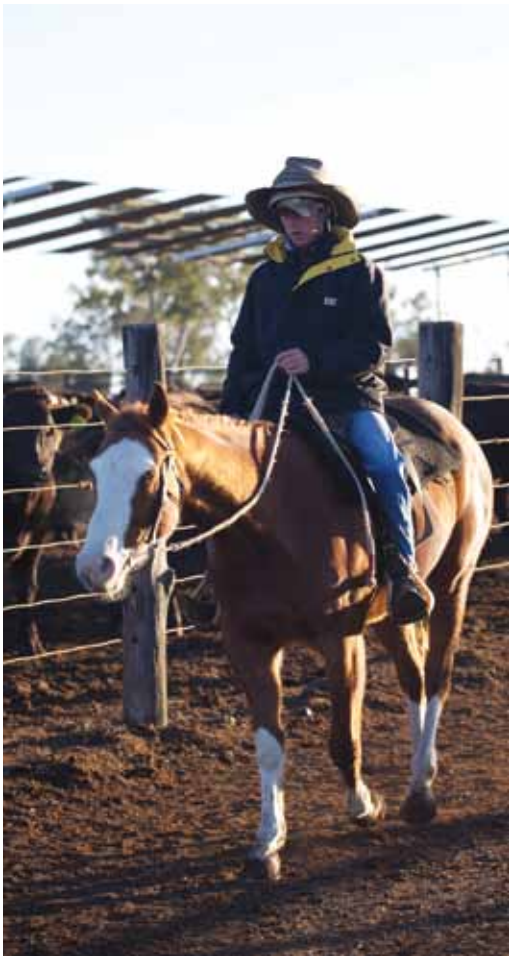
- utes, bikes, front loaders, trucks, horse floats
- veterinary equipment
- spray packs
- saddles
- boots and clothing

Air

- as aerosol or dust particles

Feed and water supply

- faeces from avian or other animal species
- raw materials used for the production of feed mix
- post-production contamination or spoilage during transport and storage
- exposure to rodents and birds on the property
- bacteria and mould in poor quality or damaged feed
- restricted animal material (RAM)



Definitions of ‘feedlot’ and ‘property’

In this document, the **feedlot** includes the confined yard areas (cattle pens) with watering and feeding facilities where cattle are completely hand or mechanically fed for the purposes of production (National Guidelines for Beef Cattle Feedlots in Australia, 3rd Edition). It also includes the areas used for feed storage and handling and the area immediately surrounding the pens, including load-out areas.

The **property** is the land on which the feedlot is located and may include other farm land used for livestock grazing or cultivation. In some instances the boundary of the feedlot and the boundary of the property may be the same.

Pens refer to those areas capable of and used for holding cattle securely within their perimeter for mechanical feeding. **Paddock** or **grazing area** are references to fenced pastures that are, or at times are, accessed by cattle for grazing.

Levels of biosecurity

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Level 1 – Routine biosecurity procedures

These procedures should be implemented and followed on a daily basis. They give a high degree of assurance that diseases and pathogens will not be carried into the feedlot and will reduce the risk of transmission between production areas. These should be seen as a minimum requirement.

Action plan for suspected emergency animal disease

Each owner/manager should establish and document clear guidelines regarding the circumstances when an emergency animal disease alert should be raised (e.g. an unusual increase in mortality or appearance of suspicious or unusual signs of illness in cattle) and who must be informed. The feedlot's Emergency Animal Disease Action Plan should also clearly state that, if an emergency animal disease is suspected, movements on and off the feedlot and the property must be limited to the absolute minimum and special precautions must be taken as outlined by the plan.

The Australian Veterinary Emergency Plan (AUSVETPLAN) Enterprise Manual for Beef Cattle Feedlots provides a key reference for the development of a feedlot emergency response plan. Appendix 2 provides a pro-forma for such a document.

Level 2 – High risk biosecurity procedures

In the event of an outbreak of an emergency animal disease (exotic or serious endemic disease), high risk biosecurity procedures will be implemented under the guidance of the state government department responsible for agriculture, in accordance with other relevant documents (e.g. AUSVETPLAN and standard operating procedures).

Routine biosecurity procedures

Note that, for feedlots accredited under the NFAS, many of these practices are currently covered, in part or in whole, by the NFAS Standards Manual.

1.0 Manage inputs – stock, water, feed, bedding

1.1 Cattle

Objective: To manage the introduction and movement of cattle in a way that minimises the risk of introducing or spreading diseases and pests.

1.1.1 Where practicable, purchase feeder stock from preferred suppliers who maintain a quality assurance program that includes a biosecurity component.

1.1.2 Inspect all cattle on arrival at the feedlot to assess their animal health status; ensure that a record of inspection is maintained.

1.1.3 Ensure that the vendor provides a fully completed National Vendor Declaration (NVD) and where possible a National Cattle Health Statement for the consigned cattle.

1.1.4 Ensure all cattle are National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) identified and transferred to the feedlot's property identification code (PIC) for tracing purposes.

1.1.5 Where possible, minimise the mixing of newly arrived or returning cattle with other stock.

1.2 Horses

Objective: To manage the introduction and movement of horses in a way that minimises the risk of introducing or spreading infectious disease to the feedlot or between working horses.

1.2.1 Horses should be retained on the property for a minimum period of two weeks after working with cattle in order to allow any signs of disease to be seen before they are transferred off the property. Alternatively horses should be kept separated from other horses when returning to their home property.

1.2.2 Maintain a horse register to record movement of all horses on and off the feedlot site.

1.3 Water

Objective: To ensure that drinking water used in the feedlot for cattle is of a suitable quality standard.

1.3.1 The use of a suitable water supply is important for good biosecurity. In general, water with a high level of organic matter is unsuitable. It may be necessary to seek expert advice to ensure a safe water supply.

1.3.2 Drinking water for cattle should meet appropriate standards as recommended by the National Guidelines for Beef Cattle Feedlots in Australia, 3rd Edition.

1.3.3 Seek expert advice on water treatment options if water testing shows the available water to be of unsuitable quality.

1.3.4 If water treatment is used, the method should be regularly monitored for effectiveness.

1.3.5 The treated water supply should be kept in a closed system from the point of treatment to the point of drinking.

1.4 Feed

Objective: To manage the introduction and movement of manufactured feed and feed ingredients in a way that minimises the risk of introducing or spreading disease, pests and weeds.

1.4.1 Where practicable, purchase feed commodities from preferred suppliers who maintain a quality assurance program that includes a biosecurity component.

1.4.2 Ensure that the ban on feeding of animal products (ruminant feed ban) to cattle is complied with. Restricted animal material (RAM) must not be fed to cattle (or any other ruminants), especially any material that may contain or may have been in contact with RAM. There are specific regulations in each state prohibiting the feeding of RAM.

1.4.3 Store cattle feed in a manner that reduces contamination by livestock, vermin, insects, wildlife, feral and domestic animals, and other feed types.

1.4.4 Ensure feed commodities are fit for purpose. All purchased feed must be accompanied by a commodity/by-product vendor declaration stating that it is free from chemical residues/contaminants and fit for the purpose of feeding to beef cattle.

1.4.5 Feed spills should be cleaned up as soon as practicable. Spilled and spoiling feed attracts pests and vermin to the feedlot.

1.5 Bedding

Objective: To manage the introduction and movement of bedding in a way that minimises the risk of introducing or spreading pests and disease.

1.5.1 Ensure bedding material is fit for purpose.

1.5.2 Areas where bedding is stored should be kept as dry and vermin free as is practically possible.

2.0 Manage the movement of people, vehicles and equipment

2.1 Employees and family

Objective: To minimise the risk of introduction and spread of disease or contaminants by feedlot employees or family.

2.1.1 Feedlot personnel should wear laundered clean clothes each day at the commencement of their work.

2.1.2 Do not take boots that are worn at the feedlot outside the feedlot unless cleaned, as they are the most likely method of diseases being spread by personnel.

2.1.3 Protective clothing and footwear must be worn in the feedlot hospital pens area at all times and removed prior to exiting.

2.1.4 Hands must also be sanitised on leaving the feedlot hospital pens.

2.2 Visitors, contractors, suppliers and other service personnel

Objective: To minimise the risk of introduction and spread of disease or contaminants by contractors, suppliers, service personnel and visitors.

2.2.1 Be aware of the potential for the introduction and transmission of an emergency disease by visitors.

2.2.2 Wherever possible, control the access of visitors/suppliers to the designated feedlot area.

2.2.3 Ensure that all visitors entering the feedlot are directed to a designated meeting place away from the main feedlot area, preferably the office, before access is allowed to the main feedlot area.

2.2.4 Maintain a register of visitors and vehicles (including contractors) to the feedlot (Appendix 3) which includes a record of:

- date
- time in
- name(s)
- company
- contact number
- motor vehicle registration number
- signature
- biosecurity risk assessment
- time out

2.2.5 Assess all visitors (including contractors) entering the feedlot for their biosecurity risk prior to being granted access to the feedlot complex and surrounds. The risk assessment must consider the potential for visitors to have been previously exposed to a disease and the subsequent potential for them to introduce a disease into the feedlot (Appendix 4).

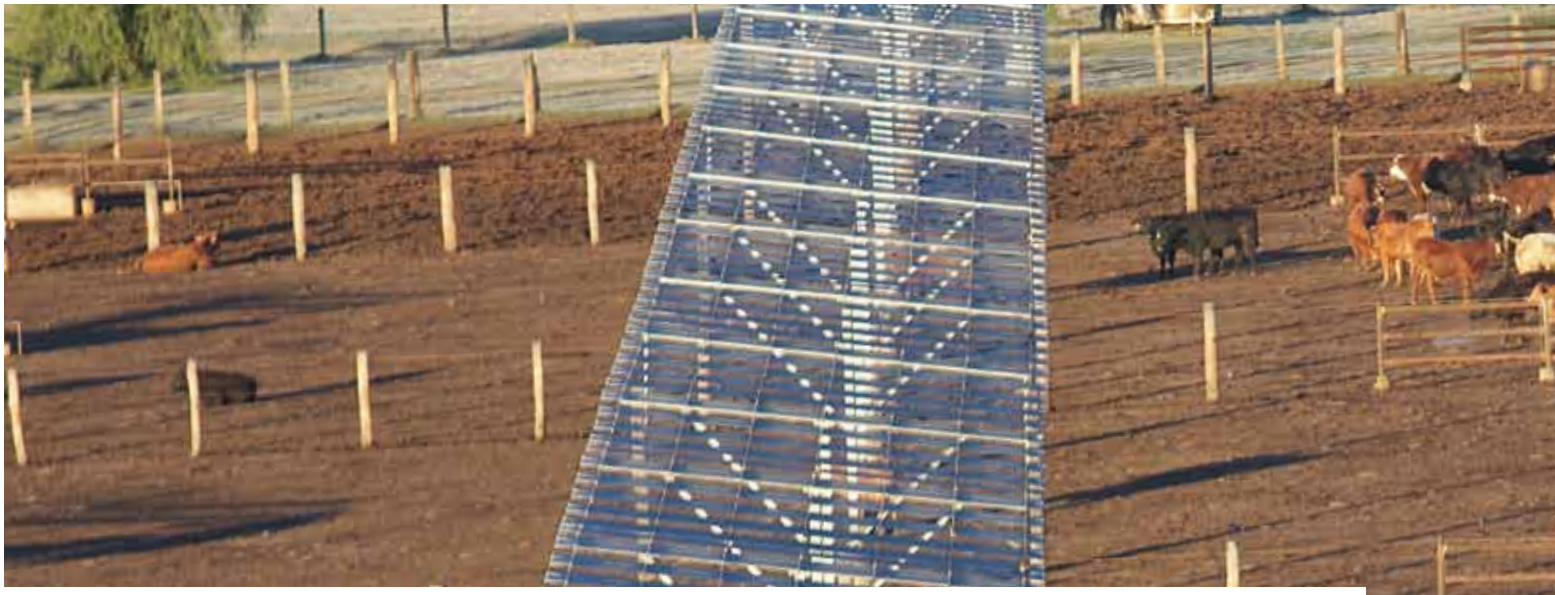
2.3 Equipment

Objective: To prevent the introduction of disease agents and contaminants into the feedlot through the movement of equipment.

2.3.1 Employees and contractors can use their own tools and personal equipment (e.g. laptops, cameras or phones), noting the equipment must be cleaned, ensuring it is free of organic matter.

2.3.2 Be aware of the potential for introduction and transmission of an emergency disease by borrowed/hired equipment.

2.3.3 Wherever possible, do not use the same equipment for handling feed and manure. If you must use equipment for multiple purposes, then wash and disinfect it between uses to ensure that manure does not contaminate feed commodities.



2.4 Vehicles

2.4.1 Be aware of the potential for introduction and transmission of an emergency disease by visiting vehicles and machinery.

2.4.2 Limit the entry of non-feedlot vehicles, machinery and equipment into areas of the feedlot beyond the specified delivery areas.

2.4.3 There must be a designated parking area for vehicles not entering the production area.

2.4.4 All visitors should park their vehicles outside the production area unless it is essential that the vehicle be taken on site; for example, some maintenance contractors. Ensure that all vehicles, machinery and equipment entering the feedlot area are directed to specified locations and delivery areas within the feedlot.

2.4.5 If any vehicle is taken into the production area/s, it needs to be assessed as to its risk and washed and disinfected prior to entry and exit as required.

3.0 Manage production practices

3.1 Livestock monitoring

3.1.1 Undertake routine monitoring of cattle in the feedlot for signs of illness/injury and maintain records as part of a health management program.

3.1.2 Report cases of unusual illness or death in the feedlot to the consulting veterinarian or the local government veterinary officer. NFAS-accredited feedlots should refer to their EAD Action Plan.

3.1.3 All cattle mortalities and cases of disease should be recorded to assist monitoring for any unusual animal health problems potentially indicating a biosecurity breach.

3.1.4 A record of cattle movements in and out of the feedlot must be maintained to facilitate tracing in the event of an animal health/disease or food safety concern.

3.2 Manure and effluent management

3.2.1 Be aware that manure and effluent pose a potential biosecurity risk.

3.2.2 Record movements of manure and/or compost removed from the feedlot site.

3.2.3 Record dates, areas of manure and effluent application and application rates in accordance with the requirements of the National Beef Cattle Feedlot Environmental Code of Practice.

3.2.4 Be aware that for some emergency disease outbreaks there may be a requirement under AUSVETPLAN for the mass de-contamination and disposal of manure and effluent. Develop a management plan for such an event.

3.3 Dead stock management

3.3.1 Dispose of dead stock in accordance with documented procedures that satisfy the National Beef Cattle Feedlot Environmental Code of Practice, taking into account environmental and public considerations.

3.3.2 Cover dead stock placed in a pit as soon as possible to eliminate potential problems with feral animal activity.

3.3.3 Develop a management plan for the mass disposal of dead stock. The AUSVETPLAN Disposal and Feedlot Enterprise Manuals provide relevant information in this regard.

3.4 Maintenance

Objective: To hinder the introduction of disease agents and contaminants into cattle pens and enclosures and reduce the attraction of rodents and birds to production areas.

3.4.1 Grass on and around the feedlot site should be kept cut; long grass attracts rodents and favours the survival of viruses and bacteria.

3.4.2 As much as possible, maintenance should be conducted between feeding groups. Ensure that all hardware is removed in the clean-up.

3.4.3 Ensure feedlot internal fences are adequately maintained to minimise accidental mixing of cattle within the feedlot.

3.4.4 Ensure perimeter fences are adequately maintained to minimise exposure of cattle in the feedlot to stock in adjoining areas.

3.5 Identification

Objective: To implement a stock identification system that enables maintenance of appropriate management records, traceability of stock on the feedlot and stock dispatched from the feedlot.

3.5.1 Introduced cattle must be identified within seven (7) days of arrival onto the feedlot.

3.5.2 Ensure that dual identification of individual cattle is conducted to enhance traceability.

3.5.3 Check the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) database to ensure all cattle to be fed are fit for purpose.

3.5.4 Feedlot records regarding cattle entry, identification and exit must be kept.

3.5.5 Adhere to the NLIS legislation of your state/territory at all times.

EMERGENCY ANIMAL DISEASE WATCH HOTLINE
1800 675 888

4.0 Manage feral animals, pests and vermin

4.1 Pests and vermin

Objective: To minimise the potential for introducing infectious agents and pathogens by pests and vermin through their presence in the production area.

4.1.1 Implement and maintain a pest and vermin control program.

4.1.2 Bait stations should be checked weekly and fresh baits set as required.

4.1.3 Records should be kept of each inspection and activity noted (see Appendix 5).

4.1.4 Bait stations should be placed away from access by cattle and designed to minimise the opportunity for other animals and birds to access the bait.

4.2 Feral animals and wildlife

4.2.1 Be aware of the potential for introduction and transmission of an emergency disease by feral animals and wildlife.

4.2.2 Where possible, minimise the potential for introduction and transmission of an emergency disease by feral animals and/or wildlife through control mechanisms.

5.0 Manage outgoing products

5.0.1 Only animals that are in a condition fit for travel must be selected to minimise potential disease and/or contamination spread through transport. Please see Meat & Livestock Australia's *Is it fit to load?* guide for relevant information.

6.0 Train – plan – record

6.1 Training

Objective: To ensure awareness by and training of all feedlot employees in all relevant biosecurity requirements.

6.1.1 Ensure that all employees involved in the daily monitoring and handling of stock are aware of the importance of early detection of diseases and know what to do if they suspect an animal may be exhibiting symptoms of disease.

6.1.2 All employees involved in the daily monitoring and handling of stock should be aware of the presence of best practice guidelines for specific diseases (e.g. anthrax).

6.1.3 All employees involved in the usage and application of farm disinfectants and herbicides must be competent to do so. Refer to Agchem and Vetchem training.

6.2 Documentation & record keeping

Objective: To assist in the early detection of animal health issues and the response to any biosecurity breach.

6.2.1 A sketch or map of the layout of the property, showing the production area, sheds, paddocks, access roads and gates should be created and maintained up to date.

6.2.2 Maintain records and documentation in line with previous sections of this manual.

EMERGENCY ANIMAL DISEASE WATCH HOTLINE
1800 675 888

APPENDIX 1: Biosecurity self-audit checklist for continuous improvement

1.0 Manage Inputs – stock, water, feed, bedding				
Reference	1.1 Cattle	Yes	No	Comments
1.1.1	Where practicable, is feeder stock purchased from preferred suppliers who maintain a quality assurance program that includes a biosecurity component?	☐	☐	
1.1.2	Are all cattle inspected on arrival at the feedlot to assess their animal health status? Is a record of inspection maintained?	☐	☐	
1.1.3	Do all vendors provide a fully completed National Vendor Declaration (NVD) and where possible, provide a National Cattle Health Statement for the consigned cattle?	☐	☐	
1.1.4	Are all cattle NLIS identified and transferred to the feedlot's property identification code (PIC) for trace purposes?	☐	☐	
1.1.5	Where possible, is the mixing of newly arrived or returning cattle with other stock minimised?	☐	☐	
Reference	1.2 Horses	Yes	No	Comments
1.2.1	Are all horses retained on the property for a minimum period of two weeks after working with cattle in order to allow any signs of disease to be seen before they are transferred off the property? Alternatively, are horses kept separated from other horses when returning to their home property?	☐	☐	
1.2.2	Is a horse register maintained to record movement of all horses on and off the feedlot site?	☐	☐	

Reference	1.3 Water	Yes	No	Comments
1.3.1	Is a suitable water supply used? (In general, water with a high level of organic matter is unsuitable.) Has expert advice been sought to ensure a safe water supply?	☐	☐	
1.3.2	Does the drinking water for cattle meet appropriate standards as recommended by the National Guidelines for Beef Cattle Feedlots in Australia, 3rd Edition?	☐	☐	
1.3.3	Is expert advice sought on water treatment options when water testing shows the available water to be of unsuitable quality?	☐	☐	
1.3.4	If water treatment is used, is the method regularly monitored for effectiveness?	☐	☐	
1.3.5	Is the treated water supply kept in a closed system from the point of treatment to the point of drinking?	☐	☐	
Reference	**1.4 Feed**	**Yes**	**No**	**Comments**
1.4.1	Where practicable, are feed commodities purchased from preferred suppliers who maintain a quality assurance program that includes a biosecurity component?	☐	☐	
1.4.2	Is the ban on feeding of animal products (ruminant feed ban) to cattle complied with? Is restricted animal material (RAM) not fed to cattle (or any other ruminants), including any material that may contain or may have been in contact with RAM? (There are specific regulations in each state prohibiting the feeding of RAM.)	☐	☐	
1.4.3	Is feed stored in a manner that reduces contamination by livestock, vermin, insects, wildlife, feral and domestic animals and other feed types?	☐	☐	

1.4.4	Are feed commodities fit for purpose? Is all purchased feed accompanied by a commodity/by-product vendor declaration stating that it is free from chemical residues/contaminants and fit for the purpose of feeding to beef cattle?	☐	☐	
1.4.5	Are feed spills cleaned up as soon as practicable? (Spilled and spoiling feed attracts pests and vermin to the feedlot.)	☐	☐	
Reference	1.5 Bedding	Yes	No	Comments
1.5.1	Is bedding material fit for purpose?	☐	☐	
1.5.2	Are areas where bedding is stored kept dry and vermin free as practically as possible?	☐	☐	
Comments:				

2.0 Manage the movement of people, vehicles and equipment				
Reference	2.1 Feedlot employees and family	Yes	No	Comments
2.1.1	Do all feedlot personnel wear laundered clean clothes each day at the commencement of their work?	☐	☐	
2.1.2	Are boots worn at the feedlot not worn or taken outside the feedlot unless clean? (This is the most likely method of diseases being spread by personnel.)	☐	☐	
2.1.3	Are protective clothing and footwear worn in the feedlot hospital pens area at all times and removed prior to exiting?	☐	☐	
2.2.4	Are hands sanitised on leaving the feedlot hospital pens?	☐	☐	
Reference	2.2 Visitors, contractors, suppliers and other service personnel	Yes	No	Comments
2.2.1	Is there an awareness of the potential for the introduction and transmission of an emergency disease by visitors?	☐	☐	
2.2.2	Wherever possible, is there control over the access of visitors/suppliers to the designated feedlot area?	☐	☐	
2.2.3	Are all visitors entering the feedlot directed to a designated meeting place away from the main feedlot area, preferably the office, before access is allowed to the main feedlot area?	☐	☐	
2.2.4	Is a register of visitors and vehicles (including contractors) to the feedlot maintained? The record (Appendix 3) should include: • date • time in • name(s) • company • contact number • motor vehicle registration number • signature • biosecurity risk assessment • time out	☐	☐	

2.2.5	Are all visitors (including contractors) who enter the feedlot assessed for their biosecurity risk prior to being granted access to the feedlot complex and surrounds? Does the risk assessment consider the potential for visitors who have been previously exposed to a disease and the subsequent potential for them to introduce a disease into the feedlot? (Appendix 4)	☐	☐	
Reference	2.3 Equipment	Yes	No	Comments
2.3.1	Employees and contractors can use their own tools and personal equipment (e.g. laptops, cameras or phones), but do they note that the equipment must be cleaned, ensuring it is free of organic matter?	☐	☐	
2.3.2	Is there awareness of the potential for introduction and transmission of an emergency disease by borrowed/hired equipment?	☐	☐	
2.3.3	Wherever possible, is different equipment used for handling feed and manure? If the same equipment must be used for multiple purposes, are hands washed and disinfected between uses to ensure that manure does not contaminate feed commodities?	☐	☐	
Reference	2.4 Vehicles	Yes	No	Comments
2.4.1	Is there an awareness of the potential for introduction and transmission of an emergency disease by visiting vehicles, machinery and equipment?	☐	☐	
2.4.2	Are non-feedlot vehicles, machinery and equipment restricted from entering into areas of the feedlot beyond the specified delivery areas?	☐	☐	
2.4.3	Is there a designated parking area for vehicles not entering the production area?	☐	☐	
2.4.4	Do all visitors park their vehicles outside the production area, unless it is essential that the vehicle be taken on site; for example, some maintenance contractors? Are all vehicles, machinery and equipment entering the feedlot area directed to specified locations and delivery areas within the feedlot?	☐	☐	
2.4.5	If any vehicle is taken into the production area/s, is it assessed as to its risk and washed and disinfected prior to entry as required?	☐	☐	
Comments:				

3.0 Manage production practices				
Reference	3.1 Livestock monitoring	Yes	No	Comments
3.1.1	Does routine monitoring occur of cattle in the feedlot for signs of illness/ injury and are records maintained as part of a health management program?	☐	☐	
3.1.2	Are cases of unusual illness or death in the feedlot reported to the consulting veterinarian or the local government veterinary officer? *NFAS-accredited feedlots should refer to their EAD Action Plan.*	☐	☐	
3.1.3	Are all cattle mortalities and cases of disease recorded to assist monitoring for any unusual animal health problems potentially indicating a biosecurity breach?	☐	☐	
3.1.4	Is a record of cattle movements in and out of the feedlot maintained to facilitate tracing in the event of an animal health/disease or food safety concern?	☐	☐	
Reference	3.2 Manure and effluent management	Yes	No	Comments
3.2.1	Is there awareness that manure and effluent pose a potential biosecurity risk?	☐	☐	
3.2.2	Are movements of manure and/or compost removed from the feedlot site recorded?	☐	☐	
3.2.3	Are dates, areas of manure and effluent application and application rates recorded in accordance with the requirements of the National Beef Cattle Feedlot Environmental Code of Practice?	☐	☐	
3.2.4	Is there awareness that for some emergency disease outbreaks there may be a requirement under AUSVETPLAN for the mass de-contamination and disposal of manure and effluent? Has a management plan for such an event been developed?	☐	☐	
Reference	3.3 Dead stock management	Yes	No	Comments
3.3.1	Has dead stock been disposed of in accordance with documented procedures that satisfy the National Beef Cattle Feedlot Environmental Code of Practice, taking into account environmental and public considerations?	☐	☐	

3.3.2	Has dead stock been covered and placed in a pit as soon as possible to eliminate potential problems with feral animal activity?	☐	☐	
3.3.3	Has a management plan for the mass disposal of dead stock been developed? (The AUSVETPLAN Disposal and Feedlot Enterprise Manuals provide relevant information in this regard.)	☐	☐	
Reference	3.4 Maintenance	Yes	No	Comments
3.4.1	Is grass on and around the feedlot site kept cut? (Long grass attracts rodents and favours the survival of viruses and bacteria.)	☐	☐	
3.4.2	As much as possible, is maintenance conducted between feeding groups? Is all hardware removed in the cleanup?	☐	☐	
3.4.3	Are feedlot internal fences adequately maintained to minimise accidental mixing of cattle within the feedlot?	☐	☐	
3.4.4	Are perimeter fences adequately maintained to minimise exposure of cattle in the feedlot to stock in adjoining areas?	☐	☐	
Reference	3.5 Identification	Yes	No	Comments
3.5.1	Are introduced cattle identified within seven (7) days of arrival onto the feedlot?	☐	☐	
3.5.2	Is dual identification of individual cattle conducted to enhance traceability?	☐	☐	
3.5.3	Is the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) database checked to ensure all cattle to be fed are fit for purpose?	☐	☐	
3.5.4	Are feedlot records regarding cattle entry, identification and exit kept?	☐	☐	
3.5.5	Does the feedlot adhere to the NLIS legislation of the relevant state/territory at all times?	☐	☐	
Comments:				

4.0 Manage feral animals, pests and vermin				
Reference	4.1 Pests and vermin	Yes	No	Comments
4.1.1	Is a pest and vermin control program implemented and maintained?	☐	☐	
4.1.2	Are bait stations checked weekly and fresh baits set as required?	☐	☐	
4.1.3	Are records kept of each inspection and activity noted? (see Appendix 5)	☐	☐	
4.1.4	Are bait stations placed away from cattle access and designed to minimise the opportunity for other animals and birds to access the bait?	☐	☐	
Reference	4.2 Feral animals and wildlife	Yes	No	Comments
4.2.1	Is there awareness of the potential for introduction and transmission of an emergency disease by feral animals and wildlife?	☐	☐	
4.2.2	Where possible, is the potential for introduction and transmission of an emergency disease by feral animals and/or wildlife minimised?	☐	☐	
Comments:				

5.0 Manage outgoing products				
Reference	5.0 Manage outgoing products	Yes	No	Comments
5.0.1	Are only those animals that are in a condition fit for travel selected, to minimise potential disease and/or contamination spread through transport? (See Meat & Livestock Australia's *Is it fit to load?* guide for relevant information.)	☐	☐	
Comments:				

6.0 Train – plan – record				
Reference	6.1 Training	Yes	No	Comments
6.1.1	Are all employees involved in the daily monitoring and handling of stock aware of the importance of early detection of diseases and know what to do if they suspect an animal may be exhibiting symptoms of disease?	☐	☐	
6.1.2	Are all employees involved in the daily monitoring and handling of stock aware of the presence of best practice guidelines for specific diseases (e.g. anthrax)?	☐	☐	
6.1.3	Are all employees involved in the usage and application of farm disinfectants and herbicides competent to do so? (Refer to Agchem and Vetchem training.)	☐	☐	
Reference	6.2 Documentation and record keeping	Yes	No	Comments
6.2.1	Is there a sketch or map of the layout of the property, showing the production area, sheds, paddocks, access roads and gates and is it maintained up to date?	☐	☐	
6.2.2	Are records and documentation maintained in line with all sections of the National Biosecurity Manual for Beef Cattle Feedlots?	☐	☐	

EMERGENCY ANIMAL DISEASE WATCH HOTLINE
1800 675 888

APPENDIX 2: EAD Action Plan

Emergency Animal Disease (EAD) Action Plan

This document details the actions (and responsibilities) that are to be undertaken in the event that an emergency disease outbreak is suspected on-farm.

[A] Important Contact Details

	Name	Contact Number
Property name or PIC number		
Manager		
Person responsible for the EAD Action Plan		
Consultant veterinarian		
District veterinary officer		
Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline		1800 675 888

[B] Management Commitment

Management undertakes that unfamiliar signs of disease be investigated, and the following actions undertaken, without delay, if an emergency disease is suspected.

[C] Action Plan

Develop an action plan allocating responsibilities to relevant personnel.

1 . Contact the relevant authority through the district veterinary officer or the Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline 1800 675 888.

   Responsibility:

2. Follow all instructions as directed by the relevant authority.

   Responsibility:

3. **Do not dispatch any livestock** from the farm until authorised by the relevant authority.

   Responsibility:

4. Ensure suspect livestock are **isolated** within the farm.

   Responsibility:

5. Ensure companion animals of the suspect livestock are **segregated** from other livestock.
   Responsibility:
6. Ensure movement of all other livestock within the farm, and surrounds, is **restricted**.
   Responsibility:
7. Delay or halt the shipment of livestock onto the farm.
   Responsibility:
8. Delay or halt the delivery of all non-essential commodities.
   Responsibility:
9. Secure the farm perimeter, limiting access to the farm and ensuring all vehicles and visitors only enter the farm under controlled conditions.
   Responsibility:
10. Remove unnecessary personnel and machinery from livestock feeding and holding areas.
    Responsibility:
11. Ensure that any personnel, equipment or machinery do not leave the farm until authorised by the relevant authority.
    Responsibility:
12. Compile a list of all livestock (number of head, identification and location), personnel and machinery movements over the past seven days. Prepare a site plan that details current allocations of livestock.
    Responsibility:
13. Ensure all staff are made aware of the actions being taken and their individual responsibilities towards the action plan.
    Responsibility:
14. Ensure that customers are advised if they are immediately affected by the delay in the supply of livestock.
    Responsibility:
15. If an emergency disease is identified, the farm will follow the requirements of the AUSVETPLAN, and directions from the relevant authority.
    Responsibility:

APPENDIX 3: Visitor Register

In the interest of biosecurity all visitors are required to fill in this visitor register

Date	Name	Company	Signature	Contact Number	Risk Assessment*	Time In	Time Out

*Office use only - person signing in the visitor to use the Visitor Assessment Criteria and record the visitors risk.
If you see anything unusual on your property call the Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline on **1800 675 888** or the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline on **1800 084 881**

APPENDIX 4: Biosecurity Risk Assessment for Visitors & Staff

	YES	NO
1. Have you travelled outside of Australia in the past 30 days?	☐	☐
Or are you visiting from an oversees country?	☐	☐
If so, what country/s did you travel to?		
Or, what country are you travelling from?		
Did you visit any livestock premises (including farms) or abattoirs during your travels?	☐	☐
2. Have you visited any farms, abattoirs or livestock premises in Australia during the past 7 days?	☐	☐
Did you have any contact with livestock during your visit?	☐	☐
3. Has your vehicle or equipment been in contact with livestock or manure in the past 7 days?	☐	☐

Name:

Company:

Contact Number:

Signature:

Date:

Visiting:

Time In:

Time Out:

Administration

Please refer any visitors or staff to site management if they have answered **YES** to any of the above questions. Visitors are to report directly to the administration building.

If you see anything unusual on your property call the Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline on **1800 675 888** or the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline on **1800 084 881**

APPENDIX 5: Rodent Control Record

RODENT CONTROL RECORD

Bait Type:

Date	Time	Bait Station Number	Activity Level	Corrective Action	Name or Initials
			☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3		
			☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3		
			☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3		
			☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3		
			☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3		
			☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3		
			☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3		
			☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3		
			☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3		
			☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3		
			☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3		
			☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3		
			☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3		
			☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3		
			☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3		

Note: For activity level 0 = no activity. 1 = slight activity. 2 = half baits consumed. 3 = all baits consumed

Animal Health Australia

Animal Health Australia is an innovative partnership involving the Australian Government, state and territory governments, major livestock industries and other stakeholders. We work with our members and stakeholders to strengthen Australia's national animal health system and maximise confidence in the safety and quality of Australia's livestock products in domestic and overseas markets.

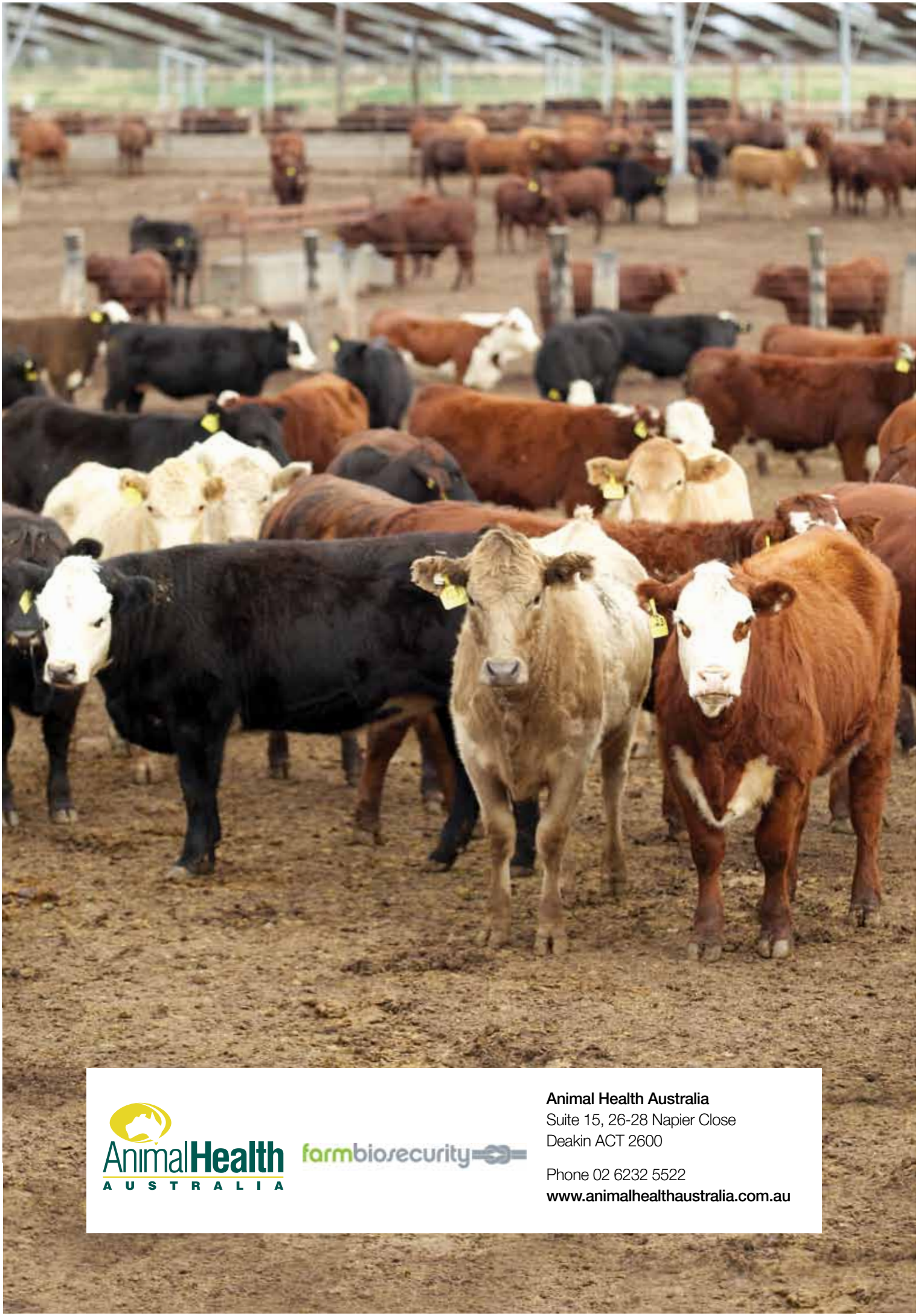
Australian Lot Feeder's Association

The Australian Lot Feeders' Association (ALFA) is the peak national body for the feedlot industry in Australia. Its mission is to lead the industry in a manner that fosters excellence and integrity; improves the feedlot business environment whilst ensuring its community standing. The Association directly represents its members and does not have State branches or a hierarchical structure. ALFA membership is a cost effective way to participate fully in the industry. ALFA actively advances and promotes the interests of the lot feeding industry; developing environmental and animal welfare standards, quality assurance & training programs and working to keep lot feeders abreast of emerging best management practices.

Farm Biosecurity

The Farm Biosecurity program is a joint initiative of Animal Health Australia and Plant Health Australia on behalf of their members. Its goal is to help producers reduce the risks posed by diseases, pests and weeds to crops and livestock. This national awareness campaign provides information about on-farm biosecurity measures which help prevent emergency animal disease outbreaks and exotic plant pest incursions. It encourages producers to identify risks to their livestock, crops and plant products, and to minimise those risks through good practices.

www.farmbiosecurity.com.au



Animal Health Australia
Suite 15, 26-28 Napier Close
Deakin ACT 2600

Phone 02 6232 5522
www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au