

Biosecurity Act 2014

Procedure for dealing with high risk tick carriers in a stated way

This procedure must be used when dealing with high risk tick carriers in a stated way. High risk tick carriers are cattle, deer, bison and buffalo.

High risk tick carriers must be dealt with according to the conditions in this procedure to meet the 'dealt with in a stated way' risk minimisation requirement.

Stated ways for dealing with high risk tick carriers

Dealing with a high risk tick carrier in a stated way provides an option that does not involve treating carriers with chemical treatments. There are 3 options for dealing with high risk carriers in a stated way:

- Feedlot conditions
- Agricultural show in the free zone
- Agricultural show in the infested zone

The success of these procedures relies on an understanding of the way that carriers must be dealt with to interrupt the life cycle of the cattle tick or otherwise minimise the biosecurity risks of cattle ticks.

1. Carriers are held under feedlot conditions

High risk tick carriers held in a feedlot in the infested zone must be held under the following conditions to meet the risk minimisation requirements:

- The entire feedlot, including associated yards and handling facilities, must be separated from surrounding pasture paddocks by a minimum 10 metre buffer zone which is maintained free of cattle tick carriers at all times.
- Feedlot pens and associated handling facilities are kept free of vegetation at all times.
- If the feedlot, including yards and handling facilities, accepts cattle tick carriers from the Queensland cattle tick infested zone, the owner must be able to show procedures which detail how cattle tick carriers held in the feedlot are protected from the risk of cattle tick infestation.
- High risk tick carriers must not be removed from feedlot pens for husbandry, drafting or loading purposes for any longer than is necessary for the performance of such purposes.
- The feedlot owner must maintain records of all cattle tick carrier movements into and out of the feedlot.
- High risk tick carriers must be held in the feedlot under the above conditions for a period of not less than 35 days.

2. Movement to an agricultural show in the free zone

A biosecurity certificate may be obtained for a high risk tick carrier being moved from infested land or the cattle tick infested zone to an agricultural show in the cattle tick free zone if the following conditions are met:

- Prior to commencing the movement, the high risk tick carrier must undergo a manual inspection described in the *Procedure for manual inspection of a high risk cattle tick carrier* and must be tick free.
- The carrier must be returned to the point of origin (in the infested zone) within 96 hours of the manual inspection being conducted.
- The travel to and from the agricultural show must be by direct conveyance. The high risk tick carrier must not be unloaded at a place other than the event grounds.

3. Movement from an agricultural show in the infested zone

High risk tick carriers moving from the free zone to the infested zone to compete at an agricultural show, may meet the risk minimisation requirement for the return trip (from infested zone to free zone) when the agricultural show organiser complies with the following conditions for all events held at the place:

- Low risk tick carriers attending all events at the place must be tick free before entering the event place.
- The agricultural show organiser engages the services of an accredited certifier to ensure that all high risk tick carriers entering the event place from infested land or the infested zone are manually inspected tick free.
- All high risk tick carriers entering the place from the free zone have a movement record and an owner manual inspection and are tick free.
- The agricultural show organiser keeps records showing:
 - the details of all events (location, date);
 - the name and address of the accredited certifier performing inspections of high risk tick carriers;
 - the species and numbers of high risk tick carriers inspected into the event place.