

# Biosecurity Act 2014

## Procedure for visual inspection of high-risk tick carriers

This procedure will be used for the risk minimisation requirement (RMR) for a Tick free visual inspection as required in the Queensland Biosecurity Manual.

High-risk tick carriers must be visually inspected and found to be free of the adult stage of cattle tick to meet the 'tick free visual inspection' RMR.

The RMR of a Tick free visual inspection OR a tick free manual inspection to access a clearing facility in the free zone does not require a biosecurity certificate and can be completed by the owner or person in charge of the livestock.

High-risk tick carriers are cattle, bison, buffalo and deer.

The ['Guideline for the visual inspection of high-risk carriers'](#) supports this procedure.

### Inspection percentage

The table below provides the minimum number of high-risk tick carriers that must be inspected in each consignment.

Number of high-risk tick carriers in consignment	Percentage of consignment to be inspected
Up to 300	100%
301 - 1000	First 100 and 66% of remaining
More than 1001	First 100 and 33% of remaining

### Risk minimisation declaration

The accredited certifier must keep records to demonstrate what the owner or person responsible for the high-risk carriers have done to meet the RMR.

### Restraining for inspection

The high-risk tick carrier must be visually inspected from a distance of not more than 2 metres. They must be observed in the forcing yard and a cattle crush or race. Animals that are plunged dipped must be inspected in the draining pen post dipping.

Led and manageable high risk tick carriers may be tied individually to a yard rail with a halter and lead rope.

### Time of inspection

All inspections must occur during daylight hours.

### If a cattle tick is found

If adult tick are visually sighted on the initial inspection by the accredited certifier, all carriers in that consignment fail the inspection and must not be moved to the tick free zone and must undertake a supervised chemical treatment before they can be re-inspected.

The carrier is to be restrained and the tick removed for identification. The ['Guideline for identifying cattle tick'](#) will support this procedure.

## Re-inspection interval

If the livestock were pre-treated with chemical prior to presenting to the accredited certifier for the initial inspection the carrier may be re-presented for a visually free inspection once every 24 hours up to a maximum of 4 days without further chemical treatment.

If the cattle were not chemically pre-treated and found to be visually infested with adult tick on the first inspection they will be treated and must wait a minimum of 4 days before they can be re-presented for inspection and further treatment.

Reference should be made to ['Guideline for the visual inspection of high-risk carriers'](#).

## Time limits on moving a carrier to a prescribed facility

If the movement is to a prescribed facility in the free zone (feedlot or abattoir) then the high-risk carriers must be removed from the infested zone within 24 hours of meeting the RMR and arrive at the prescribed facility within 48 hours of meeting the RMR.

The livestock must not unload in the cattle tick free zone en-route to the prescribed facility.

An extension to this timeframe to 48 hours may occur after discussion with a biosecurity inspector and endorsement on the biosecurity certificate.

If the movement is to a prescribed facility (clearing facility) the high-risk carriers must be moved to the clearing facility within 24 hours of the visual inspection and no later than:

- 7 days after the owner chemical treatment if the chemical was a dip or spray

**OR**

- 9 days after the owner chemical treatment if the treatment was a pour-on or injectable.