# **NATIONAL TSE SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM**

# **SUBMISSION AND REPORTING CHECKLIST**

# TSE SUBMISSIONS

| **Submissions** | **Y/N** |
| --- | --- |
| Brain must be fixed for at least 72 hours at ambient temperatures prior to submission in a minimum 1:5 volume of 10% buffered formalin |  |
| Decant formalin prior to dispatching |  |
| Cervical spinal cord (2-3cm) in sterile yellow top jar (must accompany the brain submitted). Spinal cord must immediately be chilled. It can be submitted chilled or then frozen and submitted frozen |  |
| Sheep also require unfixed frozen dorsal third of cerebellum in a sterile jar |  |
| Other samples to rule-in or rule-out differential diagnoses |  |
| AgriBio submission form (PIC IS REQUIRED ON THIS FORM) |  |
| Clinical History and Necropsy Report demonstrating sample suitability   * Incentive payment limited to two brains per outbreak * Submit brains and other samples to AgriBio when testing is to be performed only under the NTSESP * Submit brains and other samples to AgriBio for TSE surveillance in association with an Enhanced Disease Investigation (SDI) * All cattle must have their external NLIS ID or RFID recorded on the necropsy form or history of having been born on the property * All animals must be aged according to dentition or records * All treatments, if given, and date of administration must be noted   Must meet criteria for eligibility (overleaf) |  |

# TSE REPORTING

**The documents listed below must be sent TOGETHER within one month of report date**

| **Documents required** | **Y/N** |
| --- | --- |
| Copy of laboratory submission form |  |
| Copy of all laboratory reports related to the submission |  |
| Copy of the Clinical History and Necropsy Report |  |
| TSE Application for Cattle and Sheep Compensation (owners)   * Cattle $330 (no GST) * Sheep $110 (no GST) |  |
| Your Practice’s tax invoice (Invoices must be made out to DEECA or Dept of Energy Environment and Climate Action. Note: Agriculture Victoria does not pay mileage, medication costs etc.)   * Cattle $374 ($340 + GST) * Sheep $242 ($220 + GST) * Goat $137.50 ($125 + GST) |  |

## Please send all paperwork to your regional coordinator:

Northern Region Anna Cavallaro, cnr Annesley St & Ogilvie Ave, Echua 3564 anna.cavallaro@agriculture.vic.gov.au

South East Region Catherine Tharle, 3/2 Codrington Street, Cranbourne, 3977

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South West Region Amy Sluggett, 110 Natimuk Rd, Horsham 3400

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# ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR CLINICALLY CONSISTENT CATTLE AND SHEEP

## Clinically consistent cattle

Eligible cattle must fit the following criteria:

* 30 months of age or more but less than 9 years old
* refractory to any treatment administered and
* displaying progressive behavioural changes or neurological signs without evidence of infectious disease, as listed below**.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Behavioural** | **Neurological** |
| apprehension | abnormal ear position |
| changes in herd hierarchical status | abnormal head carriage |
| excessive nose and flank licking | altered consciousness |
| excitability | ataxia |
| frenzy | blindness |
| head rubbing or pressing | circling |
| head shyness | falling |
| hesitation at doors, gates, barriers | fetlock knuckling |
| persistent kicking when milked | hyperaesthesia (sound, touch) |
| teeth grinding | hypoaesthesia (sound, touch) |
|  | moribund without evidence of infection or trauma |
|  | paralysis/paresis |
|  | recumbency |
|  | tremor |

## Clinically consistent sheep and goats

Eligible sheep and goats must fit the following criteria:

* 18 months of age or more;
* refractory to any treatment administered and
* displaying progressive clinical signs compatible with scrapie as listed below**.**

| **Mental status** | **Sensation** | **Posture and movement** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| altered consciousness | blindness | abnormal head carriage |
| apprehension | hyperaesthesia (sound, touch) | ataxia |
| behaviour change | hypoaesthesia (sound, touch) | circling |
| frenzy | rubbing | recumbency |
| moribund without evidence of infection or trauma | wool loss (flank and hind quarter) | tremor |
| temperament change |  | fetlock knuckling |
|  |  | paralysis/paresis |

**BSE and scrapie may display only one or some of these clinical signs, which may also vary in severity, and such animals should still be investigated as potential BSE or scrapie affected animals where possible.**

For more information about Agriculture Victoria visit the website at [www.agriculture.vic.gov.au](http://www.agriculture.vic.gov.au), or call the Customer Service Centre on 136 186