Cattle  
Compensation   
Fund

**Summary of Projects   
2016 – 2017**

# Cattle Compensation Fund Overview

Victoria's Cattle Compensation Fund is established under the *Livestock Disease Control Act 1994*. The fund comprises livestock duties paid on the sale of cattle or calves or their carcasses in Victoria.

The Cattle Compensation Fund receives $0.05 duty for every $20 or part of $20 of the sale price of every head of cattle sold singly, or for the total amount of the sale price for any number of cattle sold in one lot. The maximum duty for any one head of cattle (sold singly or as part of a lot) is $5.00.

Each cattle carcass weighing up to and including 250kg attracts a duty of $0.90. Each carcass weighing more than 250g attracts a duty of $1.30.

Cattle includes bulls, cows, oxen, steer, heifers, bison and buffalo.

The Minister for Agriculture may make payments from the Cattle Compensation Fund (the Fund) from:

1. the capital of the Fund for administering the provisions of the Livestock Disease Control Act 1994 relating to cattle or of any other Act administered by the Minister that requires the identification of cattle; and
2. interest earned on money from the Fund for programs and projects for the benefit of the cattle industry in Victoria.

The Minister for Agriculture must not make a payment from the fund unless the Minister has considered any relevant recommendations from the Cattle Compensation Advisory Committee (CCAC).

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

The CCAC has been established to provide advice to the Minister for Agriculture on diseases for which compensation should be payable, the maximum amount of compensation that is payable, payments which should be made and any other matter referred to it by the Minister.

Under Section 79(3) of *Livestock Disease Control Act 1994* (the Act) the CCAC comprises six members appointed by the Minister as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Section 79(3) of the Act** | **Nominated by** |
| (a) three are to be persons with suitable qualifications and experience relating to the cattle industry | Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) |
| (b) one is to be a person with suitable qualifications and experience relating to the livestock agents profession | Australian Livestock & Property Agents Association (ALPA) |
| (c) one is to be a person with suitable qualifications and experience relating to the meat processing industry | Australian Meat Industry Council (AMIC) |
| (d) one is to be a person nominated by the Secretary | Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (DEDJTR) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Nominating body** | **Name** |
| VFF | Mr Chris Wallace-Smith (Chair), Mr Ian Feldtmann (Livestock Group) and  Ms Faye Tuchtan ( Livestock Group) |
| ALPA | Ms Liz Summerville (Southern Regional Manager) |
| AMIC | Ms Angelique Raspin (Australian Lamb (Colac) Pty Ltd – Group QA Manager) |
| State Government | Ms Cassandra Meagher, Executive Director, DEDJTR  From April 2017: Dr Charles Milne, Chief Veterinary Officer, DEDJTR |

On June 30 2017 the three-year term of office for non-government members expired. From April 2017, nominating bodies provided nominations for Ministerial approval. The Minister’s appointment of the new chairperson was endorsed by Cabinet.

# 2016-17 Projects

**TABLE 1: Projects jointly funded between the Cattle Compensation Fund and the Sheep and Goat Compensation Fund (50:50)**

| Project | Objective | Administered by | 2016-17 Budget(CCF) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Disease investigation training for veterinary practitioners | Deliver training in animal disease investigation that will increase the knowledge, competency and capacity of private veterinarians to conduct a thorough and effective disease investigation in livestock. | Agriculture Victoria | $35,000 |
| Local Area Networks for Disease Investigation (LANDI) | * Establish groups of local sheep and beef producers throughout Victoria with the aim of obtaining reliable livestock disease information from producer groups and reporting this information to Agriculture Victoria in a timely manner. * Enhance Victoria’s ability to detect emergency or emerging animal diseases quickly. * Assist to train veterinarians, veterinary students and producers in relevant aspects of farm biosecurity and livestock health. | University of Melbourne | $30,000 |
| Enhanced livestock pathology services | * Enable more pathology investigations from LANDI to be processed through the University of Melbourne’s Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences at Werribee. * Provide enhanced training to veterinary students in the diagnosis and pathology of diseases of sheep, goats and cattle. * Provide better training to junior veterinary pathologists by increasing the caseload of material from food producing ruminants. | University of Melbourne | $15,000 |
| Significant disease investigations (including anthrax investigations) | * Provide financial subsidies to cattle producers to offset the cost of engaging a private veterinarian to undertake an investigation of a significant disease event. * Encourage private veterinarians to investigate and report significant disease events. | Agriculture Victoria | $115,000 |
| **VFF Livestock Project Officers (Animal Health and Biosecurity Extension) Project** | * Deliver key animal health and biosecurity messages to all Victorian sheep meat, wool, goat and beef producers with a focus on endemic disease that impact farm profitability, animal welfare and Victoria’s biosecurity status. This includes the provision of educational workshops for all producers; develop and/or distribute related industry materials including VFF online resources to the farming community; and act as a point of contact for any animal health and biosecurity questions. | Victorian Farmers Federation | $120,000 |
| **VFF Policy Development and Livestock Industry Network Project** | * Contribute to policy development at a state and national level in relation to biosecurity and welfare, particularly in the context of welfare/management standards, disease surveillance, endemic disease control and emergency animal disease preparations. * Maintain industry networks at producer and national levels to facilitate the effective communication of information, particularly in the context of natural disasters and emergency disease response, the maintenance of appropriate biosecurity and livestock management standards. * Represent Victoria’s livestock health and welfare interests at a national level. | Victorian Farmers Federation | $90,000 |

**TABLE 2: Projects funded from the Cattle Compensation Fund (Not funded from the Sheep and Goat Compensation Fund)**

| Project | Objective | Administered by | 2016-17 Budget(CCF) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Anthrax vaccine and veterinarian costs** | * Provide a financial incentive to ensure that producers with livestock on affected land vaccinate against anthrax in a timely manner. | Agriculture Victoria | $30,000 |
| **Bovine Johne’s Disease (BJD) Test and Control Program (TCP3)** | * Provide a voluntary on-farm program to improve the status of herds infected with cattle herds infected with Johne’s disease and support administration of the program by Agriculture Victoria on behalf of the cattle industry. | **Agriculture Victoria** | **$451,000** |
| **Creating better tools for defining and tracking emerging diseases in cattle** | * Improve detection and diagnosis of emerging diseases in cattle by creating a single multiplex PCR test for five cattle respiratory pathogens, and creating a real-time PCR test to investigate avermectin resistance in Ostertagia in cattle. | **Agriculture Victoria** | **$27,000** |
| **Knackery surveillance project** | * Describe the wastage of Victorian cattle, perform surveillance for emergency animal diseases, and improve DEDJTR staff capability in field necropsy and gross pathology skills. | **Agriculture Victoria** | **$200,000** |
| **Maintenance of NLIS (Cattle) in Victoria** | * Ensure that at least 98% of cattle processed in Victorian abattoirs are ‘lifetime traceable’ and to ensure that serious compliance issues are investigated in a timely and effective manner. | **Agriculture Victoria** | **$300,000** |
| **NLIS Cattle Tag subsidy** | * The NLIS (Cattle) plays a central role in Victoria’s emergency animal disease preparedness and helps to maintain access to valuable domestic and export markets for beef and dairy products. | **Agriculture Victoria** | **$1,710,000** |
| **Administration, project support, secretariat services, committee operations** | * Ongoing support to committee and projects | **Agriculture Victoria** | **$93,987** |

