

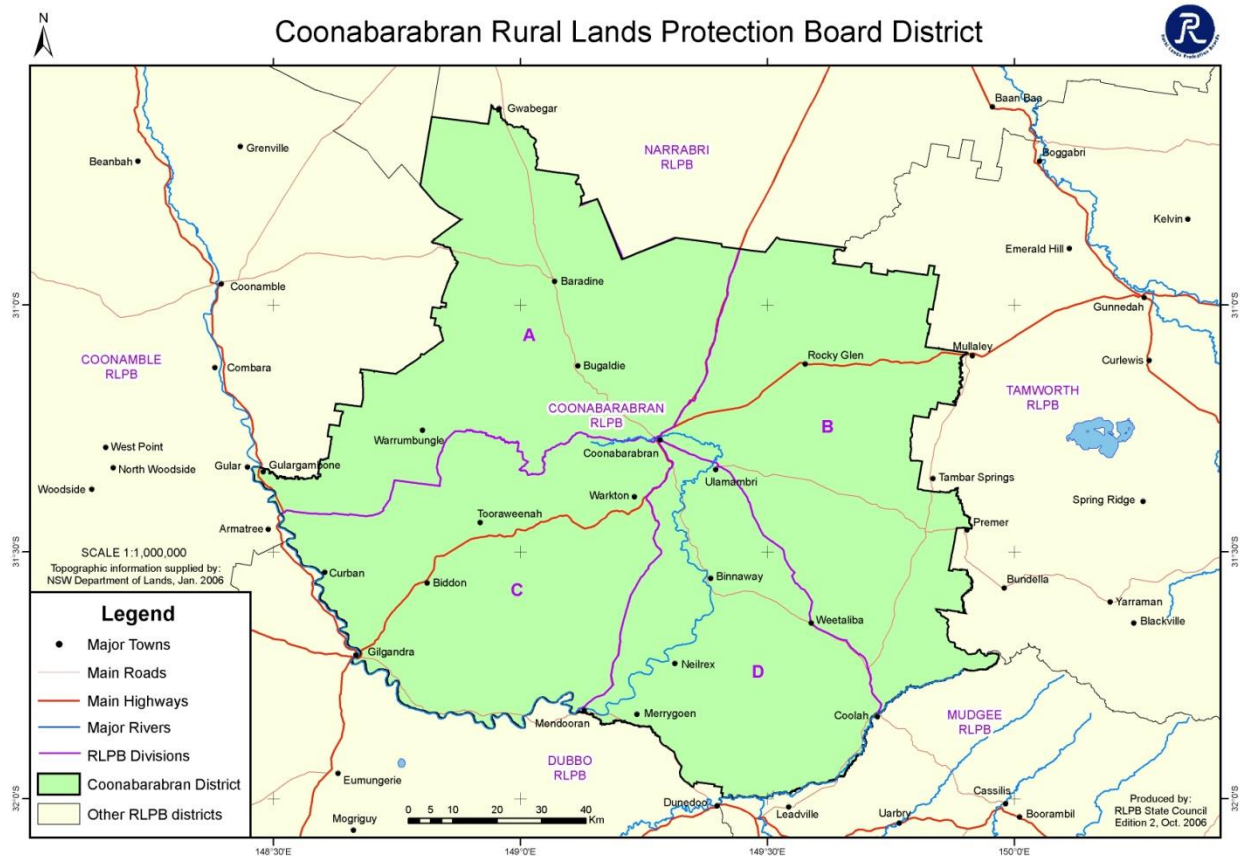
**Coonabarabran
Ovine Johnes Disease
REGIONAL BIOSECURITY
PLAN
2016-2018**

Coonabarabran Regional OJD BIOSECURITY PLAN 2016-2018

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Defined Area

The Coonabarabran OJD Protected Area is defined by the boundaries of the previous Coonabarabran Rural Lands Protection Board.



OJD History of the Region

Exclusion Area established 1st July 2004.

Surveys of producers in 2004, 2006 and 2011 have demonstrated strong producer support for maintaining an Exclusion Area.

4 properties have had OJD incursions from 2004 to 2012.

- 2 properties eradicated and resolved OJD through destocking.
- We currently have 2 properties with status of OJD infected.
- 1 property has a PDMP controlling infection and reducing risk of spread through vaccination. The owner was contacted in 2015 to do PFC to clear infected status, owner declined.
- 1 property has had a proposed plan of approved vaccines and testing. Owner has been uncooperative with developing plan. Elements of destocking and vaccination before 16 weeks of age have been carried out.

There are 368 holdings with sheep numbers >50 based on 2015 Land and Stock returns.

The Coonabarabran district has an OJD flock prevalence of 0.5%.

Aims and Outcomes of the RBP

- Maintain Regional Biosecurity Area (RBA) status to keep market and trading options open.
- To reduce the risk of OJD infected flocks entering the Regional Biosecurity Area.
- To promote biosecurity of flocks and properties in the area.
- Detect any threat of OJD entering as soon as practicable, and to respond to that threat as rapidly and effectively as possible.
- Manage OJD incursions or detections to prevent spread within the flock and to other flocks and minimise environmental contamination or eradicate OJD from the flock and decontaminate the affected area.

Responsibilities

OJD Advisory Committee

- Provide industry input into the direction and functioning of the RBA.
- Provide input and develop the regional biosecurity plan.
- Deliver key messages to industry via media.

Producers

- Introduce animals in compliance with nationally agreed guidelines.
- Notify the CWLLS Coonabarabran District Veterinarian of any introductions by providing a copy of the Sheep Health Statement.
- Maintain records of any stock movements.
- Establish on farm biosecurity plans/practices.
- Monitor sheep for signs of OJD and report any suspicions to the District Veterinarian.
- Follow advice of appointed technical or veterinary advisor/advisors.
- Develop and implement a Property Disease Management Plan as required.
- Test if required.
- Vaccinate if required.

Local Land Services

- Assist the OJD Advisory Committee to develop a Regional Biosecurity Plan.
- Act in compliance with the relevant Act, Regulations, Policies and Procedures.
- Assist with education and advice regarding OJD and biosecurity.
- Update educational and advisory programs as prevalence changes.
- Assist in developing PDMP's with sheep producers.
- Conduct risk assessments on sheep movements into the area.
- Investigate tracebacks and traceforwards.

- Assist with testing of high risk introductions with permission of sheep producer.
- Undertake surveillance.
- Undertake tracings with permission of sheep producer.
- Report as required.

Activities

Extension and advisory program

Extension and advice will underpin the Regional Biosecurity Plan and will target sheep producers and agents. The key messages will include:

- Individual producers are responsible
- On farm biosecurity
- Purchase low risk sheep
- Understanding and using the SHS

Various extension activities timed to management and trading activities will be undertaken each year. Different media and communication formats will be used as appropriate.

Advice given on entry guidelines for sheep will be consistent with the Regional Biosecurity Plan. These are:

1. Adult sheep and lambs from:

- A Regional Biosecurity Area that meets same standards as Coonabarabran RBA (other than from infected or suspect flocks);
- SheepMAP flocks;
- Flocks that have had a negative PFC 350 or Abattoir 500 test within the last two years and the flock is a closed flock (no introduced sheep, including rams);
- Flocks that have had a negative PFC 350 or Abattoir 500 test within the last two years and all sheep introduced¹ within the preceding 5 years were from;
 - Flocks located in the Protected Area; OR
 - SheepMAP flocks OR
 - (prior to 1st July 2013) flocks that met the requirements for moving into SA (except KI) and NSW Exclusion Areas (i.e. ABC Score 4 or higher under the superseded ABC scheme), OR
 - (after 1st July 2013) flocks that had a negative test²
 - A Regional Biosecurity Area flock, and have attended a show or breeding centre at which they have been housed, fed and watered separately from all other stock, and are returning direct to the Regional Biosecurity Area within 14 days.
- A flock that will be attending a show, sale or breeding centre in a Regional Biosecurity Area at which they will be housed, fed and watered separately from all other stock, and will be returning direct to their Area within 14 days

¹All introduced sheep must have been accompanied by a Sheep Health Statement that has been retained as evidence of the sheep status.

²PFC350 or Abattoir500 test within the preceding two years.

2. Terminal 't' tag lamb

A lamb which is to be slaughtered before it cuts its first permanent teeth and is identified by an NLIS (sheep) 'T' tag.

Notification

All sheep introductions originating from outside the Coonabarabran RBA are expected to be notified to the CWLLS District Veterinarian. A copy of the Sheep Health Statement for the introduction is to be forwarded by the producer who received the sheep to the Coonabarabran LLS office.

Surveillance

Surveillance is undertaken to detect OJD early. Surveillance may consist of:

- Industry program testing – eg MAP, abattoir surveillance, PFC 350.
- Passive surveillance – all disease events where OJD may be a differential diagnosis will be investigated.
- Targeted surveillance – including reports and traces pending risk assessment of high risk movements and may include neighbours. All suspect cases will be investigated.

Tracing

- Risk assessment of tracebacks, traceforwards and abattoir traces are to be undertaken.
- OJD Abattoir monitoring – reporting and follow up of positive traces.

Monitoring Sheep Introductions via the NLIS Database

The NLIS mob based movement report should be interrogated every 3 months. An assessment should be made of any high risk introductions from other areas.

Follow up action required:

- Contact owner and request both sheep health statement and NVD.
- Do risk assessment on the movement from information in the NVD and SHS.

Assessing the Risk of Sheep Introductions

All Sheep Health Statements are assessed. If they eligible for entry into the Coonabarabran Regional Biosecurity Area, and there are no inconsistencies in the SHS then no further action is required.

Risk assessments key triggers are:

- Not eligible to enter the Regional Biosecurity Area.
- T Tag lambs.
- Originate from area other than approved Regional Biosecurity Area.
- Not home bred.
- From a flock with more than 6 introductions.
- A flock with no testing.
- A flock which has vaccinated without testing.
- Inconsistencies in the Sheep Health Statement.

Final assessment is based on further investigation taking into account: risk to individual, risk to neighbours, geography and market.

Action Required

Follow up action for introductions ineligible for entry into the RBA will include:

- Contact notifier to verify details on SHS.
- Discuss the introduction and assessment of risk.
- Inform producer of the guidelines for entry of sheep into the Coonabarabran Regional Biosecurity Area.
- Inform the producer of what they need to include on their Sheep Health Statement.
- Assist producer to prepare a PDMP – which may include an agreement to test and/or vaccinate.
- Flock owner to monitor for signs of disease and report.
- Notification of neighbours with permission from sheep producer.

Follow up action for introduction of T Tag lambs or lambs from area other than approved Regional Biosecurity areas will include:

- Contact notifier to verify details on Sheep Health Statement.
- Discuss the introduction and management plans.
- PIC to be monitored from NLIS movement for movement off farm or to abattoir.

Property Disease Management Plan (PDMP)

Technical assistance will be provided to suspect and infected properties for the development of Property Disease management programs.

Property disease management Plan to be developed in accordance with NSW DPI Policy and Procedure Circular 2004/069

Recording

All OJD activities will be recorded on LHMS.

Reporting

- Report every 3 months to the OJD advisory committee the number of NVD and SHS notified and assessed, the number of high risk movements and actions being taken.
- An annual report will be provided to the OJD advisory committee, other RBA committees and third parties on request.
- An annual report will be sent to all sheep producers in the RBA by the OJD advisory committee.

Auditing

An annual audit will be undertaken by a third party, as outlined in the National OJD Management Plan 2013-2018.

Coonabarabran OJD Advisory Committee

Simon Ryan - Chairman

Jill Powell

Adrian Bell

Alan Baron

Elizabeth Betts

Adrian Betts

James Forbes

Neil Cooney

Rod Young

Terry Cotter

Rowan Volkofsky

Albert Cooke

John Gilmore

Tony Gilmour

Kevin Kilby