



## LUMPY SKIN DISEASE - IDENTIFYING AND RESPONDING TO LSD

### WHAT IS LUMPY SKIN DISEASE?

Lumpy skin disease (LSD) is a highly-infectious disease of cattle that does not affect humans. The disease is caused by a virus transmitted by biting insects including flies, mosquitoes and ticks.

### ABOUT THE DISEASE

The disease has never been recorded in Australia and is endemic in sub-Saharan Africa, parts of the Middle East and Turkey. Since 2019, outbreaks have been reported in south and east Asia, including Bangladesh, India and China. More recently, LSD has been reported in Thailand, Malaysia, Taiwan, Nepal and Vietnam (through the movement of biting insects including flies, mosquitoes and ticks from neighbouring countries). In March 2022, Indonesia notified the World Organisation For Animal Health that an LSD outbreak had been confirmed on the island of Sumatra.

With LSD detected roughly 3000 kilometres away (the same distance from Adelaide to Darwin), industry must become vigilant in identifying and reporting LSD as the likelihood of an outbreak in Australia increases.

### WHAT ARE THE SIGNS OF LSD IN CATTLE?

Initial signs of LSD can be mild and include:

- watering eyes
- increased nasal and salivary secretions
- loss of appetite
- depression

Within 1 - 2 days:

- Firm, raised nodules up to 50mm in diameter develop on the skin around the head, neck, genitals and limbs.
- Scabs develop in the centres of the nodules after which the resultant scabs ('sitfasts') fall off, leaving large holes that may become infected.
- Swelling of the limbs, brisket and genitals may also occur.
- LSD virus can persist in scabs for up to four months after infection.





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### WHAT HAPPENS WHEN CATTLE CONTRACT LSD?

- All cattle types and ages of cattle are susceptible to LSD.
- Body condition may rapidly deteriorate resulting in the need to euthanise some animals.
- Those that recover may remain in extremely poor condition for some time.
- Morbidity rates vary greatly and typically range between 10–20%.

### HOW TO REPORT LSD

Any suspected or confirmed cases of LSD should be reported immediately.

To report suspected or confirmed cases, contact the Emergency Animal Disease (EAD) Watch Hotline on 1800 675 888.

The EAD Watch Hotline is a 24 hours/day, seven days/week service.

Calling the EAD Watch Hotline shouldn't be considered as a last resort, an imposition on someone, or a number to be called only when there is already an outbreak somewhere else. The EAD Watch Hotline is there to ensure, as an industry, we can take immediate action to reduce the implications of potential EAD incursions.

**Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline: 1800 675 888**