



GENERAL MESSAGE

6 August 2021

Re: QLD DAF COVID UPDATE

Dear ALFA Feedlot Members (Qld and NSW),

Please see the following COVID update provided by the QLD Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF).

While the email relates to members located in Queensland, information may assist NSW operators who move livestock into/out of Queensland.

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) continues to work with government agencies to support the sector.

While agriculture is considered essential and workers can attend work, we encourage everyone to stop and not move unless it is absolutely essential. For example, care of livestock or perishable crop harvesting is essential, but if there are other things that can be delayed, please put them on hold.

If you require information, please contact DAF by email: info@daf.qld.gov.au or call 13 25 23.

Moving between Queensland and New South Wales (NSW)

Agribusiness workers wishing to move between Queensland and NSW will need to follow the restrictions and requirements in both states regardless of whether you are travelling under a borderzone pass, class exemption or specialist worker exemption. A border pass is required to enter both Queensland and NSW. Requirements are summarised in this [reference table](#).

Agribusiness workers exiting Queensland from locked down areas into the border zone will need to observe the current Queensland requirements.

For the workers travelling to NSW and not returning to Queensland, the [NSW requirements](#) will apply. However, if a worker wishes to travel to NSW and then return to Queensland under the class exemption or a specialist worker exemption, then the requirements in the worker's Quarantine Management Plan will apply while in NSW, as well as other requirements made by the NSW Government.

The Quarantine Management Plan should include information on how a worker will comply with the mandatory conditions and remain isolated in both NSW and Queensland, including while travelling. For anyone working in NSW, the Quarantine Management Plan may be manually amended to include the work locations in NSW and the proposed arrival and departure dates. Please remember to always have all necessary documents with you.

DAF is developing additional questions and answers that will assist the sector.

Specialist worker exemptions

Please remember to include all necessary information when submitting applications for specialist worker exemptions. This includes evidence that the work is required in Queensland and cannot

currently be provided by anyone already in Queensland. This can be in the form of a letter from the owner, managing director or CEO of the company. The business will also need to submit their workplace health management plan as part of the application.

Requirements for essential and specialist workers traveling through lockdown areas

It is strongly recommended that workers who are not located within the SEQ lockdown area avoid travelling through or stopping in that area.

If workers need to travel through the SEQ lockdown area, every precaution must be taken to ensure there is no contact with any other person. Workers using a rest stop must be wearing a mask and avoid using public amenities if possible. Workers who have passed through an SEQ lockdown area must continue to comply with the Quarantine Management Plan.

Mandatory testing for freight operators

The mandatory testing for freight operators is required under the Queensland Freight Protocol. The temporary class exemption is due to end at **1am 9 August 2021** for transport operators transporting perishable items or livestock. It is recommended that transport drivers are tested now in Queensland for timeliness so their result will be available upon return.

A [list of testing sites for COVID-19](#) is available and a [heavy vehicle 'truck-only' testing site](#) is located at Port of Brisbane. A second COVID-19 testing facility for truck driver has opened at the BP in Charlton, on the Warrego Highway west of Toowoomba from **8am Friday 6 August**. Three heavy vehicle testing sites are open in Acacia Ridge, Boondall and Robina to test operators of prime movers without trailers, light and heavy rigid trucks.

Record keeping for contact tracing

Record keeping is essential and is an important element in complying with the CHO's requirements. DAF is exploring potential tools that can be used to assist businesses.

2021 COVID-19 Business Support Grants for lockdown-impacted businesses in Queensland

The Queensland Government is progressing the \$260 million in grant support package for businesses. More information on how to apply, including the [opening date](#) for applications, will be available in the coming days.

Hunter Valley Region into lockdown

The New South Wales Government has ordered the State's Hunter and Upper Hunter Regions go into a lockdown from 5pm, Thursday 5 August. These regions include the local government areas of Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, Maitland, Port Stephens, Cessnock, Dungog, Singleton and Muswellbrook. The New South Wales Government has advised that the lockdown conditions will be the same as those that apply to Greater Sydney.

Victoria into lockdown

The Victorian Government has placed Victoria into lockdown from 8pm Thursday 5 August. The lockdown conditions are the same that have applied previously, with only five reasons to leave home.

NOTE: *The material in this GENERAL MESSAGE has been compiled from external resources such as State and Federal government sources. It does not constitute legal advice or recommendations and should not be relied upon as such. It is provided in good faith to assist ALFA members. Appropriate legal advice should be sought that reflects your individual circumstances.*



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