



## GENERAL MESSAGE

12 August 2021

### Re: REGIONAL AUSTRALIA ON HIGH ALERT FOR COVID-19

Dear ALFA Members,

Please be aware that townships across regional NSW are on high alert for COVID-19 as multiple towns enter a snap lockdown. At this stage the townships of Bogan, Bourke, Brewarrina, Coonamble, Dubbo, Gilgandra, Narromine, Walgett and Warren are all experiencing a snap 7-day lockdown.

**As COVID-19 continues to spread throughout NSW, all feedlots need to remain vigilant and consider how their feedlot would operate if their site or regional community was forced into lockdown.**

The ALFA website hosts a number of resources to assist feedlots and associated businesses to prepare for and manage the impacts of the virus please visit <https://www.feedlots.com.au/covid-19> to access these.

**Previous information issued from the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) is also listed below for your quick reference:**

While agriculture is considered essential and workers can attend work, we encourage everyone operating within lockdown areas of Cairns and Yarrabah to stop and not move unless it is absolutely essential. Care of livestock or perishable crop harvesting is essential, but if there are things that can be delayed, please put them on hold.

If you have even the mildest symptoms, please get tested as soon as possible and isolate until you receive your results.

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

**Agricultural Class Exemption and Specialist and Essential Worker endorsements do NOT apply if you are considered a close contact**

There may be instances when you are considered a close contact because you or someone in your household visited an exposure site at one of the [listed exposure sites](#). When this occurs you must adhere to any health directions that may include **self-quarantine** for a total of 14 days from your date and time of exposure. Your compliance with these directions is mandatory and any agricultural class exemptions, essential worker status or permits issued for specialist and essential worker **no longer apply for an individual during that period**. Get tested as soon as possible and await further instructions from the relevant health authority.

**Requirements for essential and specialist workers traveling through lockdown areas of Cairns and Yarrabah**

Cairns and Yarrabah Local Government Areas (LGAs) are in lockdown from 4:00pm Sunday 8 August 2021 until 4:00pm Wednesday 11 August 2021. It is strongly recommended that workers

who are outside the Cairns and Yarrabah lockdown area avoid travelling through or stopping in that area.

Workers who need to travel through the Cairns and Yarrabah lockdown area must take every precaution to ensure there is no contact with any other person. Workers using a rest stop must be wearing a mask (unless unsafe or they are exempt from mask wearing requirements) and spend the minimal time possible at the rest stop. Workers who have passed through any lockdown area must continue to comply with their Quarantine Management Plan.

If you are required to stop in a lockdown area, then you will be subject to the rules of that lockdown area for 14 days or the withdrawal of the lockdown whichever is sooner.

### **South East Queensland requirements for agricultural workers coming out of lockdown**

Mandatory mask-wearing remains in place for everyone in the 11 LGAs coming out of lockdown at 4pm Sunday 8 August, including when travelling outside the affected LGAs. Queenslanders in the 11 LGAs are being asked to delay any travel to other regional parts of Queensland, so please only travel for essential agricultural work that cannot be delayed.

### **Queensland and New South Wales**

A reminder that agribusiness workers wishing to move between Queensland and New South Wales will need to follow the restrictions and requirements in both states regardless of whether you are travelling under a border zone pass, class exemption or specialist worker exemption. A border pass is required to enter both Queensland and New South Wales. 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. Agribusiness workers entering from New South Wales are required to observe any New South Wales requirements as well as the conditions of their class exemption or specialist or essential worker endorsement whichever is stricter. Please check [New South Wales exposure sites](#) at least once every 24 hours.

### **Record keeping for contact tracing**

Record keeping is essential and remains an important element in complying with the CHO's requirements.

### **Freight COVID-19 testing sites**

The Queensland Government will open the new testing site at the Brisbane Entertainment Centre, Melaleuca Drive, Boondall tomorrow, Monday 9 August at 8am. This site will operate seven days a week from 8am to 4pm.

Further information is available on the [Queensland Freight Protocol](#), and [the Freight and Logistics Pass \(F Pass\)](#).

You can also find a [testing location](#) near you.

### **Further information**

If you require further information, please contact DAF by email: [info@daf.qld.gov.au](mailto:info@daf.qld.gov.au) or call 13 25 23.

**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.*



**Australian Lot Feeders' Association**

T. 02 9290 3700 A. GPO Box 149, Sydney NSW 2001

E. [feedlots.com.au](http://feedlots.com.au)

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