

## UNDERSTANDING WHAT HAPPENS IN AN EMERGENCY ANIMAL DISEASE OUTBREAK

September – December is typically considered a high-risk time for the transmission of Avian Influenza (AI) in Australia. Whilst Australia remains free from AI it's important that we remain vigilant to any signs of the disease and understand our role in the event AI is suspected or detected in our flocks.

This flyer has been developed to help you understand the organisations and bodies involved in an EAD response, and what their individual roles are. This flyer is not exhaustive but intended to provide an overview of the main biosecurity responders and their relationships.

It's also important to remember that a plan to eradicate AI will largely be developed by a national government coordination mechanism once a detection is made, so we must remain agile as an industry and adaptive to any Response Plans developed by the State Jurisdiction in consultation with Industry.

### ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN AN EAD RESPONSE

The table below correspond with the colour coding in the flow chart on page three. The table outline the roles and responsibilities of each group in an EAD response. It is recommended that each organisation reviews its internal Work Instructions and SOPs to ensure these roles and responsibilities are captured.

### GROUPS WITHIN AN EAD RESPONSE

The flow chart on page 3 identifies the various organisations and bodies involved in an EAD response and are colour coded into three dominate areas: industry organisations; chicken industry participants; and government agencies. This chart shows which groups you should be communicating with directly and who will be communicating with you.

### USEFUL LINKS

[How we coordinate a response to an outbreak – Australian Government](#)

[Early Action in a potential emergency disease – grower's guide](#)

[AI AUSVETPLAN](#)

[Operational manual - compensations and valuation](#)

[National Farm Biosecurity Manual for Chicken Growers](#)

[National Farm Biosecurity Manual for Poultry Production](#)

[Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement \(EADRA\)](#)

### HOW TO REPORT A SUSPECTED AI OUTBREAK

**If growers suspect an EAD or notice any unusual illness in their birds, they should in the first instance, immediately contact their processor.** If you do not hear from your processor in a reasonable amount of time and conditions worsen onsite, you can report the incident to 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.

**EAD HOTLINE: 1800 675 888**



## ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN AN EAD RESPONSE

9.5		Government Agencies	
Australian Chicken Meat Federation (ACMF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Processor, grower and government coordination and liaison</li> <li>Disburse approved Jurisdictional communications.</li> <li>Develop and supply internal communications (EAD Preparedness)</li> <li>Nominate representative for NMG, CCEAD and LLI.</li> <li>Nominate a representative to review initial Response Plan.</li> </ul>	EAD Hotline / Government Vet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Respond to calls surrounding EAD.</li> <li>Connect the caller to the relevant part of the State Jurisdiction.</li> </ul>
Australian Chicken Growers Council (ACGC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Circulate communications provided by ACMF and/or the Jurisdiction.</li> </ul>	Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness (ACDP)/ State Laboratory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National reference laboratory for AI confirmatory testing.</li> <li>Notify State Jurisdiction and CCEAD of test results.</li> <li>Continue to process samples throughout an EAD as directed by the Jurisdiction.</li> </ul>
State Farming Organisations (SFOs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Circulate communications provided by ACMF and/or the Jurisdiction.</li> </ul>	State Jurisdiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responsible for developing and implementing state response (ideally consistent with the AI AUSVETPLAN)</li> <li>Coordinate industry LLI's</li> <li>Develop and supply industry communications.</li> <li>Engage with media where required.</li> <li>Conduct testing programs where required.</li> </ul>
<b>Chicken Industry Participants</b>		Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair the CCEAD.</li> <li>Chair the NMG.</li> <li>Oversee and implement cost sharing agreement (and pay back arrangements)</li> <li>Engage WOA and markets where required</li> </ul>
Affected Integrator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notify Jurisdiction of suspected EAD (through the EAD Hotline).</li> <li>Notify ACMF of suspected and/or confirmed EADs.</li> <li>Respond to the incident as directed by the Jurisdiction.</li> <li>Continue to implement preparedness activities across the business.</li> </ul>		
Affected Farm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notify affected integrator of suspected EADs.</li> <li>Respond to the EAD as directed by the State Jurisdiction</li> </ul>	WOAH and Markets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notify WOA of confirmed notifiable diseases.</li> <li>Manage certification of exported product and re-negotiate trading arrangements where required.</li> </ul>
Other farms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement EAD Preparedness activities.</li> </ul>	<b>EAD Response Agencies</b>	
Other integrators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Respond to the EAD as directed by the State Jurisdiction.</li> </ul>	CCEAD (Consultative Committee EAD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refine where necessary and approve the EAD Response Plan.</li> <li>Provide technical advice to the EAD Response.</li> <li>Make recommendations to NMG on capacity to eradicate EAD and recommend agreement on the cost and Response Plan to the NMG.</li> </ul>
<b>Cross Government/Industry</b>		NMG (National Management Group)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approve budget and Response Plan as provided by CCEAD.</li> <li>Oversee the implementation of the Response Plan.</li> </ul>
Animal Health Australia (AHA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain up-to-date preparedness documents.</li> <li>Provide guidance on operation of AUSVETPLAN and EADRA</li> </ul>		
<b>Media</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Peak bodies take direction from the State Jurisdiction's Public Information (PI) function, and co-ordinate the flow of information to and from media.</li> <li>Refer all incoming enquiries to <a href="http://Outbreak.com.au">Outbreak.com.au</a> and/or nominated call centre number unless you have been advised otherwise by your Peak Industry Council (PIC) or State Jurisdiction.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individual processors and growers should not engage with the media.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>			

## COMMUNICATION PATHWAYS IN AN EAD RESPONSE

*Note: communication will likely be limited until such a point that suspected case is confirmed by the State Jurisdiction.*

