



Australian Government  
Department of Agriculture  
and Water Resources

# Meat Program Update



# Current Issues and Priorities

- ❖ Ongoing implementation of MEVS and EMSAP
- ❖ Overseas audits
- ❖ AAO renewal process
- ❖ EMSAP
- ❖ MEVS – Phase 2
- ❖ Independent Employer of AAOs Accreditation Scheme
- ❖ Export regulation review
- ❖ Meat notice updates
- ❖ On plant vet training

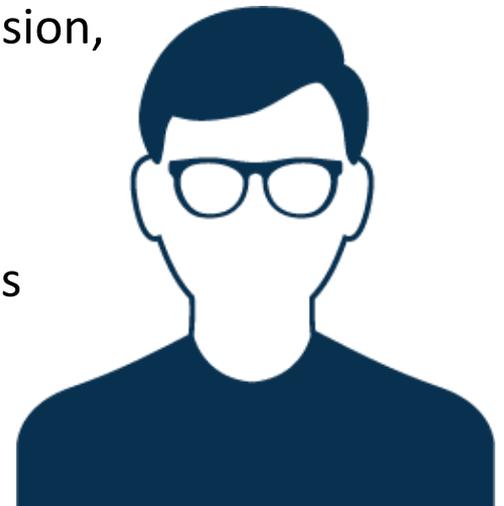
# Overseas Audits 2017

	Country	When	Who	What
	Malaysia	(proposed) 26 Feb – 10 March 2017	Malaysian Department of Islamic Development (JAKIM) and Department of Veterinary Services (DVS)	audit export establishments where current listing about to expire.
	Japan	15-16 March 2017	Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Visit a large scale beef export abattoir and looking at our system for halal red meat
	China	(proposed) 19 March – 2 April 2017	Certification and Accreditation Administration of the People's Republic of China (CNCA)	Multi commodity audit. Red meat (including chilled), donkey and infant formula establishments
	China	possibly first ½ of 2017	China	avian influenza audit (may cover off on processed poultry goods such as pet food and rendered products)
	Egypt	TBA	Egypt Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, General Organisation for Veterinary Services (GOVS)	Commercial organised visit

# Other Key Issues

## AAO Renewals

- Instrument of Appointment for Australian Government Authorised Officers (AAOs) have a five year expiry date
- Employers of existing AAOs that have an instrument of appointment approaching the expiry date will be issued a reminder at least 12 weeks prior
- Information sheet available on ELMER
- AAOs need to attend Deed of Obligation training session, sign new deed
- Provide new and current National Police Check
- The employer must return the ID card if the person is no longer working as an AAO



# Other Key Issues

## Independent Employer of AAOs Accreditation Scheme

- Eville and Jones Australia attained accreditation to the Scheme on 16 February 2017.
  - *Please note that this company is not affiliated with Eville and Jones Food Safety Operations Pty Ltd.*
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## Export Regulation Review

- The department is carrying out a review of Australian Government Export Legislation, with the intention of issuing new legislation in 2020.
  - Stakeholders, including industry representatives, have provided feedback to assist in the development of new legislation, which is being considered by the department's export regulation review team

# Other Key Issues

## EMSAP

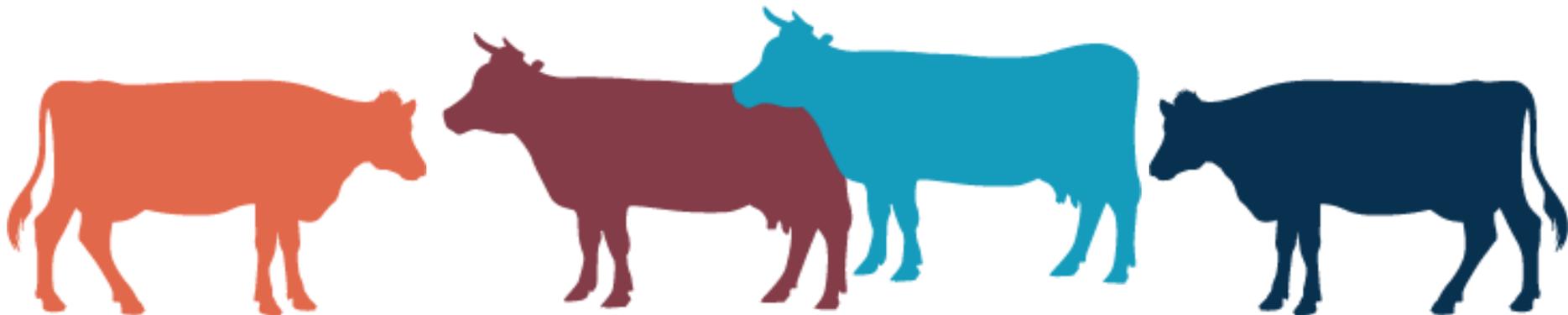
- Approximately half of the red meat abattoirs participating
- High level of compliance
  - 8 marginal audits
  - no unacceptable audits
- Initial audit checklist focussed on desk auditing of AA
- New audit checklist for establishments that have been audited more than two times
- Move audit focus from documentation to operations and records
- Checklist is available for establishments' perusal



# Other Key Issues

## Meat Exports Verification System – Phase 2

- MEVSP2 was successfully trialled on 7 plants in 2016.
- The department has used this process to streamline its verification activities on plant and has re-introduced the concept of check-the-checker for process monitoring verification.
- Verification activities are done on a daily, weekly and monthly basis and are recorded on a set of species-specific AMS verification checklists.
- National implementation is on target for beginning of April 2017.



# New Meat Notices

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**MN17-02** Extension of the Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* testing program to include exports to Canada

**MN17-01** China: Short term operator testing program for lead residues in beef

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**MN16-07** Managing animal welfare incidents at export registered red meat slaughtering establishments

**MN16-06** Current Poultry Inspection Requirements for Export

**MN16-05** Implementation of tamper-indicative seal and bolt seal in accordance with the legislative changes to Part 13 of the *Export Control (Prescribed Goods – General) Order 2005* effective 20 November 2016

**MN16-04** Changes to the Thermal Process Approval arrangements for low acid canned foods containing meat

**MN16-03** Daily hygiene verification of finished USA-eligible sheep, lamb and goat product

**MN16-02** Reminder of AUS-MEAT's responsibilities for accuracy of trade descriptions as they relate to export meat

**MN16-01** Changes to Part 13 of the *Export Control (Prescribed Goods – General) Order 2005*

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# Other Key Issues

## **On-plant residential professional development program**

- The Export Meat Program is running the six sessions this year for the professional development program for On-Plant Veterinarians
- The sessions will run in Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth and Canberra between July and October 2017.
- The professional development program is an opportunity for departmental on-plant veterinarians to be provided current training relating to key issues impacting on-plant activities
- Topics for the upcoming series will include animal health and welfare issues and key areas of decision-making

# Other Key Issues

## **Veterinary Student Public Health at Abattoirs Stream**

- The Export Meat Program received a “Partners in Veterinary Education” award for hosting veterinary students at an abattoir as part of their public health at abattoirs stream at the University of Sydney.
- The stream was piloted at University of Sydney with five vet students between March and May 2016.
- It is the second time in two years the Meat Exports Branch has received this award.
- Since February 2012, the Export Meat Program in collaboration with veterinary schools in Australia has been developing initiatives to support veterinary students develop comprehensive practical skills and knowledge to support a career in meat inspection and regulation.
- It is expected the Public Health at Abattoirs stream will be held at both University of Sydney and Murdoch University this year.



# Questions

