

QUESTION ON NOTICE
No. 1802
Asked on Thursday, 1 November 2007

MR HORAN asked the Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries (MR MULHERIN)-

QUESTION:

- (1) Will all horses in Queensland's red zone, that have not contracted equine influenza (EI), be vaccinated and will the full cost be borne by the Government given that in New South Wales all horses in the purple zone that have not contracted EI are being vaccinated free of charge?
- (2) How will all horses that have contracted EI, and thus developed nine months immunity, be identified to enable them to be moved and to compete in the future?

ANSWER:

- (1) The vaccination of all horses in the red zone in Queensland is not justified or possible under current national policy. Vaccine supply is still limited and its use is being prioritised to where the greatest strategic value can be achieved. The New South Wales (NSW) Department of Primary Industries advice to Queensland is that not all horses in the NSW purple zone will be vaccinated – again their approach is strategic use of vaccine within their buffer areas, then the red and purple zones.

All horses vaccinated in the red zone in Queensland are being done under the National cost sharing arrangements, i.e. at no cost to horse owners as is the case in the purple zone in NSW.

- (2) Owners of horses from properties classed as resolved and no longer infected for equine influenza are required to submit listings of the identities of all horses on their properties to the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries. This will allow subsequent owner declarations about their status to be provided if necessary.