



CATTLE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

MR 07/06

21 March 2006

BJD Assistance Package helps NSW beef producers get back on track

An assistance package designed to help beef producers in New South Wales overcome the economic and personal problems associated with Bovine Johnes Disease (BJD) is also helping them return their businesses to unrestricted trade quicker.

The Cattle Council of Australia's (CCA) BJD Financial and Non Financial Assistance Package, which commenced in 2004, offers financial assistance, independent counselling and support and information to eligible producers.

BJD Councillor for New South Wales, Campbell Trotter's principal role is to liaise with producers, Rural Lands Protection Board (RLPB) Veterinarians and Department of Primary Industries (DPI) staff to develop practical and economically sound options for removing the BJD infected status from the herd.

Mr Trotter said producers and vets have been keen to access the assistance package to assist them with moving forward in the clean up process.

"Of the 35 New South Wales beef herds under quarantine for BJD, 22 have taken advantage of package," Mr Trotter said.

"Producers with newly identified infected herds have found the package particularly helpful as they have been able to start the clean up process as soon as they realised their herd is infected."

If producers think their herd may be infected with BJD, they should contact their local RLPB Veterinarian. If BJD is confirmed, they can then access the CCA assistance package for help in removing the disease from their herd.

The BJD Financial and Non Financial Assistance Package is an initiative CCA and Animal Health Australia (AHA), in conjunction with DPI New South Wales, and will be available until 30 June 2007.

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