



CATTLE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

MR05/21

1 December 2005

Way forward for Q Fever vaccine!

Cattle Council of Australia has welcomed the announcement from CSL Pharmaceuticals that the company has committed to maintaining supply of Q Fever vaccine. This comes after CSL had stated its intention to cease manufacture of the vital vaccine in 2007.

Cattle Council President Bill Bray said "This is good news for Australian farmers and their families. Q Fever can be very debilitating but can be prevented through screening and vaccination. The loss of this vaccine would have been an absolute disaster, and for that reason Cattle Council has been working closely with the Federal Government to find a solution."

CSL's announcement comes after recent meetings between CSL and the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

"Since CSL first raised the issue on 11 November, Cattle Council has made several representations to Government raising awareness of the implications. We are particularly thankful to Senator Ron Boswell who was most helpful in ensuring this issue was given the urgent attention it deserved."

Cattle Council was instrumental in securing a Federal Government program in 2001 that provided \$8 million over 3 years to screen and vaccinate farmers and farm families for Q Fever. Senator Boswell announced the package during the 2001 Election campaign.

"A way forward has been found, and Cattle Council looks forward to securing with CSL and the Government an absolute and permanent solution to the long-term supply of Q Fever vaccine" Mr Bray concluded.

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REPRESENTING AUSTRALIAN CATTLE PRODUCERS SINCE 1979

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