



SADA UPDATE



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Foot and Mouth Disease and Lumpy Skin Disease

- remain alert not alarmed -

Further to media reports over the past 24 hours the detection of fragments of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in imported pork products has been as part of routine surveillance and are not of immediate concern.

The pork floss in Melbourne containing FMD fragments has been removed from supermarket shelves for precautionary measures. It was sourced from China, and whilst investigations will continue, there is no suggestion at this time that it hadn't been through all necessary treatment measures to be allowed to be provided for sale in Australia. Similar fragments were detected last year in product, at no risk to Australia. DNA fragments do not mean live virus, and can sometimes survive heat treatments, albeit somewhat denatured.

The passenger incident involved a young woman purchasing a foot-long Subway roll in Changi Airport in Singapore and putting half of it away in her luggage to "have later". A risk, but nothing not routinely dealt with probably every day at our borders, and no direct link to Indonesia.

These detections are part of the surveillance program for biosecurity which is the role of the Australian Federal Government via Border Force and other departments. There has been an increase in surveillance and testing of meat and other animal products, both at the border and through targeted checking of retail outlets in response to the heightened risks through Indonesia at present.

Having said all that, Minister Watt participated with other industry and government leaders in an industry webinar last evening with over 1500 industry attendee's on-line. They continue to review seriously all concerns raised about appropriate procedures, surveillance and processing, and are reviewing all suggestions being provided for additional measures that may be helpful.

Foot mats are being rolled out at airports, not because they are a great control measure, but to help add emphasis to all arriving passengers that we are taking this all very seriously.

All passengers arriving from Indonesia are now being screened and the number being searched has been markedly increased.

Tomorrow, 22 July, Dairy Australia is hosting a webinar for farmers, processors and interested groups on Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD). The webinar will cover what is currently being done to prevent a FMD incursion in Australia, what farmers can do now to increase their biosecurity measures on-farm (including what tools are available to use), and what the first few days of an incursion could look like, including a livestock standstill.

Participants are required to register to attend. [Register here](#)

Last night's broader industry webinar attracted 2,400 viewers and over 240 questions and comments. The recording of the webinar can be found here: <https://youtu.be/Dlxtgr62GD8>.

A link to President John Hunt's item on today's Country Hour is available [here](#). @27.20min

If you wish to discuss these issues at any time, please call us.

Compiled with input from NFF, ADF, PPSA and Dairy Australia.

ENDS