

# Terms used under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*

## General

A **Biosecurity Consideration** can be human health, social amenity, the economy or the environment.

The **Precautionary Principle** means that a lack of scientific certainty should not be used as a reason to postpone taking action to prevent a biosecurity event or response to a biosecurity risk.

A **Biosecurity Event** is caused by a pest, disease or contaminant that is or is likely to become a significant problem for human health, social amenity, the economy or the environment.

**Biosecurity Matter** is a living thing, other than a human or part of a human; or a pathogenic agent that can cause disease in a living thing, other than a human, or in a human, by the transmission of the pathogenic agent from the animal to the human; or a disease; or a contaminant.

A **Biosecurity Risk** is a risk of any adverse effect on a biosecurity consideration, caused by or likely to be caused by biosecurity matter; or dealing with biosecurity matter or a carrier; or carrying out an activity relating to biosecurity matter or a carrier.

The **General Biosecurity Obligation** requires everyone to manage biosecurity risks under their control and take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the likelihood of causing a biosecurity risk and minimise the adverse effects of dealing with a biosecurity matter or carrier.

A **Carrier** is any animal or plant, or part of any animal or plant, or any other thing capable of moving biosecurity matter from a place to another place; or contains biosecurity matter that may attach to or enter another animal or plant or another thing. A thing in this context is alive, dead or inanimate and includes a human.

A **Contaminant** is anything that may be harmful to animal or plant health or pose a risk of any adverse effect on a biosecurity consideration.

**Prohibited Matter** is biosecurity matter not currently present or known to be present in Queensland which is prohibited because it may have a significant adverse effect on a biosecurity consideration if it did enter Queensland.

**Restricted Matter** is biosecurity matter found in Queensland and may have adverse effects on a biosecurity consideration if conditions or restrictions under the Act were not imposed.

**Designated Biosecurity Matter** is biosecurity matter prescribed under a regulation as designated biosecurity matter. However, it cannot include a designated animal, a pathogenic agent that can cause disease, a disease or a contaminant.







## Disease tracing and contaminants

**Designated Animals** are cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, bison, buffalo, deer, the family Camelidae (which includes alpacas, Arabian camels and llamas), the family Equidae (which includes horses, ponies, donkeys, mules, zebras), captive birds and honey bees.

**Special Designated Animals** (cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, bison, buffalo, alpacas and llamas) require specified tags and must have their movements reported as part of the traceability requirements under the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS).

A **Designated Show Animal** is a designated animal other than a pig, ruminant or a captive bird (other than a raptor) that is used in a circus, show or exhibition.

**Registrable Biosecurity Entity** is a person that keeps the threshold number or more of designated animals; or holds the threshold amount or more of designated biosecurity matter.

An **Approved Device** is a tag or other identifying device that is fitted to a designated animal to distinguish it from other animals.

A **Restricted Agricultural Show** is a show that lasts no more than 96 hours and where no more than 500 special designated animals attend that have all come from the same place.

A person **keeps** a designated animal if the person is responsible for the care and control of the animal, whether or not the care and control is exercised through an agent or employee of the person.

A person **holds** designated biosecurity matter if they have title to it including the day-to-day control of it, whether or not that control is exercised personally or through an agent or employee of the person.

A **Biosecurity Circumstance** is the keeping of designated animals or the holding of designated biosecurity matter.

The **Biosecurity Register** is a list of biosecurity entities and restricted places that must be kept by the chief executive and published on the department's website.

A parcel of land in Queensland can be declared by the chief executive as a **Restricted Place** if it poses a biosecurity risk. The declaration must include how the use of the place is to be restricted.

## Local government

**Invasive Biosecurity Matter** is managed by each local government in their respective area and is defined under the act in Schedule 1, parts 3 & 4 relating to prohibited matter and Schedule 2, part 2 relating to restricted matter.

A **Biosecurity Plan** is a plan developed by local government to enable local people comment on the future direction for invasive biosecurity matter management in its area.

An **Invasive Animal Board** is an entity declared under a regulation to be an invasive animal board that manage an invasive animal and a barrier fence.

The **Barrier Fence** is the fence built along the lines shown on the 'wild dog barrier fence', the 'wild dog check fence' and the 'rabbit fence' barrier fence map.

## Emergencies and risks

A **Biosecurity Emergency Order** is made by the chief executive to isolate an emergency area, to stop the spread of any biosecurity matter and, if practicable, to eradicate the biosecurity matter.

A **Biosecurity Emergency Order Permit** may be granted by an inspector to a person allowing them to not comply with one or more of the requirements stipulated under a biosecurity emergency order.

A **Movement Control Order** is made by the chief executive to restrict the movement of biosecurity matter or the carriers of biosecurity matter for up to three months.

A **Biosecurity Zone** is a declaration of the whole or part of Queensland for managing, reducing or eradicating specified pests, diseases from inside or outside the zone.

A **Biosecurity Instrument** is a movement control order or biosecurity zone regulatory provision.

A **Biosecurity Instrument Permit** may be issued to a person that exempts them from all, or part of, the requirements of a biosecurity zone or movement control order.

An **Emergency Prohibited Matter Declaration** is used to urgently list a new biosecurity risk matter as a prohibited matter, or to remove a listed prohibited matter.

## General tools under the Act

A **Prohibited or Restricted Matter Permit** is issued by the chief executive to authorise a person to deal with specified prohibited or restricted matter.

A **Biosecurity Program** is a surveillance program or a prevention and control program.

A **Surveillance Program** is used to monitor compliance with the Act including requirements about prohibited and restricted matter, confirming the presence or absence of something, monitoring the effect of measures taken to deal with a biosecurity risk and monitoring the level of biosecurity matter in a carrier.

A **Prevention and Control Program** is used to prevent the entry, establishment or spread of biosecurity matter in an area that poses a significant biosecurity threat. The program is also used to manage, reduce or eradicate any biosecurity matter in an area that could pose a biosecurity risk.

A **Prohibited Matter Regulation** is used where there is prompt action required to declare a new prohibited matter or to declare that a prohibited matter is no longer a prohibited matter.

A **Restricted Matter Regulation** is used where there is prompt action required to declare a new restricted matter or to declare that a restricted matter is no longer a restricted matter.

A **Code of Practice** is made by regulation about biosecurity. For example, ways of minimising biosecurity risks, managing invasive animals and invasive plants and their impacts, hygiene standards, ways to prevent, control and stop the spread of biosecurity matter by a carrier and labelling requirements.

## Certification

A **Biosecurity Certificate** is a certificate about whether the stated biosecurity matter or thing is free of prohibited matter, restricted matter or biosecurity matter or confirms the biosecurity matter or thing is from a stated place, meets specified requirements, is in a stated condition or has been appropriately treated.

An **Intergovernmental Agreement** is entered into between Queensland and the Commonwealth or another state, in which mutual recognition is acknowledged for the issuing, auditing and inspection of a biosecurity certification scheme.







## Compliance and enforcement

An **Authorised Officer** is an authorised person or an inspector.

An **Authorised Person** is appointed by either the chief executive or by a local government to enforce the Act. Their powers are less than those provided to inspectors.

A **Biosecurity Order** may be issued by an authorised officer, when they form the belief that a person has or may breach their general biosecurity obligation, to minimise biosecurity risks and their impacts.

A **Notifiable Incident** is a biosecurity event that must be notified to an Inspector, for example, designated animals with blisters on their mouths or feet, an abnormally high mortality rate or morbidity rate in plants or in designated animals, a sudden and unexplained fall in production relating to plants or designated animals or the presence of a contaminant in a carrier in an amount more than the maximum acceptable level.

**Statutory Compensation** is a limited safety net for loss or damage that is not covered by a compensation scheme or a policy of insurance. Statutory compensation is only applicable for loss or damage that was not, or would not have become, infected or infested. For example, stock or crops destroyed to create a buffer zone around an outbreak.

## Further information

To find out more about the Act, visit [www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au](http://www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au) or call 13 25 23.

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