

Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme Guidelines

Guidelines for the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Scheme

Version 3.3, 18 March 2025





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Version control

Version	Date	Comments	
1.1	30/07/2007	Commencement	
1.2	01/07/2010	Revision under DEEDI	
2.1	06/07/2015	Conformance with Biosecurity Act and shared responsibilities	
2.1A	2018	Updates and clarifications	
2.2022.1	June 2022	Update fees, insert State Coordinator endorsement	
2.2022.2	06/10/2022	Minor edits	
3.1	17/07/2023	Reference fees to DPI web-page, minor edits, new template	
3.2	13/10/2023	Privacy of data	
3.3	18/03/2025	Amend contact details, Replace DAF with DPI	



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1. Overview

Ovine brucellosis is a bacterial infection of sheep caused by *Brucella ovis* (*B. ovis*). It is an economically important cause of epididymitis and impaired fertility in rams. It is occasionally associated with abortion in ewes, and it can cause increased peri-natal mortality in lambs.

Ovine brucellosis occurs in all sheep breeding areas of the world and in sheep flocks in all States of Australia. All breeds of sheep are susceptible to the disease and can cause considerable economic loss through ram wastage, low lamb marking percentages, extended lambing seasons and ill-thrift in newborn lambs.

Additional information on ovine brucellosis can be found on the Queensland government website www.qld.gov.au, search for *ovine brucellosis*.

1.1 Objective

The objective of the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme is to provide the sheep industries with a tool for protecting against spread and consequent productivity losses of brucellosis.

The Scheme aims to:

- Provide industry with an objective system for managing the risk of ovine brucellosis
- Maintain a reservoir of B. ovis low-risk rams using management strategies that minimise the risk of introducing disease into accredited flocks
- Identify sources of B. ovis low-risk rams for those with uninfected flocks who want to avoid
 introducing infection, for restocking properties that have undertaken an eradication program, to meet
 interstate entry requirements, and to reduce the risk of B. ovis infection being spread at shows and
 sales
- Facilitate the movement of B. ovis low-risk rams between States
- Provide objective accreditation for low-risk flocks to promote their health status.

1.2 Regulatory requirements

Queensland does not have a State or regional ovine brucellosis eradication or control program. Ovine brucellosis is not a notifiable disease in Queensland.

There is no regulatory requirement for a sheep breeder to have their flock accredited under the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme or to eradicate *B. ovis* from their flock.

Some breed societies, show societies and selling organisations may require sheep coming to an exhibition, show or sale to be from an ovine brucellosis accredited flock or to have been tested for *B. ovis* with negative results.

The Department of Primary Industries (DPI) currently co-ordinates the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme.

2. Introduction

The Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme is a voluntary, user pays scheme run in association with the sheep breed societies, individual owners, veterinary practitioners the Department of Primary Industries, and Animal Health Australia.

The Scheme was developed in response to calls from sheep breeders for a flock classification scheme that could give them and their clients confidence that participating flocks have been objectively assessed and no infection with *B. ovis* detected.



The Scheme aims to identify and protect flocks that are a low-risk for *B. ovis* infection. It is based on a testing regime together with flock and property biosecurity measures that minimise the risk of spread of *B. ovis* within a flock and the introduction of *B. ovis* into the flock. It also uses a series of clinical examinations, together with serological screening tests and follow-up investigations of reactors, to assess the risk of the flock being infected.

Blood testing for *B. ovis* is not 100% accurate, nor are all animals in a flock sampled. The Scheme requires the testing of a sufficient number of animals to provide a high level of confidence that rams from a *B. ovis* accredited flock have a low risk of being infected with *B. ovis*.

Provided biosecurity measures to prevent the introduction of disease are implemented, the more testing with negative results that occur over time, the greater the level of confidence that a flock is not infected.

The Scheme requires high levels of flock management. Biosecurity measures apply to the introduction of sheep, husbandry and record keeping and are critical to the success of the Scheme.

Industry ownership of, and commitment to the Scheme are essential for its success.

Promotion of the Scheme is an industry responsibility.

3. Responsibilities of participating parties

3.1 Flock owners

All owners of sheep breeding flocks are eligible to apply for accreditation.

Owners must demonstrate, to the satisfaction of their supervising veterinarian, their ability to maintain sound flock management and biosecurity to prevent introduction of infection. In particular, they must:

- Maintain sheep proof fences, particularly boundary and ram paddock fences
- Provide adequate facilities for isolation, examination and testing of rams
- Keep adequate property and livestock records, including records of introductions to the flock
- Provide a property biosecurity plan and a property map
- Prevent contact between sheep from the accredited flock and any sheep of unknown, unaccredited or infected status
- Ensure protocols are in place to deal with:
 - Stray sheep found on the property
 - Strays from the accredited flock which have been returned
- Ensure all rams on the property are individually permanently identified and presented for testing as required by the Scheme
- Transport sheep in isolation from sheep from other flocks.

All costs of inspections, examinations, testing and registration fees will be borne by the flock owner.

3.2 Veterinary Practitioner

The supervising veterinarian must be registered with the Queensland Veterinary Surgeons Board and is responsible for recommending to DPI whether a flock meets all the requirements for accreditation under this Scheme. To do this, the veterinarian must ensure that they have read and understood all the requirements of the Scheme and that the manager of the flock establishes and maintains all the requirements of the Scheme.



Before making a recommendation, the veterinarian must:

- Discuss all aspects of ovine brucellosis and the biosecurity measures described in the Scheme with flock owners
- Assess the flock management and biosecurity as per the Scheme
- Carry out all manual examination of rams, check that all rams are identified and collect and submit for testing blood samples as required in the Scheme
- Interpret test results, using technical support from the State Coordinator if required
- Provide advice to the owners as required
- In collaboration with the State Coordinator, certify flock accreditation under the scheme if the flock meets the requirements
- Maintain an adequate record of the testing and biosecurity management evaluation for each individual participating property which they supervise in the Scheme.
- In addition, if brucellosis is suspected or confirmed in the flock, the veterinarian must immediately:
- Suspend or cancel accreditation, and provide written advice to the flock owner of the suspension or cancellation and the reasons for the decision
- Notify the State Coordinator of the suspicion or cancellation
- Investigate to determine the reasons for any breakdown in an accredited flock and advise the State Coordinator of these reasons as soon as possible.

3.2.1 Avoiding potential conflict of interest

A veterinarian may not act as the supervising veterinarian or endorse an application for accreditation for a flock which is wholly or partly owned or managed by the veterinarian or a family member.

In this situation, they must avoid the risk of a perceived conflict of interest by engaging the services of another supervising veterinarian.

Any other situations which may be perceived as being a conflict of interest should also be avoided.

3.3 Breed societies and associations

The responsibilities of the breed societies and associations are to:

- Promote awareness of the Scheme with new and existing members
- Ensure that when advising show committees or organising shows, exhibits or sales, accredited sheep will not be allowed to come in contact with non-accredited sheep
- Liaise with DPI regarding administrative principles and Scheme Guidelines.

3.4 Department of Primary Industries

The Department of Primary Industries (DPI):

- Maintains overall coordination and administration of the accreditation scheme
- Maintains a register of accredited flocks
- Provides a regular update of the register of accredited flocks to Animal Health Australia AHA)
- Determines the fees that must be paid for initial and reaccreditation



- · Reserves the rights to reassess and modify the Guidelines and fees at any time
- Reserves the rights to assess or inspect the property or stock at any time.

3.5 DPI privacy statement for the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme

To accredit or re-accredit under this scheme, personal and flock information is:

- Collected and assessed by the flock's chosen veterinarian
- Supplied by the veterinarian to DPI for the purpose of DPI coordinating the scheme in Queensland
- Checked by DPI for consistency with departmental records and the relevant technical standards, assigned a certificate number, and updated on a list of accredited flocks in this state
- Supplied by DPI to AHA
- Published by AHA on their public facing website (link below) to enable flock owners to promote their status for marketing and for access to shows/sales, and also enables buyers to readily identify sources of breeding livestock that are certified against risk of disease.

The information to be provided by DPI to AHA to collate and publish is:

- Owner ID (a unique owner identifier)
- Owner name (surname and first name)
- State
- Postcode
- Local government area of the property
- Phone number
- Mobile phone number
- Locality (nearest town)
- Stud name
- Expiry date of accreditation
- Accreditation or certificate number
- Breed(s) of sheep
- Postal address.

Personal information collected for this purpose will not be disclosed by DPI to any other parties or used for any other purpose unless authorised or required by law.

Participation in the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme, by applying for accreditation or reaccreditation, implies consent for the information including personal information that has been collected by the veterinarian to be shared with DPI and AHA and to be published on the AHA website.

DPI is unable to re-accredit any flock for which the owner refuses or withdraws consent for their personal information to be shared with AHA, because inadvertent sharing of the information contrary to those expressed wishes cannot be guaranteed.

Contact the state co-ordinator of the scheme (refer section 14) to inspect or seek changes to the information held on the scheme's register.



3.6 Animal Health Australia

- Animal Health Australia (AHA):
 - Maintains a national list of flocks accredited under each state's ovine brucellosis accreditation scheme
 - Provides public access to search the national list of accredited flocks through the AHA website at: https://edis.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/public.php?page=ovbrsearch&aha_program=3
 - Complies with the AHA Company Privacy Policy, described at: https://animalhealthaustralia.com.au/privacy-statement/

4. Biosecurity guidelines for accredited flocks

Accreditation as a low-risk flock for ovine brucellosis is achieved through a combination of risk assessment, management of introduced sheep, on-farm biosecurity, and blood testing and examination of rams at regular intervals. One element alone (such as blood testing a particular ram) is not sufficient to provide a high level of assurance against infection.

Implementing a high standard of on-farm biosecurity is the key to maintaining accreditation in the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme.

Regular blood testing and testicular palpation of rams is a monitoring process used in the accreditation scheme to provide quality assurance for the accreditation status. It does not protect from introduction or spread of infection.

These guidelines set the minimum standards required for flocks enrolled in the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme. Flock owners should read these carefully before deciding to apply for accreditation. Veterinarians must be familiar with these requirements and be able to advise and assess a flock owner on their implementation.

5. Flock management principles

5.1 Introductions

It is important for the supervising veterinarian to remind their client at each re-accreditation of their obligation to notify them of all sheep introductions.

The veterinarian must be satisfied that the introductions have come from accredited flocks or, if not, that the sheep have been isolated and rams tested negative and ewes managed as outlined below.

5.1.1 Introduction of rams and teasers

From accredited flocks

Rams or teasers from other accredited flocks introduced directly and transported in complete isolation require no testing or isolation to comply with the minimum standards of this Scheme. However, owners of high-value flocks may wish to consider extra assurance of isolation or testing of introduced sheep.

Details of the source flock's accreditation must be provided and recorded.

From non-accredited flocks

Before entry to the flock, rams or teasers from non-accredited flocks in which ovine brucellosis is not known to be present must:

- Be clinically normal, and
- Be held in isolation, and



Have 2 negative manual palpations and blood tests taken by the testing veterinarian not less than 60 days or more than 120 days apart.

The first test may be carried out on the property of origin NOT MORE than 14 days before shipment. The animal(s) must be held in complete isolation from the time of the first test, during transport, and until the result of the second test is known. The second test must be NOT LESS than 60 days after shipment.

5.1.2 Introduction of ewes

From accredited flocks

Ewes from other accredited flocks introduced directly and transported in complete isolation require no testing or isolation.

From non-accredited flocks

Before entry to the flock, non-pregnant ewes from non-accredited flocks in which ovine brucellosis is not known to be present, before entry to the flock, must:

- · Be kept isolated and
- Not be joined for four months from introduction.

Pregnant ewes must;

- · Be lambed in isolation and
- Not joined for four months post-lambing.

This applies to the introduction of both stud and commercial ewes.

5.1.3 Ram lambs born to non-accredited introduced pregnant ewes

Ram lambs born to non-accredited introduced pregnant ewes prior to mixing with other ram groups:

- Should be weaned early (by 14 weeks and certainly before the ewes are re-joined), and
- Must be isolated from other ram groups, and
- Must be palpated and blood tested negative at least one month after weaning.

5.1.4 Introduction of wethers

There are no restrictions on the introduction of wethers into accredited flocks.

5.2 Shows and sales

Rams that are part of an accredited flock that leave the designated property:

- Must not have direct contact with sheep from non-accredited flocks
- Must be held and transported in isolation.

Rams that have contact with un-accredited sheep, or where contact with un-accredited sheep is unknown, must be either:

- Held in complete isolation for 60 days on return and then undergo one round of manual palpation and blood test; or
- Undergo two manual palpations and blood tests 60 120 days apart upon returning whilst being held in complete isolation.

Rams sold from an accredited flock to a new property which does not hold accredited status will lose their accreditation status on arrival. They cannot be on-sold as accredited rams.



5.3 Agistment and ram depots

Rams and ewes from an accredited flock must not be grazed anywhere other than the home property except with prior inspection and approval by the flock's supervising veterinarian. The veterinarian must ensure that facilities and management are of an equivalent standard to that required for accreditation. If long distances are involved, another supervising veterinarian may do the property inspection.

All rams so depastured at the time when an accreditation test is due must be tested as required within 30 days of the date when the rest of the rams in the flock are tested.

The conditions for returning such rams to the main flock will be appropriate to the degree of risk involved:

- Where the fencing is good and there has been no contact with unaccredited rams, no testing will be required on return.
- Where the fencing is doubtful or there may have been contact with other rams, rams must be either:
 - Held in complete isolation for 60 days on return and then undergo one round of manual palpation and blood test; or
 - Two manual palpations and blood tests 60 120 days apart upon returning whilst being held in complete isolation.

5.4 Straying sheep

Owners must immediately notify their supervising veterinarian of:

- Any stray sheep which come into contact with the accredited flock, and
- Any sheep from the accredited flock which have strayed and been returned.

The accredited flock should have a plan in place to deal with these situations if they arise.

Rams that have contact with un-accredited sheep must be either:

- Held in complete isolation for 60 days on return and then undergo one round of manual palpation and blood test; or
- Undergo two manual palpations and blood tests 60 120 days apart upon returning whilst being held in complete isolation.

5.5 Artificial insemination and embryo transfer

Ewes from an accredited property may only be artificially inseminated with semen from:

- Accredited rams, or
- Non-accredited rams which have been held in isolation and had:
 - Two negative testicular palpation examinations for ovine brucellosis, and
 - Two negative B. ovis CFT tests 60 120 days apart. The second test must be no more than 14 days prior to semen collection.

Embryo transfer can be used in an accredited flock.

5.6 Commercial flocks

Commercial flocks which are run on the same property as accredited flocks must be subject to the same biosecurity and management conditions as the accredited flock. Rams used in the commercial flock must be included in the ram groups sampled for accreditation scheme testing as per the protocols described in these Guidelines.



The only exception will be where the flock owner can clearly demonstrate to the satisfaction of the supervising veterinarian that the two flocks are run as completely separate entities on separate areas of land with sound boundary fencing between them. The supervising veterinarian must make a note of this in the veterinary report and accreditation forms submitted for this property.

5.7 Transport

Sheep subject to accreditation must always be transported in isolation from non-accredited sheep.

6. Testing

6.1 General guidelines

Flock owners seeking to enter the scheme need to discuss flock management and testing requirements with their supervising veterinarian. The timing of the initial testing should be arranged to coincide with normal management practices, as renewals will occur in the same month in the future.

Testing should not be carried out less than 6 weeks after completion of joining, due to an increased risk of false positives occurring.

The cost of all testing for ovine brucellosis is the responsibility of the sheep owner or sample submitter.

The supervising veterinarian must personally:

- Carry out all manual ram examinations,
- · Check that all rams are permanently individually identified, and
- Collect blood samples (clotted blood)

All samples must be correlated with individual animals and recorded on the Specimen List. All testicular lesions must also be recorded using the key attached to the form. This completed form must be sent with the samples, along with a fully completed specimen advice form to a laboratory which is NATA-accredited for ovine brucellosis testing. A complement fixation test (CFT) will be run on the clotted blood samples.

The State Coordinator must be promptly notified of any serological reactors or infected animals in flocks which are accredited.

6.2 Laboratories

Only laboratories which are accredited under the Australian National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) for conducting ovine brucellosis testing can be used. This includes Queensland Department of Primary Industries' Biological Sciences Laboratory at Coopers Plains, Brisbane.

The laboratory should be advised in advance if large numbers of samples are being submitted.

6.3 Interpretation of test results

The supervising veterinarian is responsible for interpreting all test results and providing reports and advice to flock owners. If necessary, the veterinarian can discuss interpretation of tests and their implications with the State Coordinator. However, it is up to the supervising veterinarian to assess whether the client has met all the requirements of the scheme and make the appropriate recommendation.

CFT results are provided as serological readings of negative, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128.

Any result other than negative requires further investigation.

Rams with reactions on CFT test must not be disposed of until their status is resolved.



Table 1 Interpretation of test results

Test results	Table column heading text (centred)		
Negative	Negative – No further action		
8	Suspect - Serological reading of 8 in rams from a flock with no history of infection.		
	Positive - Serological reading of 8 in rams from a flock with prior or current history of infection.		
16, 32, 64, 128	Positive - Serological reading of 16, 32, 64, 128 in rams with or without lesions.		
Unsuitable	Problem with the sample - Correct handling of samples and prompt dispatch to the laboratory will minimise the risk of an aberrant reaction occurring.		
Risk of False positive	Is more likely when testing rams that have recently been joined		
	As all reactors must be fully investigated to resolve the flock status, to avoid the risk of having to undertake an unnecessary investigation, AVOID testing rams in the period up to 6 weeks post-joining.		

Where Brucella ovis infection is confirmed in a flock, any animal with lesions or giving any reaction on CFT is classified as infected.

6.3.1 Action with CFT reactors

Any test reaction, including an unsuitable reaction, is considered significant and requires follow up investigation.

Positive reactions

Any ram returning a CFT result of 16 or higher is considered infected whether clinical lesions are present or not.

The supervising veterinarian must immediately **cancel** the accreditation and notify the flock owner and the scheme's coordinator.

If intending to re-enter the Scheme, all infected animals detected by serology or bacteriology must be isolated immediately and slaughtered or sold for slaughter-only within 30 days.

Unsuitable results

Sometimes problems occur with samples during collection or transport to the laboratory which leads to the reporting of serological testing as "sample unsuitable".

These are typically due to anti-complementary reactions, a poorly understood phenomenon. Around 50% of rams which initially test anti-complementary will test normally at the second or subsequent test. Sampling is only one factor which may cause an anti-complementary reaction. Other cases are believed to be due to the presence of some compound in the blood which prevents the test reagent from working.

To minimise this risk on retest, collect the blood carefully to avoid haemolysis, let the sample stand at room temperature for 3-4 hours then, once the clot has formed properly, decant 1-2ml of sera (which should look very clear) into another sample tube without spinning down.

It must be emphasised to owners the under <u>no circumstances</u> should anti-complementary reactors be destroyed without further investigation.

The steps and options for resolving a ram which gives an anti-complementary result are as follows:

- Hold the ram in isolation.
- Retest the ram within 4 weeks. If the result is negative, the flock may be accredited. If an inconclusive or positive reaction is found, proceed as described elsewhere in this section.
- If the result is still anti-complementary, either



- Take a second round of blood samples from the same sample of rams and cull the anticomplementary ram – if this second test is negative, the flock application can proceed; or
- Semen culture the ram if the semen culture is negative, the flock application can proceed; or
- Post-mortem the ram and submit specimens for testing as described under inconclusive reactions option 1 below – if the bacteriology and histopathology are negative, the flock application can proceed.

Action with suspect reactors (Titre 8)

It must be emphasised to owners that under <u>no circumstances</u> should suspect reactors be destroyed without further investigation.

When reactors are slaughtered without further examination for evidence of infection, the flock is presumed infected and cannot be recommended for accreditation or reaccreditation without further tests.

In the absence of other evidence of infection in the flock, suspect reactors must be retested while in approved isolation. In some special cases, supplementary test procedures may be required.

If the supervising veterinarian considers that there is a disease risk or if retesting is delayed, they must immediately **suspend** the accreditation until the status of any reactor is clarified and notify the scheme's coordinator.

The following examinations of suspect reactors are necessary to ensure the flock is low-risk from disease.

Suspect reactors with no clinical evidence of disease

- The rams must be isolated immediately.
- The rams must be re-bled 4 weeks after the initial bleeding.
- A semen sample may be taken for bacterial examination at this stage (optional).
- If the semen culture is positive, the ram is considered positive.
- If the ram gives a negative CF titre on the second test, the ram should be considered negative and no further testing is necessary.
- If the ram continues to give a CF titre of 8, there are 2 options:

Option 1

For any reactor ram which has a persistent titre:

- The supervising veterinarian should undertake a post-mortem and submit serum samples and the
 entire reproductive tract including the accessory sex glands to a laboratory that is NATA accredited
 for ovine brucellosis bacteriological and histopathological examinations. Prior arrangements should
 be made with the laboratory.
- The following organs should be routinely cultured for evidence of *B. ovis*: epididymides; seminal vesicles; ampullae; inguinal lymph nodes.

If no evidence of infection is found on laboratory examination, the rams and the flock can be considered low-risk for *B. ovis* infection.



Option 2

Valuable rams can be re-examined using serology and semen examination while held in isolation.

To be considered low-risk from disease the ram must, on each of at least 3 occasions when sampled at 4-week intervals:

- Not show an increase in titre on serology, and
- Return negative semen cultures.

If any semen culture is positive, the ram is considered positive.

On rare occasions, ewes have been implicated in flock breakdowns and *B. ovis* has been cultured from mammary gland tissue and milk. See the section on *Roles of ewes in maintaining infection* (section 11.5.1) for further information.

Suspect reactors with clinical evidence of disease

When suspect reactors with clinical lesions are detected on re-accreditation testing, they should be slaughtered and sampled for histopathological examination and culture as in Option 1 (above).

Repeat blood testing and semen culture is not appropriate in these cases.

7. Accreditation Protocols

7.1 Progression

Accredited flocks move through the scheme starting from initial accreditation, then annual, biennial and finally triennial re-accreditation. The biosecurity requirements are the same for all flocks, but the sampling requirements and intervals change as flocks progress through the scheme.

The requirements for each type of accreditation are detailed in the following sections. The accreditation timeline is a graphical representation of how flocks progress through the scheme.

7.2 Accreditation timeline

Re-accreditation testing will be carried out annually for the first 3 years of accreditation. The expiry of annual accreditation will be the last day of the month in which the completion of the testing for initial accreditation occurred. Upon written recommendation from the supervising veterinarian, the State Coordinator may permit biennial accreditation, which after three biennial tests for 6 years, may be eligible for triennial testing.

At the conclusion of any required testing and provided that the conditions of accreditation are met, DPI will issue a certificate of accreditation to be signed by the supervising veterinarian. The certificate will be valid for 12 months, 24 months or 36 months as appropriate.

Table 2 Timeline for accreditation requirements (years)

Time - Years after commencement (ref. section 9) or resolution of breakdown (section 11.4.3)	Requirements to be met	Duration
Year 0 (commencement)	Initial accreditation (ref. s. 9)	One year
Year 1 (one year after commencement)	Re-accreditation (ref. s.10)	One year
Year 2	Re-accreditation (s. 10)	One year
Year 3	Re-accreditation (s. 10)	Two years
Year 4 (four years after commencement)	Nil	
Year 5	Re-accreditation (s. 10)	Two years
Year 6	Nil	



Year 7	Re-accreditation (s. 10)	Two years
Year 8	Nil	
Year 9	Re-accreditation (s. 10)	Three years
Year 10	Nil	
Year 11	Nil	
Year 12	Re-accreditation (s. 10)	Three years
Year 13	Nil	
Year 14	Nil	
Year 15	Re-accreditation (s. 10)	Three years
Year 16	Nil	

8. Assessment of flock management and biosecurity

8.1 Property inspection

8.1.1 Property fencing

The supervising veterinarian must be satisfied that the fencing, particularly boundary and ram paddock fences are sheep proof, and that fence inspections and repair and maintenance are programmed to ensure they remain sheep proof.

8.1.2 Handling facilities

Yards and other facilities must be adequate for the examination and testing of rams, and to allow isolation of sheep from the main flock when required.

8.1.3 Property location

Property location in relation to access roads, proximity to public roads, stock routes and reserves needs to be assessed to determine the potential risk of introduction of infection via exposure to travelling stock and strays.

Land owned by the applicant but not included in the accredited property will be considered on the same basis as land used for agistment.

8.1.4 Neighbouring properties

The type of enterprise on neighbouring properties together with any known disease status of neighbouring flocks needs to be considered. Any risks identified must be addressed in the management plan.

8.2 Management inspection

8.2.1 Property management

The supervising veterinarian must be satisfied that the level of property management is adequate to maintain accreditation.

The owner's ability to control other diseases on the property and the ability to obtain clean musters needs to be considered.

Property and livestock records must be adequate (e.g. ability to demonstrate lambing and lamb marking percentages, paddock movements, straying events, introductions of sheep, attendance at shows/sales).



8.2.2 Flock management

The supervising veterinarian should consider:

- Size of the flock and relative importance of the enterprise,
- Number of nucleus rams and teasers.
- Approximate number of sale rams and age at sale,
- Ability to segregate young sale rams from other groups,
- · Length of joining and lambing periods,
- · Use of artificial breeding,
- · Age at weaning, and
- · Methods of individual animal identification.

8.2.3 Flock history

The supervising veterinarian should assess:

- Any previous history of ovine brucellosis,
- Records of past examination and testing of rams,
- The reproductive performance of the flock including lambing percentage,
- The reason for any lowered fertility,
- Origin of recent ram and ewe introductions, and
- Reasons for disposal of rams over past years.

8.2.4 Property map

The owner must provide the supervising veterinarian with a map of the property. This should be approximately to scale and show:

- Location numbers and access road names;
- · Boundary and sub-divisional fences;
- · Names of adjoining neighbours;
- Types of fences.

The property map is to be updated and presented when changes occur to the part of the property where the accredited flock is kept. It is the owner's responsibility to notify the supervising veterinarian of any land acquired on which it is intended to run the accredited flock. It will be necessary for a property inspection to be carried out on new land and submitted to the State Coordinator.

8.2.5 Property biosecurity plan

The owner must have a plan that documents an assessment of biosecurity risks for the property and how those risks will be mitigated, monitored, and responded to. In particular, the biosecurity plan should consider the risks of:

- Boundary security;
- Introductions;
- · Agistment;



- · Straying onto the property;
- Straying from the property;
- Attendance at shows and sales.

Farm biosecurity plan templates are readily available from Farm Biosecurity at http://www.farmbiosecurity.com.au

8.2.6 Adequate records

Adequate records are required showing:

- A complete list of all rams and teasers, together with their breed, age, origin and date of introduction.
 This includes any stags or hormone treated wethers to be used in the breeding program.
- Details of all other sheep introduced to the flock.
- The movement of sheep to and from shows or sale and other movements away from the accredited property.
- Details of testing and isolation records of non-accredited rams introduced to the flock.

8.2.7 Identification of rams

All rams (included teasers) must be individually and permanently identified by serially numbered ear tags or other industry accepted means.

All rams and teasers to be tested are to be made available on request in suitable facilities.

9. Initial accreditation

It is important for the supervising veterinarian and flock owner to determine the most convenient time of year for testing to occur, considering shearing and joining times and show and sale dates. This is important because **re-accreditation will always be due on the last day of the month in which the final pre-accreditation laboratory report was released**.

9.1 Flock and managerial assessment

The supervising veterinarian must make an initial assessment of the flock and its management as set out in section 8, Assessment of flock management and biosecurity.

The results of this must be recorded on the form titled Veterinary report and recommendation for initial accreditation.

An Owner agreement form must be signed.

9.2 Testing protocol

The supervising veterinarian may progress initial accreditation for a flock when the following conditions have been met:

 All sires and teasers intended for use in the accredited flock have completed two negative manual testicular palpations and two negative CF tests 60 – 120 days apart.

AND

All other rams over 10 months of age have been manually palpated. Any rams with testicular lesions
must be isolated and blood tested negative. Also, a statistically significant sample of the remainder
of this group (those with no testicular lesions) must also be blood tested negative. See Appendix:
Sample Testing for sampling table.



AND

 All ram lambs between 4 and 10 months of age have been manually palpated, and any with lesions must be isolated and blood tested negative.

AND

All animals must be accounted for at all tests.

9.3 Special considerations

Initial accreditation may be provided based on one negative palpation and CFT test of the stud sires and teasers and young rams as above if:

- All non-accredited rams are removed from the property before any accredited rams are introduced
- The new flock is made up of sheep purchased from currently accredited flocks
- A copy of the certificates must confirm the accreditation status of the source properties
- A biosecurity plan must be documented and implemented within one month of establishing the flock,
 and
- The palpation and blood sampling must be conducted within three months after arrival at the new property.

9.4 Administrative requirements

Please ensure all the required documents are submitted on the current forms and at the same time to the State Coordinator or accreditation may be delayed.

The required documents are:

- Veterinary report and recommendation for initial accreditation
- Copies of all laboratory reports
- Completed Owner agreement form
- · Property biosecurity plan and map
- Payment of initial accreditation fee

The State Coordinator assesses the information to confirm that it is complete and in accordance with these Guidelines. If all the requirements have been met, the State Coordinator will issue a draft certificate of accreditation to the supervising veterinarian for their signature and delivery to the flock owner.

10. Re-accreditation

10.1 Flock and managerial assessment

The supervising veterinarian must assess the management of the flock and biosecurity of the property as set out in the section on Assessment of flock management and biosecurity.

The results of this should be recorded on the form titled Veterinary report and recommendation for reaccreditation.

A new Owner agreement form must also be signed.

10.2 Testing protocol

The supervising veterinarian may progress re-accreditation of a flock when the following conditions have been met:



- All rams from the property must be accounted for, including those sold and deceased.
- All rams over 10 months of age must have a testicular manual palpation. Any with lesions must be isolated on detection.
- All rams and teasers intended for use on the property, together with any rams over 10 months of age with palpable lesions of the reproductive tract must test negative on *B. ovis* CFT.
- A statistically significant sample of sale rams over 22 months of age test negative on B. ovis CFT.
 See Appendix: Sample Testing.

10.3 Administrative requirements

Please ensure all the required documents are submitted on the current forms and at the same time to the State Coordinator or your application may be delayed.

The required documents are:

- Veterinary report and recommendation for re-accreditation
- Copies of all laboratory reports
- Completed Owner agreement form
- Payment of re-accreditation fee.

The State Coordinator assesses the information to confirm that it is complete and in accordance with these Guidelines. If all the requirements have been met, the State Coordinator will issue a certificate of accreditation to the supervising veterinarian for their signature and delivery to the flock owner.

Flocks must be accredited annually for a period of three years before being eligible for biennial accreditation. After 3 periods (6 years) of biennial accreditation, flocks may then be eligible for triennial accreditation.

10.4 Timing of re-accreditation testing

Refer to Table 2, section 7.2 for a schedule of re-accreditation.

DPI will forward a reminder letter to the flock owner 60 days prior to the expiry of the accreditation period.

It is the responsibility of the flock owner and supervising veterinarian to ensure that the testing is carried out and re-accreditation paperwork submitted by the expiry date for accreditation. Failure to do so will result in suspension of accreditation. The absence of a reminder letter from DPI is not a reason for any failure by the owner to carry out the required testing at the required time.

10.5 Flocks which fail to meet re-accreditation requirements

Supervising veterinarians must not process a flock for re-accreditation if they are not confident that the standards detailed in these Guidelines are being upheld. Supervising veterinarians are encouraged to discuss difficult cases with the State Coordinator prior to making a recommendation for or against reaccreditation.

Where re-accreditation cannot be progressed for a flock, the supervising veterinarian must advise the State Coordinator in writing. Details of why the decision was made should be included to allow the State Coordinator to assist in resolving any dispute which may arise.

11. General accreditation information

11.1 Application for temporary extension of expiry date

On rare occasions it may be necessary to apply for an extension of time to complete flock re-accreditation testing. Examples include disruptions due to floods, bushfires and medical emergencies.



The supervising veterinarian must apply to the State Coordinator in advance of the expiry date with full details of why the extension is necessary. The length of time granted will be determined by the State Coordinator up to a maximum of three months.

A temporary extension of expiry date must not be requested if the supervising veterinarian has any suspicion that flock management or biosecurity standards are inadequate.

11.2 Application for permanent variation of expiry date

A flock owner may request a permanent change to the expiry date of their flock's accreditation to better fit in with other management procedures. The supervising veterinarian should send the request to the State Coordinator. The time to the next test may only be reduced or extended for a maximum of three months per accreditation period.

11.3 Accreditation in the absence of rams

Flocks can be accredited even though there may be no rams or teasers to blood test or palpate.

Flocks in which no rams are present and artificial breeding techniques are utilised instead may become ovine brucellosis accredited if:

- Semen is sourced in accordance with section 5.5, Artificial insemination, and
- All the requirements for flock and managerial assessments in Section 5 are met.

In small flocks there may be periods of the year when no rams are present. In these cases, the timing of accreditation assessment should be changed so that rams are present when testing is due.

11.4 Response to detection of infection in accredited flocks

If infection with ovine brucellosis is confirmed in an accredited flock, the flock's accreditation will be cancelled immediately.

11.4.1 Requirement of veterinarian to notify

Supervising veterinarians must notify the State Coordinator immediately if ovine brucellosis is suspected or confirmed in an accredited flock.

11.4.2 Requirement of flock owner to notify

After confirmation of infection and discussion with the supervising veterinarian, the Scheme recommends that the flock owner notify recent ram purchasers of the possibility that the rams were infected with ovine brucellosis at the time of sale.

In cases where it has been more than one year since the last CFT test of the flock, the Scheme recommends that the supervising veterinarian conducts a risk assessment to determine which years' sale rams may have been exposed to infection. Notification of purchasers is strongly recommended for all sale groups determined to be at risk since the last negative test, to enable buyers to mitigate the risks to their flocks.

11.4.3 Investigation of the cause of breakdown

The supervising veterinarian must investigate to determine the reason for any breakdown. In a flock previously at low risk of the disease, a breach of biosecurity must have occurred. This must be investigated so there will be confidence that an eradication program can be successful.

The supervising veterinarian must advise the State Coordinator of the reasons identified for the breakdown as soon as possible.



11.5 Eradication of brucellosis following breakdown in flock

Where infection in a flock is confirmed and accreditation cancelled, the owner must decide whether to carry out an eradication program. In some situations, it might not be feasible to consider a salvage operation for the existing rams and the owner should consider culling all rams.

Veterinary advice should be sought before commencing an eradication program. The flock owner should consult with their supervising veterinarian and review the technical information on ovine brucellosis to ensure they have a full understanding of all options available and the consequences of each option.

An epidemiological assessment is required. The whole flock may be infected, or infection may be confined to certain groups of sheep in the flock, for example sires only, or in breed groups, or in sale rams, or it might be spread throughout the flock including ewes. Epidemiological considerations will determine an appropriate course of action and help predict the likely level of success when attempting an eradication program.

The ram flock must be the first priority and a testing protocol for all rams should be devised with the aim of achieving two consecutive negative blood tests on the entire ram flock (or identified at-risk group). All rams must be permanently individually identified and accounted for at each round of testing. All CFT reactor rams must be removed as soon as possible after each test is reported to limit the potential for them to spread the infection within the ram group.

A testing round cannot qualify as a negative test for re-entry to the ovine brucellosis scheme if:

- Any reactors are found (inconclusive or positive titres), or
- Any rams are unaccounted for in the sampling group.

Rams known to be infected, or suspected of being infected, by either palpation or blood test, must be removed before the next test.

11.5.1 Role of ewes in maintaining infection

In extremely rare cases, eradication attempts which focus on testing and culling infected rams have been unsuccessful. In one case, a reservoir of infection was discovered in ewes.

The role of ewes in maintaining infection in a flock is complex and uncommon in Australian conditions. Ewes can be identified as reactors to the CFT test, and in ewes with high titres (32 or higher) the bacteria can be recovered from mammary tissue. Evidence of infection of the ram progeny of ewes with mammary gland localisation of *Brucella ovis* has been described. This situation was discovered in a flock where juvenile rams or sale ram groups were infected but the stud sires were negative.

In this flock, infection was cleared once the persistently infected ewes were identified via CFT testing and removed.

Persistent infection of ewes is an uncommon occurrence but should be considered where the epidemiology of disease in the flock is unusual.

11.5.2 Re-entry to the scheme after breakdown

Re-accreditation after a breakdown will be considered after removal of all rams known or suspected of being infected and two subsequent negative flock tests 60 – 120 days apart as per Initial Accreditation requirements. The supervising veterinarian must be satisfied that the cause of the breakdown has been addressed and is no longer a risk to flock biosecurity.

The flock returns to annual accreditations.



11.6 Suspension of accreditation

The supervising veterinarian must suspend accreditation if:

- A CFT positive is found, pending further testing,
- Animals have been introduced to the property or returned from non-accredited shows or sales without the necessary isolation and testing,
- There is evidence that stray sheep have been in contact with the flock,
- Other breaches of the Guidelines are found, pending further investigation or testing.
- The status of a flock is suspended by the State Coordinator if:
- A valid veterinary report and recommendation for re-accreditation with payment is not received by the expiry date,
- The veterinary report/recommendation contains insufficient or invalid information, or provides
 information which indicates that the Guidelines have not been complied with, pending clarification
 and provision of further information,
- The supervising veterinarian notifies of suspension pending further testing or investigation,
- The flock owner/manager requests voluntary suspension.

Re-accreditation after suspension for reasons other than breakdown shall be permitted subject to effective testing and/or to such conditions as the supervising veterinarian, in consultation with the State Coordinator as appropriate, may consider necessary. Re-accreditation will be for 12 or 24 months.

A person must not promote or sell sheep as ovine brucellosis accredited while the flock status is suspended.

11.7 Cancellation of flock accreditation

The supervising veterinarian must cancel accreditation if:

- Infection is confirmed in any sheep in the flock,
- The owner does not demonstrate the ability to comply with the Guidelines, or declines to sign a new owner agreement.

The status of a flock is cancelled by the State Coordinator if:

- A valid veterinary report and recommendation for re-accreditation with payment is not received within one month of the expiry date, without prior arrangements having been made for an extension,
- The veterinary report/recommendation or other information confirms that the flock is infected or that the rules of the Scheme have not been complied with,
- The supervising veterinarian notifies of cancellation,
- Suspension has exceeded 12 months,
- The owner/manager advises that they are withdrawing from the scheme.

A person must not promote or sell sheep as ovine brucellosis accredited while the flock status is cancelled.

Upon cancellation of ovine brucellosis accreditation, the flock owner must return to the supervising veterinarian any current accreditation certificate.



11.8 Withdrawal from the scheme

When properties are sold and/or flocks are dispersed, the owner should advise their supervising veterinarian and the State Coordinator. The State Coordinator will then remove the flock from the register of accredited flocks.

11.9 Re-entering the scheme after cancellation or withdrawal

When a flock that has previously been accredited but has been removed from the accredited register wishes to re-enter the accreditation scheme, the owner must apply for *Initial Accreditation*.

Under certain circumstances, other than breakdown, such as testing not carried out by the expiry date or breach of protocol and unsatisfactory fencing, re-accreditation shall be permitted subject to effective testing and such conditions as the State Coordinator may consider necessary.

12. Registration fees

A Remittance advice form is available for completion of payment details.

The costs of the registration fees are specified on the <u>DPI corporate website</u>, or can be obtained by calling the DPI customer service centre (ph. 13 25 23).

Payment must be received before accreditation or re-accreditation can be processed and certification can be issued.

12.1 Initial accreditation

The flock owner is to pay an initial accreditation fee to the Department of Primary Industries at the time of application to join the accreditation scheme.

12.2 Re-accreditation

The flock owner is to pay a re-accreditation fee to the Department of Primary Industries at the time of each re-accreditation test.

13. Definitions

Biosecurity Measures designed to protect a country, state or individual farming property from

the entry and spread of unwanted animals, pests, diseases and weeds, e.g. secure

fencing, management of introductions, vaccinations etc.

Breakdown Brucella ovis infection is detected in the flock by blood test, semen culture or

culture of the reproductive tract.

CFT Complement fixation test for *Brucella ovis*.

Clinical examination Examination involving the palpation of both testicles and both epididymides.

Expiry date End of the month and the year to which accreditation is valid.

Infected animal A sheep which has returned a positive titre (16, 32, 64 or 128) on a blood test, or

from which Brucella ovis has been recovered from the reproductive organs at

slaughter or from semen or milk.

Isolation facility A secure area on the property for holding sheep of unknown or suspect status until

their status is clarified.



NATA accredited

laboratory

NATA accredited laboratories are those accredited under the Australian National

Association of Testing Authorities (NATA).

Owner agreement A document which must be signed by the flock owner at the initial accreditation and

each subsequent flock re-accreditation.

Property A land parcel or parcels defined by a single Property Identification Code (PIC).

State Coordinator The Department of Primary Industries veterinarian responsible for overall

supervision, technical support and coordination in relation to the Queensland Ovine

Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme.

Supervising veterinarian A veterinarian who is registered with the Queensland Veterinary Surgeons Board

and has read and understands the requirements of these Guidelines.

Suspect animal A sheep suspected to be infected with *Brucella ovis*.

Suspension Temporary withdrawal of accreditation. This occurs during investigation of a

suspected breakdown or non-compliance with scheme requirements.

Teaser Vasectomised ram.

Titre A measure of the concentration of antibodies in the blood. The reported titre for a

sample refers to the highest dilution factor of the sample which produces a positive

result.

Complement fixation test (CFT) titres are expressed as numerical values: 8, 16, 32,

64 and 128. The higher numbers indicate greater dilution (due to more antibodies in the blood sample), and therefore a more strongly positive result.

14. Contacts

State Coordinator

Dr Donna Weber

Biosecurity Queensland

Department of Primary Industries

Post: Queensland Ovine Brucellosis State Coordinator

Department of Primary Industries

PO Box 308

Roma Qld 4455

Phone: 0499 757 076

Email: Donna.Weber@daf.qld.gov.au



Appendix 1: Sample testing – sample size

See accreditation protocols to check when use of a sample of rams applies.

Sample size is calculated to provide 99% confidence of detecting disease present in a flock at a prevalence of 2%.

Sample testing – sample size

Total Number of Rams	Number to Test
1 – 83	All
84 -90	83
91 – 100	90
101 – 120	100
121 – 140	113
141 – 160	122
161 – 180	129
181 – 200	136
201 – 250	150
251 – 300	160
301 – 350	168
351 – 400	174
401 – 450	179
451 – 500	183
501 – 600	190
601 – 700	195
701 – 800	199
801 – 900	202
901 – 1000	204
1001 – 1200	208
1201 – 1400	211
1401 – 1600	213
1601 – 2000	216
2001 – 3000	220
3001 – 5000	223



Appendix 2: Specimen list

QLD Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme

Submitter:	Date:
Stud Name:	Property PIC:

Specimen list

Tube No.	Animal ID	Mob	Clinical Lesions
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			



Tube No.	Animal ID	Mob	Clinical Lesions
25			
26			
27			
28			
29			
30			
31			
32			
33			
34			
35			
36			
37			
38			
39			
40			
41			
42			
43			
44			
45			
46			
47			
48			
49			
50			
51			
52			
53			
54			
55			



Tube No.	Animal ID	Mob	Clinical Lesions
56			
57			
58			
59			
60			
61			
62			
63			
64			
65			
66			
67			
68			
69			
70			
71			
72			
73			
74			
75			
76			
77			
78			
79			
80			
81			
82			
83			
84			
85			
86			



Tube No.	Animal ID	Mob	Clinical Lesions
87			
88			
89			
90			
91			
92			
93			
94			
95			
96			
97			
98			
99			
100			



Appendix 3: Descriptors for clinical lesions

Use the following descriptors for recording any lesions detected in column 4 of the Specimen list.

Descriptors for clinical lesions

Code	Descriptor
Т	Tail
Н	Head
R	Right
L	Left
В	Both
Е	Epididymis
Α	Atrophy
Те	Teste
0	Orchitis

Examples of use

Code	Lesion
TBE	lesions in the tail of both epididymides
TLE	lesion in the tail of the left epididymis
ARTe	atrophy of the right testis
HRE	lesion in the head of the right epididymis



Appendix 4: Owner Agreement

Qld Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme

Surname(s):	First name(s):	
Company name:	Property name:	
Property address:		
Postal address:		
Telephone no:	Email/fax no:	
Stud name:	Flock no:	
Breed:	PIC no:	

I/we hereby apply to have the above flock(s) accredited under the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme. I undertake to provide all information about the property and the history of the flock relative to ovine brucellosis to my supervising veterinarian. Further, I/we have read the Guidelines for the Scheme and will abide by the conditions set down in the Guidelines, including:

Consent to sharing information

I/we acknowledge and consent to personal information being shared with DPI and AHA for the purposes of administering the Scheme and listing accredited flocks on a publicly searchable national register.

The property

- 1. For initial accreditation, the property and its management will be the subject of a written report by the supervising veterinarian. A plan of the property shall be provided to the veterinarian.
- 2. All fencing of the property boundary and ram paddocks must be maintained to a sheep proof standard. Satisfactory facilities must be available to isolate rams from other groups of sheep and for the testing and examination of rams. Property facilities and stock security must be maintained to this standard and may be subject to inspection by the veterinarian or the Department of Primary Industries at any reasonable time.
- 3. The supervising veterinarian will be immediately advised if accredited ewes or rams come into contact with any sheep from non-accredited flocks (e.g. strays onto or off the accredited property).

The rams

- 4. All rams must be permanently identified to the satisfaction of the veterinarian. A list of all rams and teasers on the property, together with their age and origin shall be provided to the veterinarian on request.
- 5. All rams, including teasers and stags, are to be accounted for at each test and all eligible rams must be presented to the veterinarian for blood sampling and/or manual examination as required.
- 6. All rams considered to be infected following manual examination or blood test must be isolated immediately. No reactor or suspect infected ram will be destroyed unless directed by the supervising veterinarian.

Introductions into the flock

7. Rams will only be returned from shows or sales where all sheep are from ovine brucellosis accredited flocks.



- 8. Rams, teasers or semen from an accredited flock can be introduced to the property without extra testing. Non-accredited rams and teasers require two negative blood tests and manual examinations at an interval of 60 120 days while in approved isolation.
- 9. Ewes introduced from non-accredited flocks must be kept isolated. If non pregnant, they cannot be joined for 4 months. If pregnant, they must be lambed in isolation and not rejoined for 4 months. Ram lambs shall be tested prior to mixing with other ram groups.
- 10. Semen from non-accredited rams must not be used in the flock unless it comes from rams which have had 2 negative blood tests 60 120 days apart, the second no more than 14 days before semen collection.

Agistment

11. Rams are not to be depastured on any land other than that inspected by the veterinarian and described in the property map supplied for initial accreditation. The veterinarian must be consulted before any rams are taken on agistment to allow property inspections to be undertaken. This includes the use of ram depots.

Breakdowns

- 12. Immediate notification must be given to the veterinarian if any suspicion of ovine brucellosis occurs.
- 13. Where a genuine breakdown occurs, all relevant information must be disclosed to the veterinarian to enable the source of infection to be identified.

Suspension and cancellation

- 14. Accreditation will be suspended where;
 - A CFT positive is found, pending further testing, or
 - Breaches of the Guidelines are found, or
 - The supervising veterinarian is unable to recommend re-accreditation, or
 - There has been no report received by the expiry date.
- 15. Accreditation of the flock will be cancelled where;
 - Infection is confirmed in any sheep in the flock, or
 - The owner advises they no longer wish to participate in the scheme, or
 - There has been no report received within 1 month of the expiry date, or
 - The supervising veterinarian recommends cancellation.

Dated at		(am/pm) this		day of		20	
			Flock owner		Supervising veter	inarian	
Signature							
Name (pleas	se print)						

PLEASE RETAIN A COPY OF THIS FORM FOR YOUR REFERENCE



Appendix 5: Veterinary Report & Recommendation for Initial Accreditation

Qld Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme

Owner's name:	Property name:	
Property address:	Postal address:	
Telephone no:	Email/fax no:	
Stud name:	Flock no:	
Breed:	PIC no:	
Property details Attach property map		
Boundary & subdivision fences (description & status	5)	
Yards & sheep handling facilities (description & state	us)	
Flock details		
Type of enterprise (i.e. stud, commercial, meat, fibre):		
Breeds:		
Sheep numbers: Stud rams: Sale rams	s: Ewes:	Teasers:
Times & lengths of joining:		
Age at weaning:		
Source of rams:		
Ram lamb and sale ram management:		
Age of sale rams:		



Risk assessment

Any previous history of ovine brucellosis (if yes, provide details):							
Origin of recer	nt ram introd	uctions:					
Origin of recer	nt ewe introd	uctions:					
Neighbouring	properties' e	nterprise typ	e & disease	status (if kno	own): 		
Have you exprequirements? Has an owner	•				cowner and do the erinarian?	ey underst □ Yes □ Yes	and the ☐ No ☐ No
Testing de	etails ^{Ai}	ttach copies	of all laborat	tory reports	Attach	list if insut	ficient space
Туре	Number in group	Number palpated	Number bled	Date tested	Lab result		report
Sires							
Teasers							
Sale							
Other							
Details of indiv	/idual rams t	ested due to	palpable ab	normality or	reactor		
Ram ID number	Test reason	Clinical fir	ndings	Date(s) tested	Lab result (ser culture)	rology,	Lab report number
Comments:							



Veterinarian

Veterinarian's name:	
Clinic/surgery name:	
Postal address:	
Phone: Mobile:	
Fax: Email:	
I declare that the information in this report is true and correct. B examination and testing, I recommend this flock be accredited u Accreditation Scheme.	
Signature:	Date:
CHECKLIST –Ensure all required information is attached.	Please send this completed form
□ Veterinary report and recommendation for initial accreditation	on and all attachments to:
□ Copies of all laboratory report/s	QLD Ovine Brucellosis State
□ Completed owner agreement form	Coordinator, Department of Primary
□ Property biosecurity plan	Industries
□ Map of property	PO Box 308
□ Remittance of initial accreditation fee	Roma QLD 4455
DPI USE ONLY	
□ Documentation of the veterinary practitioner's recommendation	ation for accreditation is satisfactory.
Reaccreditation due	
State coordinator: (name)	
(sign) (date)	



Appendix 6: Veterinary Report & Recommendation for Reaccreditation

Qld Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme

Owner's	name:		Property name:				
Property	address:		Postal address:				
Telephon	ne no:		Email/fax no:				
Stud nam	ne:		Flock no:				
Breed:			PIC no:				
Current a	accreditation	expiry date:					
Recon	nmended	re-accreditation	☐ Annual ☐ Biennial ☐ T	riennial			
Extensio	n requested t	to (date):	Reason:				
Total nu	mber of she	ep on property:	Total number of rams:				
Manag	jement a	nd Risk Assessment	t				
Has a ne	w owner agr	eement been signed by the fl	ock owner & veterinarian?] Yes □ No			
Have you	•	ne requirements of the schem	ne to the flock owner and do they $\hfill\Box$	understand the Yes □ No			
	-	significant flock management ent; flocks merged; new bree	changes since the last test, e.g. d?	flock relocated to new I Yes □ No			
If so, are	you satisfied	I that the rules of the Scheme	have been met?] Yes □ No			
— Boundary	/ and subdivi	sion fence status:					
Rams	introduc	ed since last test					
Number	Date	Vendor's name	Vendor's stud name	Are rams from an accredited flock? Y/N			



Testing details Attach copies of all laboratory reports Attach list if insufficient space Rams tested Type Number in group Palpated Date Lab result Lab report Number Number Number Date Lab result Lab report Number Sires Date Lab result Lab report Number Lab report Number Lab report Number Lab report Number Lab result Lab report Number Lab report Number Lab report Number Lab report Number Lab result Lab result Number Lab result Lab result	Rams	retu	ırned	to p	property	from sh	ows			
Rams tested Type Number Number Date Lab result Lab report number Number Date Lab result Lab report number Number Date Lab result Lab report number N	Number	Date	е	Sho	w location					
Rams tested Type Number Number Date Lab result Lab report number Number Date Lab result Lab report number Number Date Lab result Lab report number N										
Rams tested Type Number Number Date Lab result Lab report number Number Date Lab result Lab report number Number Date Lab result Lab report number N										
Rams tested Type Number Number Date Lab result Lab report number Number Date Lab result Lab report number Number Date Lab result Lab report number N										
Type Number in group Palpated bled Date tested Lab result Lab report number Sires Feasers Sale Other Details of individual rams tested due to palpable abnormality or reactor Ram ID Test reason Clinical findings Date(s) Lab result (serology, culture) Comments: Veterinarian Veterinarian's name: Clinic/surgery name: Postal address: Phone: Mobile: Fax: Email: declare that the information in this report is true and correct. Based on my risk assessment, clinical examination and testing, I recommend this flock be re-accredited under the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme.	Testin	g de	etails	Att	tach copies	of all labora	tory reports	Attach	list if insu	fficient space
In group palpated bled tested Lab result number Fleasers Sale Other Details of individual rams tested due to palpable abnormality or reactor Ram ID reason Clinical findings Date(s) tested culture) Comments: Veterinarian Veterinarian's name: Clinic/surgery name: Postal address: Phone: Mobile: Fax: Email: declare that the information in this report is true and correct. Based on my risk assessment, clinical examination and testing, I recommend this flock be re-accredited under the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme.	Rams tes	sted								
Feasers Sale Other Details of individual rams tested due to palpable abnormality or reactor Ram ID Test reason Clinical findings Date(s) tested Culture) Lab report number Comments: Veterinarian Veterinarian's name: Clinic/surgery name: Postal address: Phone: Mobile: Fax: Email: declare that the information in this report is true and correct. Based on my risk assessment, clinical examination and testing, I recommend this flock be re-accredited under the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme.	Туре							Lab result		
Sale Other Details of individual rams tested due to palpable abnormality or reactor Ram ID Test reason Clinical findings Date(s) Lab result (serology, culture) Comments: Veterinarian Veterinarian's name: Clinic/surgery name: Phone: Mobile: Fax: Email: declare that the information in this report is true and correct. Based on my risk assessment, clinical examination and testing, I recommend this flock be re-accredited under the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme.	Sires			· F	<u> </u>		13333			
Other Details of individual rams tested due to palpable abnormality or reactor Ram ID Test reason Clinical findings Date(s) Lab result (serology, culture) Comments: Veterinarian Veterinarian's name: Clinic/surgery name: Phone: Mobile: Fax: Email: declare that the information in this report is true and correct. Based on my risk assessment, clinical examination and testing, I recommend this flock be re-accredited under the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme.	Teasers									
Details of individual rams tested due to palpable abnormality or reactor Ram ID Test reason Clinical findings Date(s) Lab result (serology, culture) Comments: Veterinarian Veterinarian's name: Clinic/surgery name: Postal address: Phone: Mobile: Fax: Email: declare that the information in this report is true and correct. Based on my risk assessment, clinical examination and testing, I recommend this flock be re-accredited under the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme.	Sale									
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Veterinarian Veterinarian Veterinarian's name: Clinic/surgery name: Postal address: Phone: Mobile: Fax: Email: declare that the information in this report is true and correct. Based on my risk assessment, clinical examination and testing, I recommend this flock be re-accredited under the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme.	Ram ID number			n	Clinical fir	ndings			rology,	
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Veterinarian Veterinarian Veterinarian's name: Clinic/surgery name: Postal address: Phone: Mobile: Fax: Email: declare that the information in this report is true and correct. Based on my risk assessment, clinical examination and testing, I recommend this flock be re-accredited under the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme.										
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Veterinarian's name: Clinic/surgery name: Postal address: Phone: Mobile: Fax: Email: declare that the information in this report is true and correct. Based on my risk assessment, clinical examination and testing, I recommend this flock be re-accredited under the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme.										
Veterinarian's name: Clinic/surgery name: Postal address: Phone: Mobile: Fax: Email: declare that the information in this report is true and correct. Based on my risk assessment, clinical examination and testing, I recommend this flock be re-accredited under the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme.										
Clinic/surgery name: Postal address: Phone: Mobile: Fax: Email: declare that the information in this report is true and correct. Based on my risk assessment, clinical examination and testing, I recommend this flock be re-accredited under the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme.	veterii	narı	an							
Phone: Mobile: Fax: Email: declare that the information in this report is true and correct. Based on my risk assessment, clinical examination and testing, I recommend this flock be re-accredited under the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme.	Veterinar	ian's	name:							
Phone: Mobile: Fax: Email: declare that the information in this report is true and correct. Based on my risk assessment, clinical examination and testing, I recommend this flock be re-accredited under the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme.	Clinic/sur	gery	name:							
declare that the information in this report is true and correct. Based on my risk assessment, clinical examination and testing, I recommend this flock be re-accredited under the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme.	Postal ad	dres	s:							
declare that the information in this report is true and correct. Based on my risk assessment, clinical examination and testing, I recommend this flock be re-accredited under the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme.	Phone:						Mobile:			
examination and testing, I recommend this flock be re-accredited under the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme.	Fax:						Email:			
examination and testing, I recommend this flock be re-accredited under the Queensland Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme.										
Signature: Date:	examinat	ion a	nd testii	ng, I r						
	Signature	e:						Date:		



СН	ECKLIST –Ensure all required information is attached.	Please send this completed form
	Veterinary report and recommendation for re-accreditation	and all attachments to:
	Copies of laboratory report/s	QLD Ovine Brucellosis State
	Completed owner agreement form	Coordinator, Department of Primary
	Remittance of re-accreditation fee	Industries
		PO Box 308
		Roma QLD 4455

DPI USE ONLY□ Documentation of the veterinary practitioner's recommendation for accreditation is satisfactory.
Reaccreditation due
State coordinator: (name)
(sign) (date)



Appendix 7: Remittance Advice

Qld Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Scheme

	Credit card details cannot be received via email
Payment for:	☐ Initial accreditation fee
•	☐ Re-accreditation fee
Payment amount: \$	
Payable accreditation fee DPI customer service ce	es are specified on the <u>DPI corporate website</u> , or can be obtained by calling the ntre (ph. 13 25 23).
To pay by Post:	
Accreditation Owner's Na	ame:
☐ I enclose cheque / m	oney order (payable to Department of Primary Industries)
Please post payment to:	
QLD Ovine Bruc	ellosis State Coordinator
Department of P PO Box 308	rimary Industries
ROMA QLD 445	5
To pay by Masterca	ard / Visa:
Accreditation Owner's Na	ame:
Provide telephone numb	er for call back:
Name of Cardholder:	
Address of Cardholder:	
	Credit card details cannot be received via email



Contact us

Call: 13 25 23 or +61 7 3404 6999

Visit: daf.qld.gov.au