

Role Description

General information

Title:	Veterinary Officer - Disease Surveillance			Classification:	PO2	
Division:	Biosecurity	Branch:	Animal Biosecurity		Business Unit:	Disease & Diagnostics
Type of Appointment:	Term	Hours of Duty:	37.5	Location:	Glenside	

About us

South Australia is internationally recognised for the quality of its agriculture, food and wine. Our regions are the backbone of our state and the economic powerhouse that drives prosperity for all South Australians. The Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) is a key economic development agency working in partnership with our primary industries, regional stakeholders and across all levels of government to advance the prosperity and sustainability of South Australia's primary industries and regional communities.

We are a passionate team of around 800 people working across metropolitan and regional South Australia to develop and protect our state's regions and food, wine, aquaculture, fisheries, forestry, grains, livestock, dairy and horticulture industries.

Purpose

The role of the Veterinary Officer - Disease Surveillance develops and implements specific disease surveillance programs for, and develops and establishes relationships with, key animal industries in South Australia.

The primary purpose of the role is to protect and facilitate market access and livestock productivity, public health and consumer confidence through the health, welfare, quality, safety and image of South Australian livestock and livestock products, and other animals. The role has a focus on delivering disease surveillance policies and projects for relevant animal industries but may work across a range of other species if required.

The role contributes to delivering the agency's [priorities](#) including increasing productivity of our livestock industries and agribusinesses, securing production through biosecurity and efficient and sustainable use of resources and maintaining market access by working with livestock industries to respond to evolving requirements of domestic and global markets and consumers.

The role contributes to the management of the risks to South Australia posed by animal pests and diseases, food borne illnesses, and misuse of rural chemicals.

Key Accountabilities

- Conduct passive and targeted surveillance programs for the early detection of emergency animal diseases (EADs) and monitoring disease prevalence and trends.
- Liaise with private veterinarians investigating incidents of herd/flock diseases, including risk assessing for EAD likelihood and analysis, interpretation and reporting of laboratory results.
- Work collaboratively to develop South Australian specific protocols and procedures for the response to notifiable diseases.
- Develop an understanding of livestock specific EADs, biosecurity, and animal welfare issues.
- Relate to the needs of rural communities and possess a capacity to work collaboratively with veterinary practitioners as well as livestock producers, processors, industry groups, SA Health and other relevant stakeholders.
- Keep abreast of changes in industry systems and processes, understanding and clearly communicating the technical biosecurity and animal health implications of these to both industry and PIRSA.
- Develop and maintain relevant competencies for participation in emergency pest and disease preparedness and response activities. Assist in emergency responses including bushfires.

Key Deliverables / Results

- Ensure the effective implementation of Animal Biosecurity programs, including data entry on both agency and national databases.
- Achieve a high level of professional coordination and contribution to the identification, development and delivery of animal health and welfare related projects, initiatives, and programs.

Role Description

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement animal health surveillance programs and projects across the State for monitoring disease prevalence and trends. This also includes appropriate data management and inputs to system development/improvement. Active contribution to the development of Animal Biosecurity response policy and procedures for notifiable diseases. Establish and foster communication networks with a range of industry stakeholders, including veterinary practitioners, producers and livestock industries. Develop effective communication material. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare correspondence, briefings and other information to meet stakeholder, agency and other reporting requirements. Provide technical advice to a range of external stakeholders, |
|--|--|

Relationships

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Role reports to Senior Veterinary Officer, Disease Surveillance Works closely with Animal Biosecurity staff members on collaborative biosecurity projects | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborates with other South Australian government agencies to facilitate improvements in disease surveillance and management, and on-farm biosecurity measures. |
|--|---|

Requirements

- Possession of a current driver's license and willingness to drive.
- Out of hours work and inter / intrastate travel may be required.
- Australian residency or current works permit is required (responsibility of applicant to provide evidence of a current work permit).
- You acknowledge your work, health and safety obligations and our expectations when [applying for a role](#).
- The incumbent will be required to undertake emergency management training and must be willing to participate in emergency preparedness, response and recovery activities required by government agencies.

Qualifications

- Essential: A Degree in Veterinary Science registrable with the Veterinary Surgeons Board of SA or a Degree in Agricultural/Animal Science or equivalent.
- Desirable: At least 12 months previous employment working in the agricultural / animal industry

Capabilities

Capability	Behaviours
Professional & Technical Knowledge Demonstrates sound knowledge across animal health and disease issues, with in-depth knowledge of notifiable disease management and a sound understanding of livestock management systems.	- Has in depth knowledge and grasp of all relevant aspects of animal health and production issues, including on-farm biosecurity issues and assurance schemes. - Maintains an up-to-date knowledge of developments in livestock disease surveillance and control, and emergency animal diseases. - Identifies, analyses, evaluates and treats risks within area of responsibility (including livestock industries) to achieve outcomes. - Aware of the major issues facing the livestock industry and the significant developments in related areas.
Building Networks	- Builds a strong network of professional contacts and actively works to maintain this. - Builds relationships of trust and cooperation with key livestock stakeholders, identifying leaders and those with influence. - Forms collaborative working relationships with producer groups, private veterinarians and social networks to promote biosecurity culture change.

Role Description

Maintains strong internal network and systematically builds external contacts to facilitate achieving objectives, for exchange of information and for mutual benefit.	
Communication Communicates effectively with a wide range of people and expresses ideas clearly and coherently, both verbally and in writing.	- Communicates ideas and information in a form well matched to and well received by stakeholders from varying knowledge backgrounds. - Simplifies complex technical information into a form that is clearly understood and relevant to the audience. - Shares information freely and is open to receiving information.
Planning and Organising (Work Management) Develops and manages efficient work plans for complex projects / activities involving a number of elements/ groups.	- Manages numerous tasks in priority order allowing sufficient time to meet deadlines. - Ensures plans and frameworks are easily understood by others. - Re-evaluates and renegotiates timeframes when unexpected situations arise.

HRMS No:	P48675, M26340, P60420 & P60421	ANZCO Code:	Objective ID:	A6685433
Delegate Approval:	Benn Gramola Director Operations Animal Biosecurity	Date:	14 February 2025	
Approved and Classified by People and Culture:				