



animalhealth
A U S T R A L I A

Strategic Plan

2020–2025

About AHA

OUR ROLE

Animal Health Australia (AHA) is the trusted and independent national animal health body in Australia, bringing together government and industry to deliver animal health and biosecurity.

With our members we scan the horizon for threats and opportunities, advocate for and drive solutions and take a whole-of-sector approach to ensure the long-term success of Australia’s animal health and biosecurity system.

OUR VISION

A national biosecurity system that provides every opportunity for Australian agriculture to succeed at home and overseas.

OUR MISSION

Informing government and industry about national action required and delivering solutions together that enhance, strengthen and protect animal health and the biosecurity system.

OUR VALUES

Our work will be guided by our commitment to:

- **lead with integrity** – we listen, learn and deliver with the courage to shape a better future
- **connect and collaborate** – we understand the power of working together; as a collective we are stronger
- **innovate and grow** – we evolve and adapt, striving to find better ways and creative solutions
- **be bold and open** – we take action, add value and welcome hard conversations
- **embrace diversity** – our individual differences strengthen our efforts.

Our plan

The world around us is changing. AHA’s *Strategic Plan 2020–25* takes into account this changing operating environment and seeks to overcome challenges facing the animal health and biosecurity system.

AHA’s strategic direction is supported by three strategic priorities.

AHA’s strategic priorities



STRATEGIC PLAN DELIVERY

The changing world in which we live is having a profound effect on animal health and biosecurity, posing complex challenges which transcend traditional boundaries.

We will work with our members and partners to drive projects which will have the greatest impact on the animal health and biosecurity system.

To achieve our Strategic Plan objectives, AHA will seek to increase its funding resilience throughout the strategic plan cycle. We will invest in the capabilities required to meet the increasing and changing needs of our industry; whilst ensuring we and the biosecurity system are equipped for the challenges of tomorrow.

We will ensure that we have the right capabilities, partnerships, operating model, financial capacity and customer-centric culture to perform to member expectations.

OPERATING ENVIRONMENT

Global trends — including climate change and environmental sustainability, international partnerships and trade intensification, shifting consumer expectations, alternative protein and fibre products, technology acceleration and an era of unprecedented change — require the biosecurity system to adapt rapidly.

To succeed, AHA will lead collaborative efforts to develop national strategy, policy and programs to respond to livestock sector threats and protect our sector.

2025 OUTCOMES

In five years — with AHA's leadership and collaboration — success will look like:

-  **Strongly linked emergency response and biosecurity systems.**
-  **Industry and government prepared to respond to endemic and exotic incursions.**
-  **Strengthened partnerships between livestock, plants, environment, aquatic, pests, weeds, wildlife and human sectors.**
-  **National data sets leveraged for better decisions and biosecurity risk management.**
-  **Strengthened on-farm, enterprise and supply chain biosecurity and resilience.**
-  **Cross-sectoral outcomes that improve biosecurity systems, protecting our environment and market access.**

Strategic Plan guiding principles



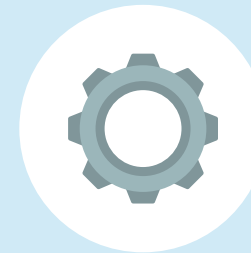
Applying intelligence to make informed decisions



Adopting a customer-centric focus



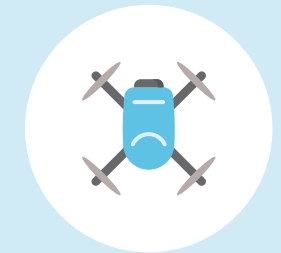
Collaborating and advocating to drive policy changes



Approaching challenges with a whole-of-system perspective



Building capability and resilience across industry



Increasing focus on effective use of technology

Monitoring and evaluation

To make sure we are on track, we will monitor our progress, reflect on our successes and challenges and make modifications to our business practices.



Our ultimate goal is a national biosecurity system that provides every opportunity for Australian agriculture to succeed, both at home and overseas.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

1




Prepared and ready to respond



Enhancing Australia’s capability to detect and respond to emergency animal diseases, supporting Australia’s domestic and international market access.

AHA will ensure that Australia’s emergency preparedness and response capabilities are strong and able to deal with increasing biosecurity risks to the agricultural sector. We will build on the mechanisms already in place through an integrated and coordinated approach, leading to a better prepared and resilient system.

Key focus areas:

-  National response arrangements including Custodianship of the Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement
-  Emergency disease preparedness and response
-  Disease surveillance

-  Diagnostics
-  Early detection of disease
-  Policy development and insights

We will do this by:

- 1.1 Maintaining and strengthening our national response arrangements.
- 1.2 Interpreting, identifying and devising options to improve responses.
- 1.3 Building response and resilience through exercises, training, education and information-sharing.
- 1.4 Improving surveillance tools and national reporting systems.
- 1.5 Using extension to improve preparedness and coordinate response networks.
- 1.6 Working within a biosecurity collective¹ to improve whole-of-system preparedness and response capabilities.

Success means we have:

-  Effective preparedness and response capabilities which enable rapid responses.
-  Emergency response agreements between industry and government in place for all sectors.
-  Response arrangements which are agreed and understood by partners.
-  An improved preparedness and response system which uses cross-sectoral learnings.
-  Contemporary tools ready for use.
-  An appropriately trained, well resourced and cross-sectoral workforce.

¹ Biosecurity collective refers to the livestock, plants, environment, pest/weed, aquatic, wildlife and human sectors.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY
2


Better health and biosecurity practices



Strengthening on-farm and supply chain biosecurity practices — with a focus on prevention and resilience — to protect animal health, welfare and product integrity.

For better biosecurity, AHA will work with our members and partners at a grass-roots level and across the supply chain. Through joint effort, we will enable producers to provide premium products with high levels of access to markets at home and overseas.

Key focus areas:

 On-farm and supply chain biosecurity

 Animal health and welfare

 Extension

 Antimicrobial stewardship

 One Health

 Policy development and insights

 Data analytics/interpretation

We will do this by:

- 2.1 Providing tools to implement preventative biosecurity practices and improve resilience.
- 2.2 Providing resources to support continuous improvements in animal welfare and responsible antimicrobial use.
- 2.3 Conducting extension activities that drive adoption of best practices.
- 2.4 Engaging with partners, utilising their expertise, understanding their needs and providing them with options to better mitigate their risks.
- 2.5 Providing effective and tailored messaging across the supply chain.
- 2.6 Understanding consumer and community expectations and how they might impact production systems.

Success means we have:

-  A supply chain equipped with information about endemic and exotic disease management.
-  Supply chain enterprises with biosecurity and business continuity plans in place.
-  Better animal health, welfare, biosecurity and One Health outcomes across the supply chain.
-  Stronger product integrity through partnerships.
-  Livestock supply chains which have maintained and grown their markets.


STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3

Connecting systems for stronger biosecurity


Delivering cross-sectoral outcomes that improve regional, state and national biosecurity systems, contributing to the protection of markets and the identification of new opportunities.


Biosecurity systems are interconnected and interdependent – livestock, plant, environment, pest/weed, aquatic, wildlife and human. We will engage with the biosecurity collective to foster new partnerships and opportunities which drive an ‘all of Australia’ biosecurity focus. A key step in connecting systems and minimising the threat and impact of pests and diseases is the integration of animal biosecurity with plant industries and the natural environment.


Key focus areas:


 Multisectoral engagement, system perspective and performance

 Biosecurity collective

 Surveillance, traceability and biosecurity systems

 Animal health, plant and environmental systems

 Data and risk analysis

 Policy development and insights

We will do this by:

- 3.1 Using whole-of-system perspectives to evaluate performance, prioritise effort and guide investment and activities.
- 3.2 Identifying vulnerabilities in the biosecurity system and providing forward-looking options.
- 3.3 Strengthening systems through cross-sectoral partnerships and co-investment.
- 3.4 Developing a biosecurity mass movement to protect animal health, communities, environment and way of life.
- 3.5 Working collaboratively across the biosecurity collective to strengthen system resilience, capability and capacity.

Success means we have:

-  A national biosecurity strategy that is outcome-focused, establishes priorities and guides investment.
-  Greater system resilience and enhanced system performance.
-  Integration of animal, plant and environmental biosecurity systems.
-  Global recognition as a premium, disease-free food and fibre market.
-  High levels of access to domestic and international markets.
-  Supply chains which value and actively participate in our systems.
-  A unique and trusted position among industries and governments in dealing with novel, complex or multinational issues.



02 6232 5522

aha@animalhealthaustralia.com.au

animalhealthaustralia.com.au

© Australian Animal Health Council Ltd

ACN 071 890 956