

Cattle tick – meeting my general biosecurity obligation (GBO)

This declaration provides the accredited certifier with details of how the owner/responsible person has met their GBO to achieve the risk minimisation requirement for the movement of cattle tick carriers prior to cattle tick certification.

Declaration by owner or person responsible for the management of the cattle tick carriers.

Details	
Name:	
Address:	
	Postcode:
Property of origin/place of applied treatment:	
Property Identification Code (PIC):	
Phone number:	

Certification

I advise that:

- I am the owner or person responsible for the management of the cattle tick carriers described on the movement record (NVD/saleyard waybill) number : _____
- I understand that when moving livestock from the cattle tick infested zone to the cattle tick free zone I am responsible for meeting the risk minimisation requirements as described in the biosecurity manual

I advise that I have applied the following procedures to the cattle tick carriers to achieve the risk minimisation requirement

Chemical Treatment Note 1

Name of chemical	Application method	Application date
	<input type="checkbox"/> spray <input type="checkbox"/> pour on <input type="checkbox"/> plunge dip <input type="checkbox"/> injection	____/____/____
	<input type="checkbox"/> spray <input type="checkbox"/> pour on <input type="checkbox"/> plunge dip <input type="checkbox"/> injection	____/____/____

OR

I advise that the livestock have been held in a low risk tick environment Note 2

Type of environment	Entry date	Exit date
<input type="checkbox"/> cattle yard/s	____/____/____	____/____/____
<input type="checkbox"/> feedlot	____/____/____	____/____/____
<input type="checkbox"/> A property with a biosecurity plan sufficient to maintain cattle tick free status <small>Note 3</small>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The carriers originated from a property in the tick free area <small>Note 4</small>	Date of entry to the cattle tick infested zone ____/____/____	

OR (if accessing a clearing facility in the cattle tick free zone) Note 5

I advise that the cattle tick carriers have been subjected to:

- A tick free manual inspection OR
- A tick free visual inspection AND an owner chemical treatment

to the standard required in the Queensland Biosecurity Manuals *Procedure for Tick Free Manual Inspection of high risk tick carriers* OR *Procedure for Visual Inspection of high-risk tick carriers* and have met the risk minimisation requirement of 'tick free' on ____/____/____ for movements of cattle tick carriers to a Prescribed Facility (clearing facility) in the cattle tick Free Zone only.

- The information provided by me on this declaration is true and correct; and
- The conveyor/drover of the cattle tick carrier/s will provide this completed risk minimisation declaration to the accredited certifier.

Name of person providing this information

Signature

Date

 / /

The risk minimisation requirements describe the actions that an owner must take prior to moving carriers into the tick free zone.

An owner has a general biosecurity obligation to take all reasonable and practical steps to prevent or minimise the spread of cattle tick. This may include the owner continuing to monitor the high risk carrier for cattle tick after it has been moved.

Ongoing monitoring may include the owner taking additional steps such as isolating, treating or spraying carriers after arriving at a place in the tick free zone.

Guide to completing the declaration

The risk minimisation requirements for travelling livestock into the cattle tick free area are:

To access a property in the tick free zone:

- manually inspected completely free of cattle tick PLUS
- a supervised chemical treatment.

To access a feedlot or abattoir in the tick free zone:

- visually free of adult stages of cattle tick PLUS a supervised chemical treatment
OR
- manual inspection completely free of cattle tick.

The owner or person responsible for the cattle tick carrier is responsible to present the animals to the standard required to meet the risk minimisation requirement.

While chemical is most commonly used there are alternative management practices that achieve the standard. The following will give some guidance for livestock owners when completing this form.

Note 1 Chemical use

Chemical treatments can provide the quickest way to achieve tick free status however there are several important points. Multiple treatments at intervals shorter than 4 days can affect the ability of the chemical to kill the tick and can result in ticks continuing to be found.

Chemicals have different modes of actions and different times to reach maximum efficacy and before they deplete to levels that will not be affecting the tick.

The following timeframes are considered best practice timeframes for the time from the chemical treatment to being presented for inspection

- between 4 days (96 hours) and 7 days (168 hours) following treatment with a dip or spray; or
- between 6 days (144 hours) and 9 days (216 hours) following treatment with a pour on/injectable.

Any earlier than the minimum may mean the chemical has not had a chance to work.

Any later than the maximum can provide an opportunity for further tick reinfestation if livestock are held in paddocks in the tick infested zone.

It is important to note that all chemicals have a label requirement for retreatment intervals.

The only chemicals allowed to be used at intervals not prescribed on their labels are registered wettable powder products containing 500g/kg Amitraz as the active constituent, registered emulsifiable concentrate products containing 125g/L Amitraz as the active constituent and Bayticol Cattle Dip® and Spray, containing 75.00 g/L Flumethrin as the only active constituent. These chemicals may be used at 4-7 day intervals if being used for the chemical treatments required to comply with a risk minimisation requirement.

The owner should ensure they know what chemical will be used for the final clearance treatment to ensure they are not re-using chemicals at less than label direction stated intervals.

The number of chemical pre-treatments required to get the livestock to the required standard will depend on the level of tick infestation to start with. Heavily infested cattle may require several treatments commencing 3-4 weeks prior to presenting to an accredited certifier to be tick free. It is important to discuss pre-treatment regimes with your biosecurity officer or accredited certifier.

Note 2 Low risk tick environment

Keeping livestock in a low risk tick environment can assist livestock meet the risk minimisation requirements by not allowing ongoing infestations of the cattle from the non-parasitic life cycle stage of the cattle tick.

This method relies on an understanding of the life cycle of the cattle tick and it is important that owners/person in charge be able to demonstrate that understanding to the accredited certifier. The dates when livestock entered the low risk environment must be provided.

Note 3 On property biosecurity plan

Various on property management techniques can result in herds that have very low to nil cattle tick infestation levels. If a producer indicates they are using their on-property biosecurity plan to demonstrate they have met their GBO to achieve the RMR, the accredited certifier may ask for additional information from the owner/person in charge as to their level of knowledge and understanding how those management techniques has created a tick free environment. The owner/person in charge should be prepared to discuss this with the accredited certifier.

Note 4 The carrier has originated from the free zone within the last 5 days

Carriers that have originated from the cattle tick free area could be exposed to cattle tick infestation depending on where they are kept while in the tick infested zone. The following will give guidance to the accredited certifier when conducting the inspection phase for these animals.

- Carriers that have originated from the cattle tick free area and have been in pasture for less than 5 days would only be expected to be infested with larval stages of the tick and the larval stages would not have had an opportunity to be in a moult stage.
- Carriers that have only entered facilities such as saleyards, showgrounds or other low risk venues pose a low risk of exposure to tick infestations.

Note 5 Owner inspection

When accessing clearing facilities in the tick free zone (Mt Isa, Taroom Harristown and Boondooma), in addition to one of the above options, the owner/person in charge must also complete their own tick free manual inspection OR a tick free visual inspection and an owner chemical treatment before presenting to an accredited certifier. The accredited certifier should ensure that the owner/person in charge who uses this requirement has knowledge of these procedures from the [Queensland Biosecurity Manual](#).