



EXPORT ADVISORY NOTICE – 2017-16		7 December 2017
Title:	Lifting of temporary precautionary bluetongue virus zone in Victoria/NSW	
Species:	All Livestock	
Country:	All	
For information:	Livestock Exporters Australian Government Accredited Veterinarians Registered Premises ALEC LiveCorp Department of Agriculture and Water Resources Officers	

P u r p o s e

The department has been advised the temporary bluetongue virus (BTV) zone in Victoria, and extending into New South Wales, has been lifted.

As a result of the lifting of the temporary BTV zone, livestock can now be sourced from the affected area in accordance with importing country requirements.

This EAN replaces EAN 2017-13.

B a c k g r o u n d

A temporary BTV zone was established in northern Victoria, and extending into New South Wales, on 13 October 2017 in response to detection of BTV antibodies during pre-export testing in purportedly Victorian bred cattle, while investigations and surveillance were undertaken by Agriculture Victoria.

Approximately 2,500 dairy and beef cattle from the area of concern were tested and there has been no evidence of the virus currently circulating in the area or the presence of a known competent vector. Investigations also confirmed the animals that initiated the investigations were moved from the recognised BTV transmission zone in New South Wales where it is likely they were exposed to the virus and developed BTV antibodies.

The likelihood of BTV being established in Victoria is currently considered remote and therefore the BTV risks have been assessed to be negligible and the zone has been lifted. This decision will be supported by the placement of additional BTV sentinel herds and vector trapping in northern Victoria.

You can find an updated map of the BTV zone at this [link](#).

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