



Ewe abortion and newborn lamb deaths surveillance program

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Western Australia

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Why the programme?

Why the programme??

- **Rate of diagnosis in abortion and neonatal death cases is low → retrospective identification**
- **Neonatal losses are calculated to cost the industry around \$540 million a year**
- **Some emergency animal diseases can cause abortion and stillbirth...**
Being able to demonstrate freedom from these diseases protects WA's multi million export markets.

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Diseases to be tested for include:

- **Common or endemic infectious causes of ewe abortion**
 - Toxoplasmosis
 - Q Fever
 - Campylobacteriosis (previously known as vibriosis)
 - Salmonellosis
 - Listeriosis
 - Ovine brucellosis (caused by infection with *Brucella ovis*)
 - Border Disease
 - Leptospirosis
 - Chlamydia
- **Important exotic and reportable causes of ewe abortion will also be tested for:**
 - Chlamydia abortus (enzootic abortion)
 - *Brucella melitensis*
 - *Salmonella abortus*.






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How do I get involved?

- **Appropriate samples are either: (insert images)**
 - **Cotyledons (buttons)**

 - **Liver**





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- **For more information about sample collection and submission, contact your local DAFWA field veterinary officer or Dr Anna Erickson, program co-ordinator, on +61 (0)8 9881 0211**
- **Or go to: <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/livestock-biosecurity/ewe-abortion-and-newborn-lamb-deaths-surveillance-program>**



Thank you

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