

R&D Snapshot

2014–15 Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Real-Time Training Program

Secretariat: Pat Mitchell

Purpose:

- To train Australian pig industry health professionals in the recognition of FMD.

Take home messages:

- FMD continues to be one of the greatest threats to the economy and viability of the livestock industries in Australia.
- A widespread outbreak of FMD could cost the economy in excess of \$12 billion.
- Governments and industry have taken the initiative to invest in a hands-on training program that allows livestock health professionals to recognise and detect FMD in a country where the disease is endemic.
- Vets and livestock officers will gain a comprehensive knowledge about FMD virus strains that pose a geographic high risk to Australia.
- Greater knowledge of the disease and on-farm Biosecurity will greatly assist in reducing the spread of FMD in the unlikely event of an outbreak.

Additional information:

- Contact Pat Mitchell at pat.mitchell@australianpork.com.au or 03 5488 2306.

APL Project 2014/505

