



# The Equine Industry View

Trish Pearce - NZEHA

# Why an Operational agreement?

- NZEHA Formed post the Biosecurity Act 1993 for the purpose of addressing equine disease and welfare issues
- Previous iterations of BSA section 5 proposed PMS as mechanism to deal with disease response
- Made little headway – we just seek certainty of response with legislative backstops (when needed)
- GIA is the current means to get this

# Equine Industry disease challenges

- 2 broad sectors – Industry – racing and breeding and Recreational/sport with different drivers
- ALOT of Movement of horses to central congregation points is essential - but worse thing for good biosecurity
- Small (worth \$2billion)... but has capacity for growth and NZ has huge competitive advantage
- Ave 1 owner per horse
- Animal welfare is a key driver

# What approach are we taking

- Want to maintain a single organisation for purposes of engaging on equine health and welfare issues.(not an exclusive club, happy for new members!)
- Probably want to respond to most exotic organisms - signing Deed is most important
- Operational agreement really only drives readiness work
- Looked at organisms at high risk of entry to guide future planned shared readiness activities but should look at others

# Who is involved

- For risk categorisation step use equine and MPI technical experts
- All committee for consultation
- GIA has necessitated employment of dedicated resource as well as huge amounts of donated time from committee members based on expertise, eg. Economic analysis by RB

# What issues have arisen so far in developing OA?

- Life!
- Our OA's not dependent on engagement with other sectors so a good place for us to focus effort
- Realisation that one size wont fit all. Eg. emerging organisms, probably may not even be “unwanted”
- What to do about endemics that change expression e.g. EHV-1 myeloencephalopathy occurs uncommonly relatively high morbidity and mortality – probably not worth a PMS, not unwanted, but response tools and readiness effort effective....develop our own rocketship????