

PIGEON PARAMYXO VIRUS UPDATE

Dear Members,

Dr. Colin Walker and myself had a meeting today (29/11) with Dr. Andrew Cameron the Acting Chief Veterinary Officer for the State of Victoria in his offices in Attwood.

We discussed the present situation with the Paramyxo outbreak in Victoria. Dr Cameron indicated that he and his Department supported the importation of a vaccine as soon as possible and he would notify the Federal Government Agencies (APVMA, DAFF and AQIS) of his position. He also would notify Pfizer and MSD Animal Health of this to encourage their timely application to register their respective vaccines.

This support of the Chief Veterinary Officer is vital for the facilitation of the importation process and we thank him for that support.

We also discussed the current 90 Day Ban and it appears likely that it will be extended for a further 90 days as the rate of infection in the feral population appears to be accelerating rather than slowing .

Stephen Kearsey
President VHA Inc.