

Wildlife Health Surveillance Victoria

June 2016

We investigate reports of sick & dead wildlife from free ranging populations in Victoria to understand baseline wildlife health & detect changes. This is important because wildlife health can affect biodiversity conservation & ecosystem health, biosecurity, & the health of domestic animals & people. (One Health)

Please contact us to report sick and dead wildlife from free ranging populations of endemic mammals birds reptiles and amphibians in Victoria.

Pam Whiteley BVSc MS MANZCVS (Medicine of Australian Wildlife & Epidemiology) BTeach ACCM
0400 119 301 pamw@unimelb.edu.au

Pam is keen to talk with regional community groups interested in wildlife health. Please email or phone her.

Eastern Grey Kangaroos with irregular hopping (incoordination, ataxia), head shake, and in poor condition have been reported. Some of these have been examined and diagnoses as Chronic Phalaris Toxicity. Phalaris is an introduced pasture plant and some strains, at some times of the year, produce a neurotoxin that can also cause chronic phalaris staggers in sheep. It is not know if any kangaroos recover.

Subadult Eastern Grey Kangaroos from high density populations can be weak and die from an intestinal blood-sucking worm. Toxoplasmosis from feral cats causes mortality or morbidity in all marsupials.

Please report dead parrots, cockatoos and lorikeets so we can investigate their infections, *Circovirus*, *Chlamydia psittaci* etc.



Please report wildlife morbidity and mortality to **Pam Whiteley 0400 119 301**
pamw@unimelb.edu.au If Pam not available **Dave Hobbs 800 12562** **Histopath 973 12000**

Samples can be transported overnight to Werribee for testing.

**Wildlife Health Surveillance Victoria, Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences
The University of Melbourne. 250 Princes Highway, Werribee, 3030**

Donations into this project are tax deductible. Please contact Pam.

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