

Acute Viral Necrosis of Scallops (AVNV)

Disease agent: Acute Viral Necrosis Virus, a variant of Ostreid Herpesvirus 1 (OsHV-1), a virus in the genus *Ostreavirus* within the family Malacoherpesviridae.



Presence in Australia: **Exotic**

Presence in Queensland: **Exotic**



The strain of OsHV-1 virus responsible for AVNV has never been reported from Australia, and is considered exotic.

Signs of Disease:

Molluscs infected with this virus may exhibit the following signs:

- gaping and mantle retraction in adult scallops over 2 years of age
- weak shell closing reflex, mucous accumulation in the mantle cavity
- enlarged digestive gland, gill erosion and adductor muscle ulceration
- high mortalities (>90% within a week) when water temperatures are 18-20°C or above



Infection with AVNV:

Left. Chinese scallops infected with AVNV have retracted mantles and a weakened shell closing reflex.

Photo: www.farm-2-market.com

Host Species affected may include:

Scallops Clams/Arc shells

Imported seafood including:

Chinese scallops Clams/Arc shells

At risk fisheries in QLD may include:

East Coast Otter Trawl Fishery
Rock Oyster Industry

Introduction Pathways to avoid:

Do not translocate scallops or clams of unknown disease status from areas where AVNV is known to occur. Do not use imported seafood (including mollusc products) for bait or berley.

Basic decontamination information:

This disease agent can be inactivated by the following treatments: Dessication (drying out in the sun for 7 days at 20°C), high temperatures (50°C for 5 minutes), 20g/L sodium hydroxide for 10 minutes, 0.1% available iodine for 5 minutes, 1% Virkon S for 15 minutes, 10% formalin for 30 minutes and 800 mg/L benzalkonium chloride for 10 minutes.

What to do if this disease is suspected:

If you suspect this disease is present please contact the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (13 25 23) or the National 24 hr Emergency Animal Disease Hotline (1800 675 888) immediately.

How to collect and store samples for diagnosis:

If you are taking samples to help authorities to test for this disease, whole molluscs should be provided alive (if possible) or chilled and on ice.

Learn more

For more information about other diseases of aquatic animals of significance to Australia, download the **Aquatic Disease Field Guide App** available for iOS, android and windows devices at these locations:

IOS<https://goo.gl/9UJNp9>**ANDROID**<https://goo.gl/T4Tn1X>**WINDOWS**<https://goo.gl/Y8Vibi>

Photographs and content reproduced with permission courtesy of the Aquatic Diseases Field Guide 4th edition.