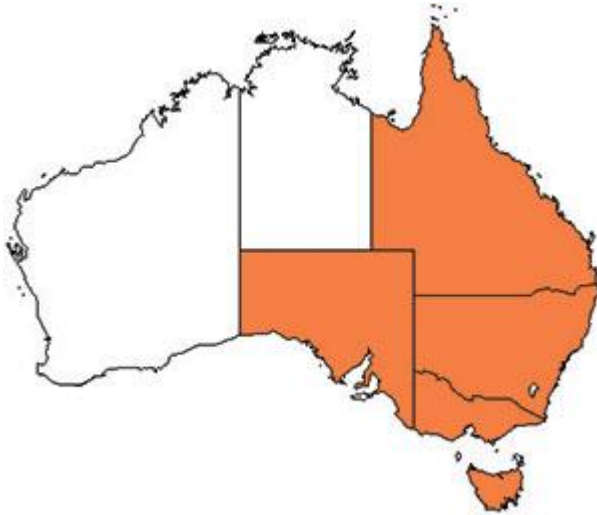


Infection with *Aeromonas salmonicida*- atypical strains

Disease agent: *Aeromonas salmonicida*, a gram negative bacterium in the family Enterobacteriaceae.



Presence in Australia: **Endemic**



Presence in Queensland: **Endemic**

Atypical *A. salmonicida* has been officially reported from New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria (goldfish ulcer disease) and Tasmania (greenback flounder biovar and Acheron biovar). Movement controls are in place to prevent the spread of goldfish ulcer disease to Western Australia and Tasmania. The Acheron biovar has been reported only from Tasmania and is limited to an isolated production area.

Signs of Disease:

Fish infected with this bacteria may exhibit the following signs:



- lethargic, abnormal swimming
- red skin blisters or ulcers on the skin with ragged edges
- haemorrhages at the base of the fins, in the gills and/or muscle
- swollen kidneys and spleen



Atypical *Aeromonas salmonicida* :

Top. Goldfish ulcer disease in goldfish.

Bottom. Marine aeromonad disease in Atlantic salmon in Tasmania. Both these diseases are caused by atypical strains of *A. salmonicida*.

Photos: J Carson

Host Species affected may include:

Eels (all) Flatfish (all)

Imported seafood fishes including:

Atlantic cod European eel
Atlantic herring European carp
Flounders Halibut
Redfin perch Turbot
Rockfish Trout (all)
Salmon (all)

Ornamental fishes including:

Goldfish Shibunkins

At risk fisheries in QLD may include:

Queensland Eel Fishery

Introduction Pathways to avoid:

Do not use imported seafood or ornamental fish for bait or berley, and do not release ornamental fish into waterways. Interstate movements of live fishes infected with atypical *A. salmonicida* may not be permitted.

Basic decontamination information:

This disease agent can be inactivated by the following treatments: Dessication (drying out), temperatures above 50°C for over 2 minutes, 2 mg/L chlorine for 1 minute, 300 mg/L benzalkonium chloride for 2 minutes, 2.6 mg/L iodine for 5 minutes, 0.5% Virkon S for 10 minutes, UV light >6 mJ/cm² or 0.5 mg/L/min ozone.

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 fish should be provided alive (if possible) or chilled and on ice (but not frozen).

Learn more

For more information about atypical *A. salmonicida* and 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>

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