

# Infectious Pancreatic Necrosis (IPN)

Disease agent: Infectious Pancreatic Necrosis Virus (IPNV), a virus of the genus *Aquabirnavirus* in the family Birnaviridae.



Presence in Australia: **Exotic**

Presence in Queensland: **Exotic**



Other aquabirnaviruses have been identified in farmed Atlantic salmon in Tasmania, Australia, and in diseased turbot and asymptomatic sea-run chinook salmon in New Zealand. The Tasmanian *Aquabirnavirus* is distinct from IPN virus, it is not associated with high mortalities and only occurs in Macquarie Harbour on the west coast of Tasmania.

## Signs of Disease:

Fish infected with this virus may exhibit the following signs:



- lethargic and uncoordinated swimming
- trailing long thin whitish faecal casts
- swollen abdomen due to fluid accumulation (ascites)
- darkened colour
- lesions in the pancreas or internal organs
- popeye (exophthalmos)

### Infectious Pancreatic Necrosis:

Juvenile rainbow trout infected with Infectious pancreatic necrosis virus. Note the abdominal distension and darkened body colour

Photo: T Håstein

**Host Species affected may include:**

Eels (all)                      Flatfish (all)

**Imported seafood fishes including:**

Atlantic cod                      European eel  
Herring                              Salmon (all)  
Trout (all)

**Ornamental fishes including:**

Cichlids                              Guppies  
Mollies                                Platys  
Weatherloach

**At risk fisheries in QLD may include:**

Queensland Eel Fishery  
East Coast Inshore Finfish 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.

**Basic decontamination information:**

This disease agent can be inactivated by the following treatments: Temperatures above 70°C for over 2 hours or 80°C for 10 minutes, 50 mg/L chlorine for 30 minutes, 10 mg/L iodine for 2.5 minutes, 1% Virkon S for 10 minutes, 2% formalin for 5 minutes, UV light >250 mJ/cm<sup>2</sup> 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 IPN 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/Y8Vibj>

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