



RNA

THE ROYAL NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL AND
INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION
OF QUEENSLAND

2 June 2009

MEDIA STATEMENT

STATEMENT FROM THE RNA REGARDING 'H1N1' AND THE 2009 EKKA

On 28 April the RNA initiated contact with Queensland's Chief Health Officer Dr Jeannette Young regarding the actions and responsibilities of the RNA in relation to the 2009 Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) and the H1N1 virus (swine flu).

The RNA has had ongoing contact with Queensland Health and a further briefing is now scheduled for later this week with Queensland Health and the Deputy Premier's Office.

As a much loved Queensland institution, the RNA places great emphasis on the good health and wellbeing of Queenslanders and will act according to the direction and advice of the Premier of Queensland and Queensland Health in relation to the current flu threat.

At this stage it is full steam ahead for the RNA in the planning of this year's Show - which is over two months away.

The RNA believes the present focus for Queensland Health should be on more imminent public events and locations where public gather - like major sporting events, shopping centres and public transport – not just the Ekka.

Ekka 2009 tickets go on sale online in just a few weeks and the RNA wants to assure the public that tickets purchased in the next couple of months will be fully refunded in the event that the Show is cancelled by Queensland Health.

Ekka 2009 is shaping up to be a great Show with five new rides coming to Brisbane's Sideshow Alley, some of them for the first time ever in Australia; a Little Miracles Newborn Centre where lambs will be born; a magnificent interactive Signature Brisbane backyard for children to plant and pick garden vegetables; live music concerts; new showbags; the Royal Queensland Wine Show; splendid competition and plenty more.

In this current economic downturn, our event – the Royal Queensland Show – becomes even more important to the Queensland Economy and for the people of Queensland.

***The 2009 Ekka runs from 6 – 15 August 2009 at the RNA Showgrounds, Brisbane.
Visit www.ekka.com.au for tickets and information.***

Media Contact: Andrea Sackson, 0414 672 318