

HELP Stop the Spread



Protect Victoria from
Abalone Viral Ganglioneuritis (AVG)

What is Abalone Viral Ganglioneuritis (AVG)?

- Abalone Viral Ganglioneuritis (AVG) is a virus that affects the nervous tissue of abalone and rapidly causes death.
- Abalone with the virus can appear to be weak and not holding onto the rocks strongly.
- The Virus can be spread through direct contact, the water column or something in the water such as mucus produced by the abalone.
- The virus only affects abalone.
- [There are no known or likely public health or food safety implications associated with this virus.](#)

Further information : www.vada.com.au

If you find sick abalone?

Please call

Disease Watch Hotline

1800 675 888

What you can do?

- » **Buoys, where possible will be placed to mark areas warning of active virus.**
- » **Placement of buoys is subject to the weather conditions.**
- » **Not all areas of active virus will be marked**
- » **Don't dive or fish in Areas known to have the virus present**
- » **For up to date known virus locations:**
www.vada.com.au
- » Ensure that you wash your fishing boats and all equipment, wet suits, etc between dive sites.
- » Don't accidentally spread the virus along the coast.

Decontamination:

Boats should be washed using soapy water. All organic matter from inside and outside the vessel should be removed

Wetsuits and Dive Equipment:

- » Wash wetsuits with neoprene wash (available from dive and surf shops) you can use a mild liquid soap or shampoo.
- » Pay particular attention to Equipment that has come into contact with abalone, eg. catch bags, gloves, knives and measuring devices, should be soaked in soapy freshwater for 30 minutes and rinsed.

People and clothing:

- People who come into contact with abalone should:
- » Wash their hands with soapy water.
 - » Wash any clothing with soapy freshwater and rinse.

Disposal

- Abalone shell, viscera (meat and gut) should not be:
- » shucked (taken from the shell) at sea, or used as bait
 - » dumped into the sea.

"Take your abalone catch home and dispose of the waste with your household rubbish."



www.vada.com.au

Eastern Zone Abalone
Industry Assoc. (EZAIA)



Sustainable Fishing - Healthy Seafood
Seafood Industry Victoria Inc.



Western Abalone Divers Association



fish for the future

www.vrfish.com.au