DECADE OF BIOSECURITY
2021-2030

Federal, state and territory biosecurity agencies

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Decade of Biosecurity Bulletin September 2023

Welcome to the September 2023 edition of the Decade of Biosecurity Bulletin.

In this edition we hear from inaugural Decade of Biosecurity Ambassador, Costa Georgiadis, learn how to join the fire ant fight and about the successes of wireless trap technology for feral cats on Kangaroo Island. There is also a summary of my recent trip to New Zealand to learn about the Biosecurity Business Pledge and attend the Tauranga Moana Biosecurity Capital Symposium, and an update on environmental DNA (eDNA) sampling and plenty of great resources including some to educate and keep the kids busy these school holidays!

Don't forget to have your say on the Biosecurity Protection Levy and the Draft Update Threat Abatement Plan for Predation by Feral Cats, both currently open for feedback and links included in this edition.

We continue to seek further investors, leads and partners to deliver the Decade of Biosecurity projects that will transform and strengthen the national biosecurity system. Please get in touch to explore opportunities to be involved: hello@biosecurity2030.org.au

Thanks to all who have contributed to making this another bumper edition!

Let's continue to work together to transform our system and protect our future.

Emily Mellor
Coordinator, Decade of Biosecurity

Costa endorses the Decade of Biosecurity Implementation Plan

Help inform the creation of the Decade of Biosecurity Ambassadors' Network

Project 3 under the Decade of Biosecurity Implementation Plan seeks to identify and connect a network of biosecurity leaders and ambassadors who can champion biosecurity within their own sphere of influence and learn from each other's stories and experiences.

As part of establishing this network of biosecurity ambassadors we wish to understand what current programs exist that identify leaders / champions and whether there are opportunities to partner with existing programs to promote biosecurity messaging through existing champions, as well as identifying and developing new biosecurity leaders and champions through mentoring and coaching.

We are also interested to receive your input regarding what resources, training and support may be required by leaders / ambassadors to successfully fulfill their roles.

We would appreciate your input to a short survey to provide guidance to this process. Input to the survey will close on 8 October 2023. Access the survey here.

Lessons from New Zealand

I travelled to New Zealand at the end of August to attend the Tauranga Moana Biosecurity Capital symposium and to learn more about their national Ko Tātou, This Is Us program and the Biosecurity Business Pledge.

I had the pleasure of meeting with Debbie Teale, Executive Director of the Biosecurity Business Pledge. The Biosecurity Business Pledge was established as a means of encouraging businesses to take a proactive approach to their biosecurity practices. It provides a framework for managing the risk of unwanted pests and diseases disrupting businesses, supply chains or whole sectors.

Launched in 2019 the Pledge was developed by business and industry, in partnership with Biosecurity New Zealand, who provided some of the initial funding to get the pledge off the ground. It now has 400 businesses signed up and is about the become an incorporated society. Members have access to online resources, CEO Board guides, supply chain contracts, monthly webinars and CE Breakfasts.

The pledge has built awareness and capability within businesses but also improved relations between business and government. Pledge members are performing better in their inspections and audits than non-pledge members and they are engaging their supply chain to encourage biosecurity best practice.

Meeting with Lisa Gibbison, Kiwifruit Vine Health (KVH) and Mark Whitworth, Port of Tauranga I learnt about the Tauranga Port Excellence Program and the incredible work they are doing to raise awareness of frontline workers at the ports about biosecurity threats. Their practical pest calendars and playing cards, sample kits and guidelines, along with their staff room visits and morning tea biosecurity discussions are having a significant impact on port workers knowledge, awareness and ability to report.

Jo Darby, Biosecurity New Zealand outlined to me that Ko Tātou, This Is Us, the Tauranga Moana Biosecurity Capital and the Business Pledge were all successful initiatives out of the Biosecurity 2025 Strategy and developed after baseline research revealed that although 86% of New Zealanders were aware of biosecurity only 2% thought it impacted them. Baseline research in Australia has showed similar responses and hence the Decade of Biosecurity, like Ko Tātou, This Is Us, is focused on raising awareness, encouraging proactive biosecurity behaviours and supporting collaboration across the system.

Tauranga was chosen as the first biosecurity capital as it was a region that had already been impacted by a biosecurity incursion and the risk of the port was a catalyst. The Tauranga Moana Biosecurity Capital (TMBC) aims to build a team of regional biosecurity champions through awareness, connection and capability building.

The dedication and passion to the cause was very evident in the room as I attended the TMBC Symposium focused on working together to strengthen biosecurity for generations to come. Some of the inspirational speakers I had the pleasure of hearing included:

- Nicola Toki from Forest and Bird, who shared her thoughts about the need to stop treating with biosecurity and biodiversity separately, that we need to have courage to deal with issues such as feral pigs, deer, horses and cats and focus on what we want the future to look like, not create fear of the threats.
- Chris Duggan, Director House of Science, who discussed her science resource kits, including the Invasion Busters kit, which are delivered fortnightly to schools to drive greater science education and awareness within schools.
- The passionate students from Lynmore Primary School and their award-winning predator control program (now there is a group of future biosecurity champions!), and
- Waitangi Wood (Ngatirua) and Carlton Bidois (Co-chair TMBC) who spoke about the intergenerational approach of Māori and the need for western science to be informed more by Indigenous knowledge.

I was very impressed by the buy-in from government through to school children to actively participate in protecting Tauranga and its industries from biosecurity threats. This model is now being rolled out in other parts of New Zealand.

It was inspiring to see how New Zealand is empowering industries, businesses, and community members to play their part in keeping New Zealand safe. The Decade of Biosecurity strives to achieve the same here in Australia. Thank you to everyone who met with me and took the time to share your experiences.

Decade of Biosecurity Coordinator, Emily Mellor meet with (from left to right) Lisa Gibbison (Kiwi Vine Health), Jo Darby (Biosecurity New Zealand) and Mark Whitworth (Port of Tauranga)

3rd Australian Biosecurity Symposium: Save the Date!

The news is out, the 3rd Australian Biosecurity Symposium is coming back with a SPLASH!

Experience Gold Coast's most unique destination and join us at Sea World Resort from the 27th through to the 29th of August 2024.

Building on the innovative ideas and conversations shared at the successful 1st and 2nd Australian Biosecurity Symposiums, #BioSym2024 will further explore our future in shaping the Australian Biosecurity Landscape.

Don't miss out on the opportunity to engage with key decision makers, innovators, influencers and researchers in the Australian biosecurity sphere.

Express your interest now!

Look, snap and report: Join the fire ant fight these School Holidays

With School Holidays about the start or already underway and Australians out with their kids enjoying the sunshine, the Invasive Species Council have called on families to join the fire ant fight in northern NSW and South-East Queensland.

“Over the school holidays, thousands of Australian families will be heading to places like the Gold Coast or Byron Bay for a holiday or going out camping with the kids on Minjerribah or the Sunshine Coast,” said Invasive Species Council Conservation Officer Reece Pianta.

“Sadly these incredible holiday spots are at risk of a fire ant invasion, so we’re asking Australian families to step up and join the fire ant fight these school holidays.
“It's really easy to do your part. Just take a picture of any suspicious ants and report it.

“And don’t worry if you’re not sure what type of ant it is, every picture that is sent in will be vital information for the eradication program.

“Of course, fire ants are dangerous. Don’t put yourself, clothing or belongings in direct contact with ants or their nests. If your kids are curious about an ant nest they’ve seen, make sure you go with them and ensure they stay at arm’s length when taking a photo,” said Mr Pianta.

Almost everyone carries a fire ant fighting tool in their pocket. With a smartphone you can easily take a picture or video and immediately send it to the eradication team to check,” Mr Pianta said.

“With fire ants just a few kilometres from the NSW border and surging through the Gold Coast or north towards the Sunshine Coast, we need the community to step up and do their part.

“As the weather warms up, fire ants will be more active and community reporting is the main way fire ants are being found.

“Ongoing containment and suppression mean it is still possible to eradicate fire ants from Australia if we all do our part. While out in the garden, at the park, taking a walk, camping or at the beach, we should all be on the lookout for suspicious ants,” said Mr Pianta.

Report fire ants to:

- Queensland: 13 25 23 or www.fireants.org.au
- New South Wales: 1800 680 244 or www.fireants.org.au https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/forms/report-exotic-ants
- If you think fire ants are on your property, find advice on what to do by visiting: https://www.fireants.org.au/treat/residential-landowner-or-tenant

Learn more about how you can JOIN THE FIRE ANT FIGHT by visiting the National Fire Ant Eradication Program website and accessing their free online training and factsheets so you are aware of what to look for and how to respond.

Parent Hayley and her child Alex in Brisbane taking pictures of ants and reporting them

Inaugural on-farm biosecurity summit delivers for Queensland

The inaugural On-farm Biosecurity Summit was held on Tuesday 11 July 2023 at the Royal International Convention Centre in Brisbane. The event was held in partnership with AgForce Queensland, Animal Health Australia (AHA) and Plant Health Australia (PHA). Diverse peak industry bodies were represented, highlighting their commitment to biosecurity.

The summit was the first of its kind on this scale and considered tangible pathways, tools and policies to enhance on-farm biosecurity. It provided an opportunity to hear from producers and peak bodies, explore the latest social research and innovative practices, and build connections.

At the conclusion of the summit, participants were encouraged to take lessons from the event and consider how they can support behaviour change around on-farm biosecurity uptake with their members and stakeholders.

Catch up with some of the producer panel's highlights in this video put together by AHA.

Case study: How organic certification can assist biosecurity preparedness.

With 53 million hectares of Australia now under certified organic management (approximately 12.4% of the arable farmland in Australia), the additional input limitations of organic certification can be seen as counterproductive to biosecurity. However, certified organic graziers Owen and Brigid Price believe biosecurity risk management becomes even more important when there are fewer options to treat incursions and reiterate that prevention is integral to managing future biosecurity risks.

The Price family runs over 4,000 certified organic commercial Droughtmaster-cross, grass-fed cattle across multiple properties in the Burdekin River region. The Prices have integrated the stringent record keeping requirements of their organic certification to improve their farm biosecurity, innovation, technology, environmental sustainability and business transparency.

On a property where Coal Seam Gas mining occurs, they utilise the Farm Check-In App that asks biosecurity related questions to cross-check visitor movements in addition to a number of other proactive practices such as:

- Quarantine vehicles and machinery are housed on separate properties;
- Fencing upgrades have taken place on all properties;
- Active feral animal management plans are in place;
- An annual biosecurity self-assessment is undertaken;
- Front gate biosecurity signs are stationed at the entrance of all properties;
- Set quarantine periods for new cattle and recording of cattle movements to ensure traceability.

The business also adopts strict protocols for visitors, including sign-in registers, confirmation of international travel movements, specific access points and designated roads for moving within properties and contractors must have third-party washdown certificates when bringing vehicles and machinery onto properties.

The Prices received the 2022 DAFF Farm Biosecurity Producer of the Year award. They openly discuss industry issues and encourage others to take action on biosecurity risk mitigation by sharing their best-practice approaches.

Brigid Price founded Rural Resources Online in response to the need for Australian farming families to have a platform in which they can collaborate, discuss issues and share knowledge and resources, including information about biosecurity. Visit Rural Resources Online - Rural Resources.

A visitor checks in at one of the Prices' properties.

Wireless trap technology closes the net around feral cats

A first of its kind community-led feral cat management initiative has helped remove 259 feral cats from the Stokes Bay region on Kangaroo Island.

Over an eight-week period earlier this year, 19 private landholders participated in a 'Farmer Blitz' trapping program. The Kangaroo Island Landscape Board (KILB) managed the program using cutting edge wireless cat trap alert technology connected to an app to keep tabs on troublesome tabbies.

The project, a partnership between KILB and AgKI, was initiated when AgKI received funding through the Livestock SA Kangaroo Island Bushfire Recovery Innovation Grants Program. In a result that outstripped expectations, 259 feral cats were removed during 13,209 trap nights over a 20,000ha area.

AgKI co-Deputy Chairperson, Stephanie Wurst said feral cats, as an apex predator, have been able to breed up large populations, which greatly impact the cost of sheep production on the Island.

"Consequently, the impact and prevalence of cat-borne diseases such as Sarcocystosis and Toxoplasmosis occur in much greater rates on the Island than other regions across Australia," she said.

“The use of this technology means as a producer I can assist in trapping without having to commit a large amount of time and resources to constantly monitor traps. It was a really engaging process, being able to share knowledge and learnings with other landholders throughout the program. There was great participation from producers as we all want to play a part in not only reducing the impact of feral cat populations on the cost of production but reduce their impact on native wildlife and the environment.”

Future programs will look to work with more landholders and cover a greater area of the island with the hope to grow the initiative to an annual winter program and support island-wide eradication in the future.

You can read the full story here.

Stephanie and Tom Wurst with one of the cat traps.

Transformation of Outbreak.gov.au website

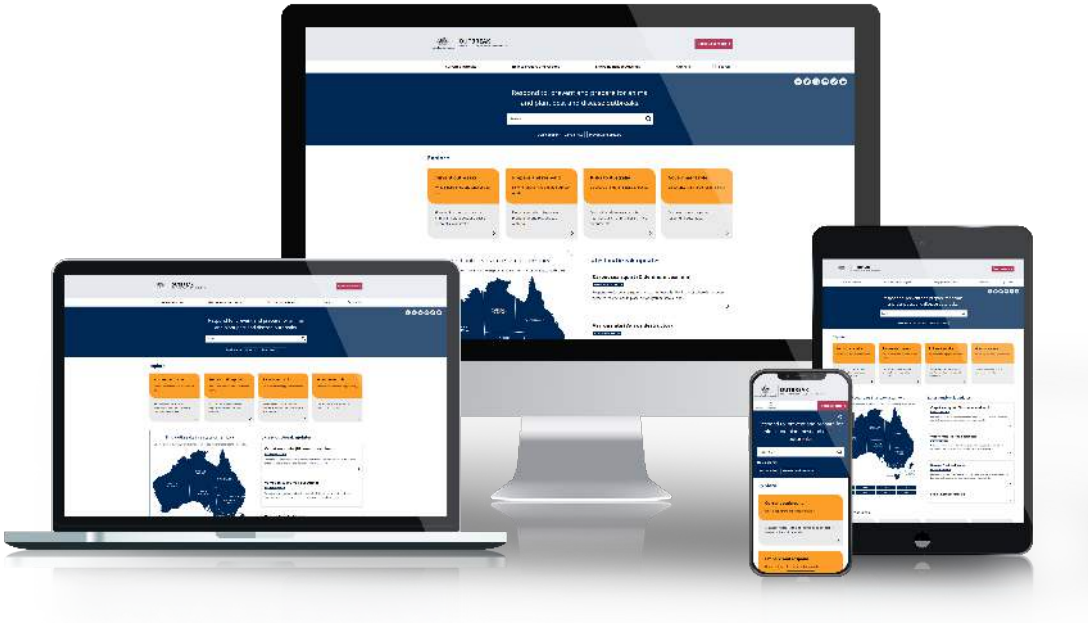
Outbreak.gov.au is our point of national coordination during an animal or plant pest or disease outbreak. It’s an important asset for all Australians and a pivotal part of our strong biosecurity system.

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) has transformed and modernised the Outbreak.gov.au website. Thier goal was to ensure that the website

was fit for purpose, met web usability best practice, and was optimised for future needs. DAFF engaged with real users to build a better understanding of how people use the website and how their experience could be improved. These insights were used to inform a new design, structure and content for the website.

The new website is designed with simple, readable text and clear visual layouts. This makes it easy to find the most up-to-date details on current responses to outbreaks, as well as providing advice on ways to prevent and prepare for outbreaks.

Explore the new Outbreak.gov.au website.



Innovative Technologies for Biosecurity Enhancement: Environmental DNA (eDNA)

A handheld device that can seek out hidden lifeforms in the environment sounds like something out of Star Trek, but it's becoming closer to reality with developments in eDNA technology.

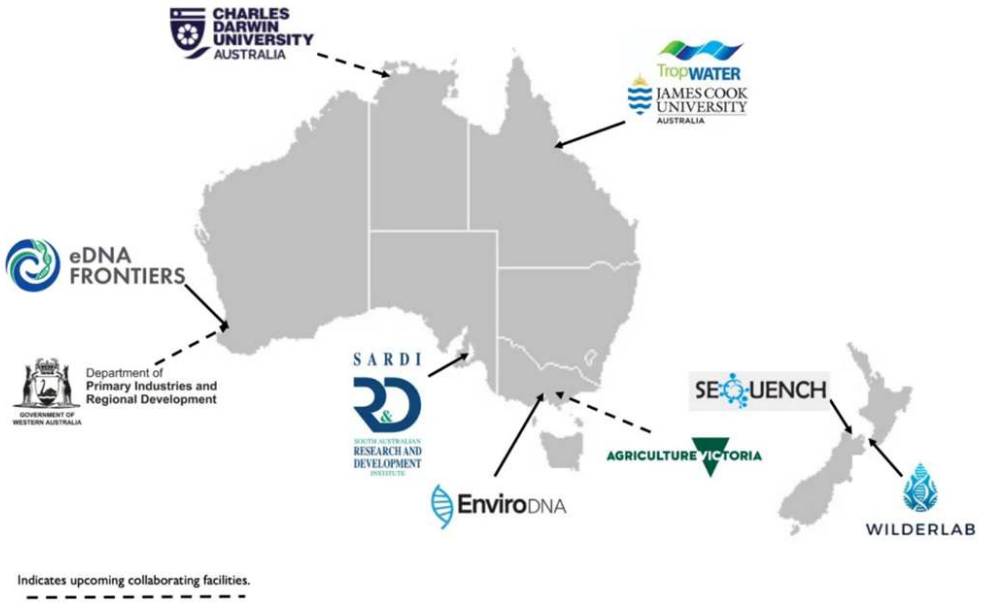
The Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) are trialing real-time eDNA detection for biosecurity applications like screening soil and dust from shipping containers and warehouses for hitchhiker pests, beehive swabs for Varroa mite, water bodies for exotic mosquitoes and animal habitats for disease monitoring (e.g., Avian influenza and foot-and-mouth disease).

The use of eDNA technology is an exciting development offering several advantages to improve detection and response approaches for biosecurity management. The portability of the technology allows for on-site testing, reducing the time and resources required. Test results are reliable and fast, taking hours instead of days. Various environmental matrices such as soil, water and air can be analysed for a wide range of species. This can cut biosecurity response times, ensuring exotic pests and diseases can be stopped before establishing in Australia.

The National eDNA Testing Program, a $7 million Research, Development and Extension (RD&E) investment from DAFF is a significant step to establish eDNA capability for enhancing biosecurity.

This investment follows the world-first detection of khapra beetle eDNA from shipping containers, work conducted by Dr Alejandro Trujillo-Gonzalez and fellow researchers at the University of Canberra (UC). DAFF in partnership with UC has established the National eDNA Reference Centre; including an eDNA Collaboration Centre Network (10 laboratories across Australia and New Zealand); national standards and protocols to ensure fit-for-purpose testing; and NATA accreditation standards for laboratory partners.

Follow the development and implementation of this new technology at the NRC website or contact geoff.grossel@aff.gov.au or uday.divi@aff.gov.au for further information.



eDNA Collaborative Centres Network locations

Annual Surveillance Workshop 2024

Expressions of Interest (EOIs) for Plant Surveillance Network Australasia-Pacific (PSNAP) members to attend the Annual Surveillance Workshop (ASW) 2024 are now open.

The ASW 2024 is a networking event where the country's foremost surveillance experts and practitioners come together to share knowledge, and will be held during the week of 18 March 2024 in Brisbane (venue TBC).

PSNAP members are invited to submit an extract addressing the theme: Surveillance in remote locations: challenges, solutions and incorporating community engagement. EOIs close 16 October 2023: ADW and ASW 2024 - save the date and call for abstracts

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Have your say!

Biosecurity Protection Levy

The Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry is seeking feedback on the design of the Biosecurity Protection Levy.

The Biosecurity Protection Levy, payable by agriculture, fisheries and forestry producers, is to be implemented from 1 July 2024. The levy aims to collect around $50 million per year. This is around 6 per cent (on an annual basis) of the Commonwealth biosecurity funding in 2024-25. It will be allocated to maintain Commonwealth biosecurity policy, operational and technical functions.

All stakeholders interested in the sustainable funding of the biosecurity system, including the Biosecurity Protection Levy, are encouraged to provide feedback.

Submissions close at 4pm on 13 October 2023. Please visit Biosecurity Protection Levy | Have Your Say - Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to read the consultation paper and make a submission.

Draft updated Threat Abatement Plan for Predation by Feral Cats

The Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water is seeking feedback on the draft updated Threat Abatement Plan for Predation by Feral Cats.

Feral cats kill over 1.5 billion native mammals, birds, reptiles and frogs, and 1.1 billion invertebrates each year in Australia. Predation by cats is a threat to over 200 nationally listed threatened species and they have been implicated in 28 mammal extinctions. They are a major cause of decline for many land-based endangered animals such as the bilby, bandicoot, bettong and numbat. They can also carry infectious diseases which can be transmitted to native animals, domestic livestock and humans.

Threat abatement plans establish a national framework to guide and coordinate Australia's response to key threats, like feral cats, and identify research, management and other actions stakeholders across Australia can take to ensure the long-term survival of native species and ecological communities.

The plan, released on Threatened Species Day, 7 September 2023, can be obtained here along with further information on how to provide feedback. Consultation is open until 4pm AEDT 11 December 2023.

Resources and training

We would love to help promote and share your biosecurity resources, training and events. Please get in touch at hello@biosecurity2030.org.au if you would like to promote something through our newsletter.

Be a biosecurity champion - register for free pest and disease training!

Hitchhiker pests (such as ants, bugs, beetles, snails, plants, and moths) can go undetected in shipping containers, packaging material or in people’s luggage and suitcases.

Training staff to recognise these pests is not just good practice—it's essential for safeguarding our environment and economy.

Two online training packages, Hitchhiker Pests and Greenlife Pests and Diseases, offer essential biosecurity awareness for your business.

These courses teach how pests impact livelihoods, enter Australia, and how to recognise and manage them. Integrate these packages into your staff induction by registering at http://phabolt.com.au/

Developed in partnership with Plant Health Australia, the NSW Department of Primary Industries, and the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, they're a free way to upskill your team.

Here are 2 examples of how early detection and reporting of hitchhiker pests and plant diseases helped protect our national biosecurity network.

In 2021, a consignment of tiles from China were delivered to an importer's premises on the Gold Coast. When unpacking the shipment, a transporter noticed live bugs on the pallets of tiles in the shipping container. The warehouse staff immediately closed the doors of the shipping container and contacted the See. Secure. Report 1800 798 636 hotline for advice. After an inspection by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the bugs were confirmed as brown marmorated stink bugs.

In another case, Khapra beetle was found in the packaging of a highchair in Canberra, ACT, after a report to the See. Secure. Report 1800 798 636 hotline. One infested container was identified, which had been imported from Italy. Quick action led to effective containment, preventing the beetle from infesting other areas.

For more information on integrating these free courses into your corporate training packages, contact Plant Health Australia at info@phau.com.au

Back to basics - keeping the message simple

In a crowded public messaging space, it’s sometimes challenging to break through and effectively connect, engage and inform with a diverse target audience range. This is particularly so when we want to start a conversation about the importance of biosecurity to our economy, livelihoods, environment, and our way of life.

In an effort to try and more effectively engage with its diverse audiences, Biosecurity Tasmania has gone back to basics – literally.

General Manager of Biosecurity Tasmania, Rae Burrows summed up the challenge. “As part of a broader, ongoing campaign to better engage with visitors and locals alike about the importance of shared responsibility for our biosecurity, we thought, let’s go back to basics.

“We identified four basic behaviours we wanted to promote. They needed to be simple actions that visitors and locals could adopt so they could better meet their general biosecurity duty: Check your bags, Come in clean, Stay on the path, and Report anything unusual.

“We then developed simple icons to accompany and illustrate those four basic messages. We then started incorporating those icons (and variations of those icons) into our everyday communication products across a range of channels, and the results are very promising,” Rae Burrows said.

Biosecurity Tasmania is now in the final production phase of creating short, social media friendly videos that further build on the concept of the Biosecurity Basics. It is expected that those videos will be out and about very soon – so watch this space! More information about the Biosecurity Basics can be found on the Biosecurity Tasmania website.

Resources to help stop the spread of marine pests

Protecting our marine environment has never been more important. Australia’s marine environment is beautiful and diverse, but also fragile.

Keeping marine pests out of our waters and reducing their spread means we have safe and productive oceans to enjoy for recreation, support maritime trade and maintain a sustainable seafood industry.

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) have developed a bespoke marine pests awareness campaign targeted to port workers, marina operators and users, divers and the aquaculture industry.

The goal is to increase marine pest reporting and raise awareness of invasive marine pests with clear actions people need to take to protect the marine environment from these pests.

A series of custom designed material has been distributed nationally for use across each jurisdiction which includes factsheets, posters, social media tiles, PowerPoint templates, virtual meeting backgrounds and email signature blocks.

The materials come in an editable template format so that each jurisdiction can tailor the material to highlight marine pests of concern and specific reporting details.

The materials were developed in close consultation with the Marine Pest Sectoral Committee and key stakeholders.

Contact rene.campbell@aff.gov.au for a copy of the marine pests materials or visit marinepests.gov.au for more information.

Get your kids involved in biosecurity!

Want something educational and fun to keep to kids busy these school holidays? Well, here are some ideas!

Join the Victorian Great Biosecurity Quest

A strong biosecurity system is important to keep safe our agricultural industries, as well as our natural, cultural and heritage assets, our parks, gardens, waterways and beaches. This October, we're asking Victorian families and children to help play a part.

The Great Biosecurity Quest is a citizen science campaign running throughout October, encouraging people to learn about and report biosecurity pests. People can visit our website at agriculture.vic.gov.au/biosecurityquest, and join up to become a Watchout Warrior, using our online resources including a new citizen science toolkit to help look for unwanted plants and pests in the backyard, local garden or national parks.

If it looks like a pest, Watchout Warriors can report their discovery via Agriculture Victoria's online portal and help keep our natural resources and our agriculture industry safe.

There are some great prizes to be won – including a chance to name our new mascot!

Write a love letter to the land!

Landcare Australia's Junior Landcare program is celebrating 25 years of opening children's hearts and hands to landcare.

To mark this significant milestone, Junior Landcare is collaborating with Junior Landcare ambassador and Decade of Biosecurity ambassador, Costa Georgiadis, for a special campaign entitled 'Love Letters to the Land.' This campaign was launched at the beginning of National Biodiversity Month (September 2023) and runs into National Mental Health Awareness Month (October 2023).

The objective of the 'Love Letters to the Land' campaign is to encourage children from all corners of the country to express their love for the environment, and share how they are taking care of it, including looking out for biosecurity threats. By inviting children to sit, reflect, and connect with the natural world around them, Landcare Australia aim to foster a deeper understanding and appreciation for the environment.

Download a free letter template and get involved here.

Lunch with Leaders series

There have been many plant pests found in Northern Australia over the past few years, some of which have been significant in terms of costs to the industry, the environment and the community. The Northern Australia People Capacity and Response Network (NAPCaRN) will directly result in improved biosecurity outcomes across northern Australia by supporting and empowering industry and community and strengthening the response network with increased communication and facilitated collaborations that previously has not been feasible.

The ‘Lunch with Leaders’ series is an initiative under the NAPCaRN to motivate, encourage and support current and emerging leaders across northern Australia through stories, challenges, reflections and lessons learned from inspiring and courageous leaders.

The events are virtual so anyone with an internet connection can attend. Those interested in attending can email NABS@aff.gov.au or anne.walters@nt.gov.au. A reminder will be sent each month prior to the upcoming event.

The program of speakers can be accessed here and previous session recordings are also available.

Free cattle or sheep disease resources

Developed through the Department of Primary Industries and Regions' (PIRSA) in collaboration with Animal Health Australia (AHA), the newly developed Cattle Diseases Guide is a great reference to help farmers take action when faced with common cattle diseases and conditions found on farm. A similar, recently updated guide is also available for sheep.

Animal health officers and vets from the red meat and wool industry have contributed to these, offering the most current advice on how to identify signs and symptoms of disease as well as recommendations on treatment and prevention options for farmers.

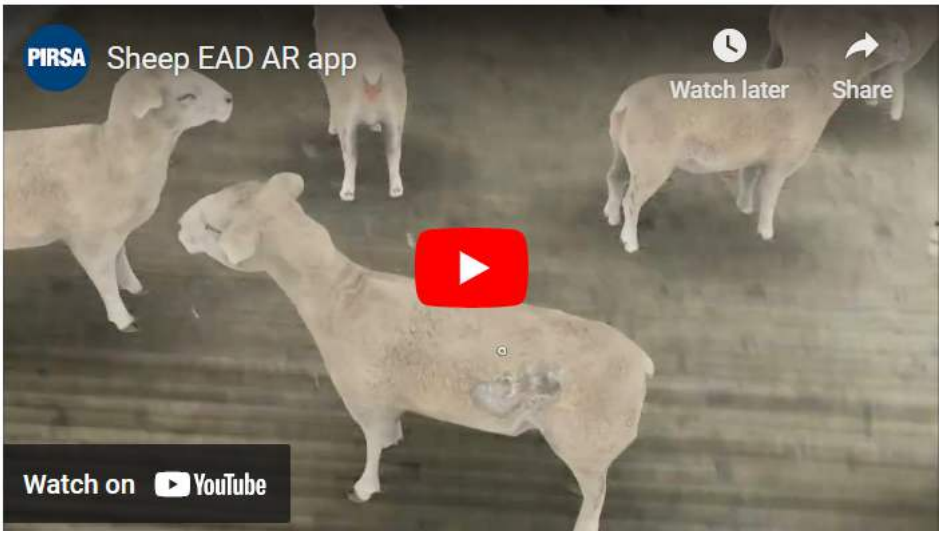
Both guides include photos and descriptions of endemic diseases in South Australia and also cover exotic diseases, including foot and mouth disease and lumpy skin disease. Additional features include best practice management guidelines on farm biosecurity, vaccination, traceability, and livestock movement obligations.

Producers can download a FREE version of the guides – cattle or sheep.

Sheep producers can also access the FREE Sheep Emergency Animal Disease (EAD) Augmented Reality (AR) app, 'Sheep EAD AR.' The innovative tool uses AR technology to project a digital flock of sheep integrated with the user's real-life surroundings to help producers and students recognise signs that could indicate emergency animal diseases, including foot and mouth disease (FMD), bluetounge, scrapie and sheep pox.

A collaboration between PIRSA and Animal Health Australia, the tool was funded by the Red Meat and Wool Growth Program.

The app can be used on mobile phone or tablet and can be downloaded for free by searching 'Sheep EAD AR' in the Appstore, Google Play and Microsoft App Store or visit Livestock management and animal health - PIRSA for more information.



Events

17-19 October 2023
Taronga Western Plains Zoo, Dubbo, NSW
NSW Vertebrate Pest Management Symposium
vpmsymposium.com.au

26 – 27 October 2023
Canberra, Australia
National Farmers Federation 2023 National Conference
NFF National Conference(nffconference.com.au)

SAVE THE DATE!
Week of 18 March 2024
Brisbane, QLD
Plant Surveillance Network Australasia-Pacific (PSNAP) members Annual Surveillance Workshop
EOIs close 16 October 2023: ADW and ASW 2024 - save the date and call for abstracts

SAVE THE DATE!
27 - 29 August 2024
Seaworld, Gold Coast
3rd Australian Biosecurity Symposium
Register your interest here.

Connect with us!

If you were forwarded this Bulletin by someone else please scan the QR code to sign up and receive news and updates direct to your inbox.

The Decade of Biosecurity is now on Facebook! Follow us at facebook.com/DoB2030 or visit our website.

About the Decade of Biosecurity

The Decade of Biosecurity is a partnership between industry, business, community and government to elevate the importance of biosecurity and improve the biosecurity system's effectiveness during the 2020s. The partnership seeks to engage all Australians with building a stronger biosecurity system and connect leaders and influencers across sectors to share and leverage their learnings and approaches.

The Decade of Biosecurity coordination is hosted by the Invasive Species Council on behalf of the Decade of Biosecurity partners: Invasive Species Council, Animal Health Australia, Centre for Invasives Species Solutions, Plant Health Australia, National Farmers' Federation, Freight and Trade Alliance, National Landcare Network, Landcare Australia, NRM Regions Australia, federal, state and territory biosecurity agencies.

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DECADE OF BIOSECURITY 2021-2030

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