

National Red Imported Fire Ant Eradication Programme – Yarwun

PART 1: PRELIMINARIES

1. The purpose of this Schedule is to outline the delivery of agreed activities for the National Red Imported Fire Ant Eradication Programme – Yarwun from 2013-14 to 2016-17 and to facilitate the Commonwealth's cost-shared contributions to Queensland, the combatant state for this eradication programme.
2. The National Red Imported Fire Ant Eradication Programme –Yarwun is being conducted under the National Environmental Biosecurity Response Agreement (NEBRA) as agreed by the National Management Group (NMG) in 2014.
3. The emergency response plan and budget is approved by the NMG in accordance with the NEBRA.
4. If required, this Schedule will be reviewed in conjunction with reviews of the National Red Imported Fire Ant Eradication Programme –Yarwun in accordance with the provisions of the NEBRA.

PART 2: FORMALITIES

5. The Parties to this Schedule are the Commonwealth of Australia and the State of Queensland.
6. This Schedule will commence as soon as it is agreed between the Commonwealth and Queensland ministers with portfolio responsibility for agriculture, fisheries and forestry, and will expire on 30 June 2017, or upon on completion or termination of the National Red Imported Fire Ant Eradication Programme – Yarwun as determined by the NMG, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Parties.

PART 3: PROJECT ELEMENTS AND MILESTONES

7. The response objectives of the National Red Imported Fire Ant Eradication Programme – Yarwun, are to:
 - (a) contain the pest and prevent spread to non-infested areas;
 - (b) eradicate fire ant in Yarwun through destruction of nests by direct nest injection with fipronil and through prophylactic broadcast baiting with an insect growth regulator (IGR);
 - (c) conduct buffer and targeted surveillance to delimit the area of infestation;

- (d) conduct engagement activities to garner support and cooperation from the community to assist with movement controls and passive surveillance; and
 - (e) conduct verification surveillance to demonstrate proof of freedom and support the declaration of eradication of the Yarwun (2013) incursion.
8. The project elements of the National Red Imported Fire Ant Eradication Programme – Yarwon, are:
- (a) *Surveillance*
 - i. As per the Response Plan V1.2 agreed by the NMG, intensive surveillance will be conducted on all infested properties and targeted surveillance will be conducted on all suitable fire ant habitats within a 6 km radius of Infected Premises¹ to delimit the incursion and determine levels of infestation.
 - (b) *Containment*
 - i. issuance of 'Notice of Infestation' to all owner/lessees/occupiers of land infested with fire ant;
 - ii. establishment of a restricted area;
 - iii. implementation, maintenance and audit of Approved Risk Management Plans of high risk businesses;
 - iv. maintaining and monitoring compliance with movement controls to mitigate the risk of human-assisted spread of fire ant; and
 - v. provision of information on detections of fire ant to facilitate management of interstate entry requirements.
 - (c) *Treatment*
 - i. Where suspect fire ant samples are taken, baiting will be undertaken out to 20 m radius from the suspect nest using an IGR (pyriproxyfen).
 - ii. Where fire ants are detected, direct nest injection will be conducted with the contact insecticide (fipronil) to kill the nests. Broadcast baiting will be undertaken out to 50 m radius from the confirmed nest using an IGR (pyriproxyfen).
 - iii. Aerial baiting of the five known infested properties was conducted in late January 2014 with another IGR (S-methoprene).
 - (d) *Tracing*
 - i. Tracing investigations will be conducted with the owners of infested land to identify potential sources or spread of infestation and to inform surveillance priorities. All properties identified as 'at risk' through tracing activity will be investigated.
 - (e) *Community engagement*

- i. This element seeks to foster social responsibility through the engagement of communities and industry in achieving compliance with movement controls and in early reporting of suspect ant. A Communications Plan for the eradication of fire ant in Yarwun has been developed. Ongoing engagement will follow on from the initial response approach which has been highly effective in establishing strong relationships with key stakeholders. A higher frequency of engagement will be scheduled in the first two years. This will be reduced in the third year and increased slightly in the fourth year to cater for the declaration of eradication.

(f) *Policy and planning*

- i. ongoing review of eradication program/management strategies to ensure they remain effective to eradicate the current pattern of infestation
- ii. reporting response results to cost-share partners
- iii. preparation of the pest-free area submission.

(g) *Support services*

- i. Mapping, program office and administrative services as required, will be provided to support the response.

9. To qualify for the associated payment, Queensland must meet the following milestones:

Table 1: Milestones

Milestones	Due date	Payment
Commencement of eradication response following NMG agreement	June 2014	\$293,190
Demonstration, through provision of a progress report, of satisfactory progress towards the above project elements in 2014-15 to the satisfaction of the Commonwealth.	May 2015	\$774,649
Demonstration, through provision of a progress report, of satisfactory progress towards the above project elements in 2015-16 to the satisfaction of the Commonwealth.	May 2016	\$558,713
Demonstration, through provision of a progress report, of satisfactory progress towards the above project elements in 2016-17 to the satisfaction of the Commonwealth.	May 2017	\$21,164

PART 4: REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

- 10. Queensland will report against the agreed milestones as outlined in Table 1 above and reports will be provided to the NMG as required.
- 11. Circumstances may give rise to additional reporting being sought in accordance with the NEBRA.

PART 5: FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

12. The agreed financial contribution to be provided by the Commonwealth to the Queensland Government for the National Red Imported Fire Ant – Yarwun - Eradication Programme is outlined in Table 2 and payable in accordance with the milestones set out in Table 1. All payments are provided directly to Queensland and are exclusive of GST.

Table 2: Agreed financial contributions

Commonwealth contribution	2013-2014 (\$)	2014-15 (\$)	2015-16 (\$)	2016-17 (\$)	Total Budget
	293,190	774,649	558,713	21,164	1,647,716

PART 6: SIGN OFF

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this Schedule as follows:

*Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of
Australia by*

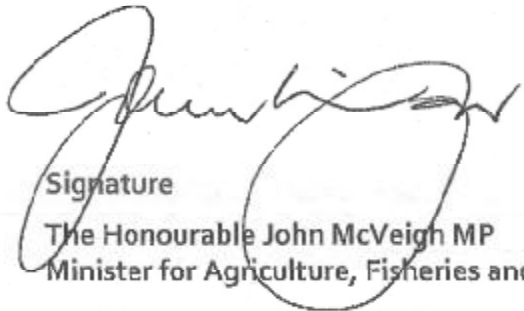


Date 26-6-14

Signature

The Honourable Barnaby Joyce MP
Minister for Agriculture

*Signed for and on behalf of the State of Queensland
by*



Date 23/6/14

Signature

The Honourable John McVeigh MP
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry