

National Electric Ant Eradication Program

PART 1: PRELIMINARIES

1. The purpose of this Schedule is to outline the delivery of agreed activities for the National Electric Ant Eradication Program from 2017-18 to 2021-2022 (National Program) and to facilitate the Commonwealth's cost-shared contributions to Queensland, the combatant state for this eradication program.
2. The National Electric Ant Eradication Program is being conducted as a National Environmental Biosecurity Response Agreement-like (NEBRA-like) response as agreed by the Primary Industries Ministerial Council in 2009.
3. The emergency *National Electric Ant Eradication Program Response Plan: Eradication of electric ant in Queensland* (the Response Plan) was approved by the National Management Group (NMG) on 5 June 2018.
4. The financial commitments are approved by the Agriculture Ministers' Forum (AGMIN) subject to budget considerations. The 2017-18 to 2021-22 budget was approved by AGMIN on 8 April 2019. At this time AGMIN also delegated decision making authority to the NMG for the duration of the five year Response Plan to the maximum five-year budget of \$12.1 million. If an extension beyond the five years, or an increased budget is required the decision will be referred by to AGMIN.
5. This Schedule will be reviewed in conjunction with reviews of the National Electric Ant Eradication Program.
6. This Schedule continues Schedule B for the National Electric Ant Eradication Program for 2015-16 signed on 8 June 2016.

PART 2: FORMALITIES

7. The Parties to this Schedule are the Commonwealth of Australia and Queensland.
8. This Schedule will commence as soon as it is agreed between the Commonwealth and Queensland ministers with portfolio responsibility for national biosecurity emergency management. It will expire on 30 June 2023, or upon completion or termination of the National Program as determined by the NMG, including endorsement of the final project report and processing of final payments against milestones, unless terminated earlier or extended as agreed in writing by the Parties.

PART 3: PROJECT ELEMENTS AND MILESTONES

9. The project elements for the National Program are described in the Response Plan. Queensland is responsible for delivering the following elements in accordance with the Response Plan:

(a) *Treatment:*

- i. Eradication of all current and new infestations in the area of interest as defined in the Response Plan.

(b) *Surveillance:*

- i. Tracing and delineation surveillance of all new detections in the area of interest to determine potential spread and extent of infestation.
- ii. Post treatment validation surveillance to determine if treatment of each area has been successful, allowing removal of movement controls from the properties within these areas
- iii. Once all known infestations have been destroyed, proactive surveillance conducted, including sentinel site surveillance, to determine Proof of Freedom.

(c) *Research and development:*

- i. Research including trials, literature reviews and technical reports, as identified in the scientific work plan, to guide the operational program.
- ii. Scientific research undertaken by the Program will be progressed towards publication.

(d) *Community engagement:*

- i. A broad scale community engagement strategy to maintain and raise awareness of electric ants and movement controls, increase participation in passive surveillance and reporting and build skills and capabilities amongst stakeholders.

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

Table 1: Milestones

Milestones	Due date	Payment
2018-19		
AGMIN agreement to the 2017-18 to 2021-22 response plan and associated cost sharing arrangements.	June 2019	Up to \$2,669,765
2019-20		
Annual progress report (2018-19) endorsed by the National Biosecurity Management Consultative Committee (NBMCC) as demonstrating satisfactory progress towards the above project elements as per the endorsed Response Plan.	October 2019	Up to \$1,189,319
2020-21		
Annual progress report (2019-20) endorsed by the NBMCC as demonstrating satisfactory progress towards the above project elements as per the endorsed Response Plan.	October 2020	Up to \$1,245,722
2021-22		
Annual progress report (2020-21) endorsed by the NBMCC as demonstrating satisfactory	October 2021	Up to \$1,255,290

progress towards the above project elements as per the endorsed Response Plan.		
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PART 4: REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

- 11. Queensland will report against the agreed milestones as outlined in Table 1.
- 12. Circumstances may give rise to additional reporting being sought in accordance with the NEBRA-like arrangements.

PART 5: FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

- 13. The agreed financial contribution for the National Electric Ant Eradication Program is outlined in Table 2 and payable in accordance with the milestones set out in Table 1. All payments are exclusive of GST.

Table 2: Estimated financial contributions

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Commonwealth	\$2,669,765	\$1,189,319	\$1,245,722	\$1,255,290

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



Signature

**Senator the Honourable Bridget McKenzie
Minister for Agriculture**

30/6/2019
Date

Signed for and on behalf of the State of Queensland by



Signature

**The Honourable Mark Furner MP
Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries**

9/10/2019
Date

Prepared By:
Perkins & Co
2021-20
Agriculture
10/10/19