

National Red Imported Fire Ant Eradication Programme – South East Queensland 2015-16

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 (South East Queensland) in 2015-16 and to facilitate the Commonwealth's cost-shared contributions to Queensland, the combatant state for this eradication program.
2. The national red imported fire ant eradication programme 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 response plan *Red Imported Fire Ant Eradication Program Response Plan 2013-2018* is approved by the National Biosecurity Management Group (NBMG) in accordance with the NEBRA on 14 April 2014.
4. The financial commitments are approved by the Agricultural Ministers Forum (AGMIN) subject to budget considerations. The 2015-16 budget was approved by AGMIN on 19 November 2015.
5. This Schedule will be reviewed in conjunction with reviews of the national red imported fire ant eradication programme in accordance with the provisions of the NEBRA.
6. This Schedule continues Schedule D for the national red imported fire ant eradication programme 2014-15 signed on 30 June 2015.

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 2016 or on completion or termination of the national red imported fire ant eradication program as determined by the NBMG, including the 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 of the eradication programme are described in the *Red Imported Fire Ant Eradication Program Response Plan 2013-2018*. Queensland is responsible for delivering the following elements in accordance with the Response Plan:

- a) *Surveillance*
 - i. Reduce the area of infestation and number of infested sites through treatment and containment;
 - ii. Declare local area freedom by suburb and cease treatment for those areas;
- b) *Treatment*
 - i. Treatment activities that result in property freedom allowing suburb-based restricted areas to be removed.
- c) *Compliance*
 - i. Containment achieved through community and industry compliance with movement controls preventing human-assisted spread beyond the restricted area.

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

Table 1: Milestones

Milestones	Due date	Payment
Annual progress report (2014-15) demonstrating satisfactory progress towards the above project elements as per the endorsed Response Plan	May 2016	\$8,165,000

PART 4: REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

- 11. Queensland will report against the agreed milestones as outlined in Table 1.
- 12. Reporting may also be required under the NEBRA arrangements.

PART 5: FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

- 13. The Commonwealth's agreed financial contribution for the national red imported fire ant eradication programme 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

	2015-16
Commonwealth	\$8,165,000

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 5-5-16

Signature

**The Honourable Barnaby Joyce MP
Minister for Agriculture**

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



Date 7/6/16

Signature

**The Honourable Leanne Donaldson MP
Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries**