

National Browsing Ant Northern Territory Eradication Programme 2015-16 to 2017-18

PART 1: PRELIMINARIES

1. The purpose of this Schedule is to outline the delivery of agreed activities for the national browsing ant eradication programme – Northern Territory from 2015-16 to 2017-18 and to facilitate the Commonwealth's cost-shared contribution to Northern Territory, the combatant state for this eradication programme.
2. The national browsing ant eradication programme is being conducted under the National Environmental Biosecurity Response Agreement (NEBRA), as agreed by the National Biosecurity Management Group (NBMG) on 17 December 2015.
3. The emergency response plan *Northern Territory (Lepisiota frauenfeldi) Browsing Ant Response Plan 2015* is approved by the NBMG in accordance with the NEBRA.
4. Financial commitments are approved by the NBMG subject to budget considerations.
5. This Schedule will be reviewed in conjunction with reviews of the eradication programme in accordance with the provisions of the NEBRA.

PART 2: FORMALITIES

6. The Parties to this Schedule are the Commonwealth of Australia and the Northern Territory.
7. This Schedule will commence as soon as it is agreed between the Commonwealth and Northern Territory ministers with portfolio responsibility for national biosecurity emergency management. It will expire on 30 June 2018, or upon completion or termination of the eradication programme as agreed by the NBMG, including endorsement of the final progress 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

8. The project elements for the eradication programme are described in the *Northern Territory (Lepisiota frauenfeldi) Browsing Ant Response Plan 2015*. The Northern Territory is responsible for delivering the following elements in accordance with the Response Plan:
 - (a) *Surveillance*
 - i. Surveillance will be focused around the infected properties and those identified as a risk by trace activities that are primarily around Darwin and along the Northern Territory coastline.

- ii. Surveillance carried out in twelve trace premises identified as being in contact with the infected premises.
 - iii. Surveillance to be carried out at the Tiwi Island landing for coastal deliveries.
 - iv. Surveillance to be carried out at communities that receive deliver/pick up by barge via Gove and Groote Eylandt.
 - v. Surveillance to be carried out at infected properties at 6 month intervals and at twelve month intervals for trace sites assessed as negative for infestation of browsing ant.
- (b) *Treatment*
- i. Scheduled series of prophylactic chemical treatments (bait and spray) and surveillance at the infected properties as per the response plan
- (c) *Community engagement*
- i. The Northern Territory State Coordinator to coordinate the browsing ant response in addition to the concurrent Asian honey bee response and the national banana freckle eradication programme.
 - ii. Communication and engagement with commercial facilities associated with freight movement into and out of Darwin.
 - iii. Communication via a quarterly newsletter to keep directly involved stakeholders up to date.
- (d) *Science*
- i. Scientific and technical support including such activities as identification and field assessment diagnostic services, trace modelling and technical advice on risk management.
- (e) *Proof of freedom*
- i. Final surveillance at infected properties using Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries odour detecting dog(s), following negative surveillance.
9. To qualify for the associated payment, the Northern Territory must meet the following milestones:

Table 1: Milestones

Milestones	Due date	Payment
NBMG agreement on and commencement of the Response Plan	May 2016	\$262,917
Annual progress report (2015-16) demonstrating satisfactory progress towards the above project elements as per the endorsed response plan	April 2017	\$143,495
Annual progress report (2016-17) demonstrating satisfactory progress towards the above project elements as per the endorsed response plan.	April 2018	\$150,451

PART 4: REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

- 10. The Northern Territory will report against the agreed milestones as outlined in Table 1.
 - 11. Reporting may also be required under the NEBRA arrangements.
- Schedule R - National Browsing Ant Northern Territory Eradication Programme

PART 5: FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

12. The Commonwealth's agreed financial contribution for the national browsing ant eradication programme – Northern Territory is outlined in Table 2 and payable in accordance with the milestones set out in Table 1. All payments are exclusive of GST.

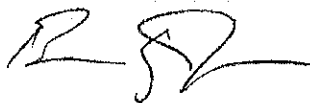
Table 2: Estimated financial contributions

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Commonwealth	\$262,917	\$143,495	\$150,451

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 and Water Resources

Signed for and on behalf of the Northern Territory by

Signature



The Honourable Gary John Higgins MLA
Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries

Date

18/5/16