



New products to aid pest animal control in the future

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Most pest animals have been in Australia for a long time as they were introduced by the early settlers. Over the years a lot of effort has been directed at controlling them. A number of new control methods have been developed along the way. Some of these have worked and some have just faded away into the history books or are merely remembered in some old photo album.

Modern machinery and technology has also helped with the control of pest animals in Australia. But in most areas there are still persistent populations and in some areas pest populations are actually increasing.

Learning from the past control efforts and utilising new developments as they become available will assist with the challenge in the future.

Some of these new developments include:

- A toxin that is specific to pigs, different bait types for pig control, and a bait station for delivering the baits.
- A new toxin being trialled for foxes, and hopefully new delivery systems such as the M44 ejector which could be registered for use on private land.
- The development of a LTD (lethal trap device) and a new toxin for wild dog control.
- Continuing research into different strains of Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease (RHD) in rabbits.
- Additional control methods for controlling feral cats and wild deer populations.

While most of these are still in the trial stage, hopefully some will be able to be utilised in the future.

Pest animals cause significant damage to the environment and domesticated livestock in Australia. It's great to see that money is being spent to look at new control options which will assist in the control of these destructive pests.

However, all of this is in the future, so we all still need to be controlling pests now to ensure populations don't increase further and move into new areas.

Your local LHPA office can assist you to control pest animals on your property by carrying out property inspections, providing advice and coordinating control programs.