

Feral Pig and Pest Program 2024-2025

Progress update | January 2025



The NSW Government's \$13.1 million Feral Pig and Pest Program 2024-2025 reflects the ongoing commitment to reduce feral pig and pest animal populations and the impacts to agriculture and the environment.

Local Land Services has ramped up coordination of control efforts statewide, while local biosecurity officers work with landholders to better equip them to manage pest animals into the future.

Farmers harvesting crops have seen the damage pest animals leave behind, following a period of ideal breeding conditions.

As summer progresses, drier times may see pest animals gathering around water, providing an opportunity for targeted control.

What work is being done across the state:

- continued coordination of broadscale aerial and ground control programs
- targeted engagement to increase landholder participation in control programs
- hosting pest animal management education and training events for landholders
- providing free Vertebrate Pesticide Induction Training (VPIT) courses

- monitoring pest animal impacts within target areas and capturing landholder perceptions of impacts on their property
- collaborating with public land managers for effective control programs across tenures
- fully subsidising 1080 poisoned bait to eligible landholders for feral pig control.

"I could be sitting at the header one day and see 20-30 hectares decimated by pigs."

Grain grower and cattle producer Jack Pearlman, of the Northern Tablelands, knows the losses feral pigs can cause to crops during harvest.


Working with his neighbours, he has controlled more than 1,300 feral pigs and built his capacity to continue into the future.

"It's labour-intensive work but to learn different control methods and tools from Local Land Services and having their support to continually get on top of feral pig numbers over a longer period, showed me the impact you can achieve through longer control programs."

**Key results
from July to
December 2024**

 **2,676**
properties participating

 **33,058**
feral pigs controlled

 **4.03 million**
hectares protected



Engagement

- **14,716** consultations with land managers for pest animal management
- **36** awareness events across the state with **649** participants
- **140** landholders surveyed as part of impacts monitoring
- **725** participants at free Vertebrate Pesticide Induction Training (VPIT) courses held online and **53** participants at **5** courses in person



Ground control

- **3,805** feral pigs controlled through coordinated ground control programs
- **1,381** properties participating
- **2,599,488** hectares protected through ground control
- **61,528** kg free bait issued to landholders on **647** instances
- **78,960** kg free feed grain supplied to **407** landholders for trapping programs



Aerial control

- **29,253** feral pigs and **5,918** deer controlled during **14** aerial control programs
- **1,295** properties participating
- **1,434,659** hectares protected through aerial control

These statistics for July to December 2024 relate to activities funded by the 2024-25 Feral Pig and Pest Program. Local Land Services has further pest management activities not reported as part of this funding.



Feral pig impacts survey

We need your insights! Our Feral Pig Impacts Survey aims to provide a clearer picture of the damage occurring statewide which helps us better manage the problem.

If you're a rural land manager please complete the short online survey today by scanning the QR code.



Workshops and tools

Trained biosecurity officers across NSW are rolling out a range of capacity building events so landholders have the skills needed to manage pest animals.

From feral pig masterclasses to deer information sessions, the focus is on practical tips and demonstrating the tools available to help.

The workshop in Tabulam pictured above discussed the use of different trap designs.

For upcoming events visit: lls.nsw.gov.au/news-and-events/events

Your duty to act

Every landholder has a General Biosecurity Duty (GBD) under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* to reduce risks caused by pest animals by taking action to prevent, eliminate or minimise pest animals and impacts.

Contact your local biosecurity officer on 1300 795 299 for advice and support to help meet your obligations.

Learn more

For practical resources on managing feral pigs including videos on trapping, baiting and behaviour visit lls.nsw.gov.au/feral-pigs

To find out more about support available through the [Feral Pig and Pest Program](https://lls.nsw.gov.au/feral-pigs), scan the QR code.

