

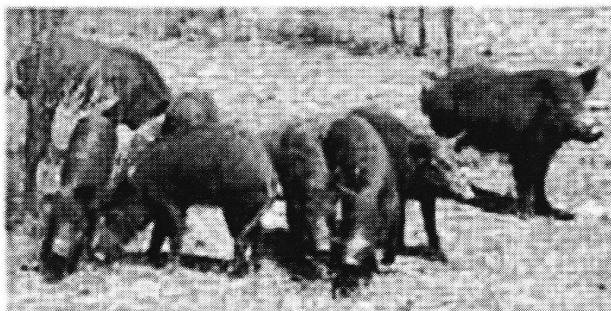
Feral Pig Control—Free feeding is the key to success

Steps to Good Trapping

Free feeding prior to activating traps is an essential part of successful trapping.

- All activities that will disturb normal feeding should be stopped, i.e. no shooting or dogging.
- Feeding sites should be placed where feral pigs are active, i.e. water points, holes in fences and areas containing old carcasses on which pigs have been feeding.
- Bait for traps must be attractive to the pigs. Fermented grain is the recommended bait material as grain is mostly always available.
- The trap can be built around the feeding site, with feeding within the trap undertaken for several nights before it is set.
- The trap should be set every night and checked each day. If the trap cannot be checked daily, allow the pigs to free feed out of the trap while you are away.
- Trapping should continue until no more pigs are caught. A change of bait can be tried. Again feed for one or two nights before re-setting the trap.
- Traps may be left permanently in locations frequented by pigs, and pre-baited and activated when fresh pig signs appear.
- If the trap is to be moved, feeding at the new site should start before the trap is relocated.

Figure 1: feral pigs



The use of Dogs

Dogs may be useful to remove the few remaining pigs left following poisoning and trapping campaigns. **Do not use dogs or shoot in areas before or during poisoning or trapping operations as this will disturb the pigs and affect the success of your trapping program.**

Advantages and Disadvantages of using Traps

Advantages of trapping:

- It is the safest form of control and can be undertaken in populated areas;
- It is flexible and can be incorporated into routine property activities, with economical use of labour and materials;
- Carcasses can be safely disposed of.
- Traps can be moved and re-used. Good trapping makes use of opportunities as they arise.
- It does not alter normal pig behaviour so it enables a greater number of the total population of an area to be removed.
- It is more humane to pigs and non-target species.

Disadvantages of trapping

- It can be time consuming, and expensive to construct and maintain.
- It must be checked regularly.
- Some pigs are trap shy.

Poisoning

Only Authorised Control Officers (ACOs) in NSW can prepare bait and supply it to land managers. 1080 poison can only be used in bait stations. 1080 poison is regulated under a current 1080 Pesticide Control Order (PCO) that details the particulars of its use. The use of 1080 poison currently requires a minimum chemical use accreditation at AQF3 level or training specified in the 1080 PCO. The LLS offers a three hour course, which on completion allows you to use 1080 and pindone poison.

Disease Risk

The threat of an exotic disease outbreak such as Foot and Mouth Disease has led to an increased effort to control feral pigs. Should such a disease enter the feral pig population, it would prove difficult and extremely expensive to eliminate.

More information

Phil McGrath, Senior Biosecurity Officer

South East Local Land Services

Court House Building, 170 Wallace Street (PO Box 97) BRAIDWOOD

t: 02 4842 2536 | m: 0427 006 344 | enquires: 1300 795 299.

e: phil.mcgrath@lls.nsw.gov.au w: www.lls.nsw.gov.au/southeast