



1080 - THE FACTS

WHY DO WE CONTROL PEST ANIMALS USING 1080?

Pest animals harm livestock and many native animals and damage the environment. A single wild dog or fox can kill and maim large amounts of livestock in one night. They also prey on native animals and birds, which has directly led to the extinction of many Australian species. Rabbits and feral pigs also damage native vegetation, cause erosion, destroy native plants and damage natural water courses.

WHY DO WE CONTROL PEST ANIMALS USING 1080?

The three main control techniques used are shooting, trapping and baiting. Trapping and shooting are ineffective for controlling wild dogs and foxes as a primary control technique over large areas but can be useful for individual problem animals. We run regular, coordinated baiting programs in partnership with local landholders to ensure our programs achieve maximum results and encourage landholders to integrate as many control techniques possible.

WHAT BAITS DO WE USE?

The most common baits are anti-coagulants (warfarin based), sodium nitrite and 1080 (sodium fluoroacetate). 1080 is the most widely used bait.

IS 1080 SAFE?

- 1080 is present in a naturally occurring toxin found in more than 30 species of native Australian plants, it doesn't damage our natural environment, as it's water soluble and readily broken down by naturally occurring bacteria and fungi
- Australia's native wildlife have evolved tolerance to 1080, unlike the introduced dog and fox. That is why it is considered the best environmental option control pest animals.
- Many scientific studies have investigated risks of 1080 to native wildlife populations, including 29 species of native birds, 7 species of native reptiles and amphibians and 44 species of native mammals (including carnivorous marsupials). All studies found there to be no threat from 1080 to populations of these wildlife species.
- The use of 1080 in conservation areas allows the survival of rare and threatened wildlife and assists in reintroduction to areas where they have previously been extinct.



Local Land
Services

- If 1080 was not available for use to control vertebrate pests, many less specific and less humane products would have to be used.
- The toxic dose of 1080 for a dog or fox is far lower than for all other animals. For example a standard dose of 3-5 mg will kill a dog or fox but not poison a goanna, quoll or wedge tailed eagle, which are other species most likely to eat baits. Similarly, the risk to a person from a dog or fox dose of 1080 is very low.

WHAT HAPPENS TO ANIMALS IF THEY EAT 1080?

Once absorbed 1080 blocks a metabolic pathway which converts food to energy over 1-2 hours. Because of this the animal becomes unconscious and then dies. Evidence indicates that once an animal shows symptoms it is no longer conscious or feeling pain, due to the blocking of energy required for the nervous system to function.

WHAT ARE THE RULES AROUND 1080 USE?

- Access to 1080 is highly restricted. It is not available to the public as a concentrate
- Only authorised, fully trained operators with current chemical qualifications are permitted to use 1080 or prepare baits.
- Rules include a comprehensive risk assessment of target areas, extensive public notification processes, placing baits minimum distances from habitation, use of remote cameras to minimise presence of non-target animals, clear signposts as well as bait tethering and/or burying, and regular safety audits.
- Unused baits which remain at the end of a baiting program must be removed.
- View the full list of legal conditions for 1080 usage via the [NSW EPA website](#).

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PROTECT YOUR DOG?

Keep your dog on your own property and do not allow it to stray. As well as being at risk of poisoning from many other sources, in addition to 1080, it may attack other people or their animals.

Lock or tie up your dog at night – this is the highest risk time for dogs to stray.

Keep an eye out for notifications of baiting programs and take extra care controlling your dog, particularly over the next month while the program is underway.

If you suspect your dog has consumed a bait take it to a vet immediately – while the poison is not reversible if the dog can be made to vomit out the bait before the poison is absorbed it may still survive.

If you suspect your dog has died from consuming a poisoned bait either notify your private vet or Local Land Services.