

## Locust response - Insecticides

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VERSION 1

AUTHORISED BY (DPI) DDG Biosecurity & Food Safety

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ISSUED BY Biosecurity and Food Safety & Local Land Services

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### Policy Statement

In NSW a number of insecticides and biological control options exist for the control of locusts. NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI) and Local Land Services (LLS) use a range of insecticides registered for the control of locusts.

### Scope

NSW DPI coordinates state wide distribution and centralised stocks of insecticides purchased through the Pest Insect Destruction Fund (PIDF) on behalf of the Plague Locust Management Group (PLMG). LLS coordinate regional distribution and stocks of insecticide.

All insecticides products must be registered, stored, transported, applied and disposed of according to the *Pesticides Act 1999*.

### Requirements

1. All pesticides are registered for particular uses by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA). All labels are approved by the APVMA, and users in NSW must only use a product in accordance with the directions on the label and permit. The AVPMA issue permits to allow other uses.
2. People who use, store and transport agricultural insecticides or supply insecticides have legal responsibilities under the *Pesticides Act 1999*, the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* and associated regulations.
3. The *Pesticide Regulation 2009* requires that any person or organisation applying an insecticide in a public place to which the public have access (eg road-sides, Travelling Stock Reserves, National Parks) MUST apply insecticide as described in their Notification Plan for Pesticide Use in Public Places and display appropriate signage.
4. All personnel involved in the transport, handling, storage, use and disposal of locust insecticides have responsibilities to ensure risks to personnel and the environment are identified, assessed, controlled, monitored, and in accordance with relevant legislation, regulations and codes of practice including:
  - a. Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail
  - b. *Pesticides Act 1999*
  - c. *Pesticides Regulation 2009*
  - d. *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*
  - e. Safe use and storage of chemicals (including pesticides and herbicides) in Agriculture, Code of Practice, 2006
  - f. Managing risks of hazardous chemicals in the workplace, Code of Practice 2014
  - g. Labelling of workplace hazardous chemicals, Code of Practice 2012

5. Insecticide is supplied free of charge by Local Land Services (LLS) to ratepayers for use on their properties when targets are verified by a LLS officer. Minimum target criteria are described in the procedure *Insecticide management of locusts*.
6. Application of the insecticide and any associated costs are the responsibility of the landholder.
7. Non LLS rate payers can be supplied insecticide at the current market rate.
8. If a target is not deemed suitable after inspection by a LLS officer the purchase of insecticide is the land manager's responsibility.
9. *Metarhizium*, a biological agent, is to be issued where control is required in or near sensitive areas including accredited organic properties, those in the process of achieving organic accreditation, threatened species habitats, on properties of people with chemical sensitivity or at the discretion of the issuing officer.
10. Personnel issuing, providing advice and using insecticide must have the appropriate chemical safety, application and risk management training.

## **Procedures**

- [Insecticide management for locusts](#)

## **Roles and responsibilities**

- Refer to policy Locust response - Management

## **Safety considerations**

Personnel involved in the control of locusts are required to assess risks on a case-by-case basis to reduce the impact of control activities such as aerial operations and insecticide use on other operational personnel, the community and environment. Application of insecticides must be accordance with the label and safety data sheets. Some insecticides may require health monitoring which includes base line blood testing.

## **Delegations**

- Financial delegations - Emergency response delegations

## **Definitions**

- APLC: Australian Plague Locust Commission
- APVMA: Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority
- LLS: Local Land Services
- NSW DPI: NSW Department of Primary Industries
- PIDF: Pest Insect Destruction Fund
- PLMG: Plague Locust Management Group

## **Legislation**

- Local Land Services Act 2013
- Pesticide Regulation 2009
- Pesticides Act 1999
- Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
- Work Health and Safety Act 2011
- Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011

## **Related policies**

- TI-A-140 Work health and safety policy
- TI-O-113 Emergency management - Use of aviation policy
- TI-O-171 Locust\_response - Control
- TI-O-172 Locust response - Management

## **Other related documents**

- APVMA permits portal
- Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail
- Chemical SDS's, labels and permits
- Labelling of workplace hazardous chemicals, Code of Practice 2011
- Notification of pesticide use by public authorities in public places

- Managing risks of hazardous chemicals in the workplace, Code of Practice 2014
- Safe use and storage of chemicals (including pesticides and herbicides) in Agriculture, Code of Practice, 2006

**Superseded documents**

This policy replaces:

- O-049 Locust response - Use of insecticides
- O-050 Locust response - Environmental considerations

**Revision history**

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date issued</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>By</b>
1	14 May 2015	Combined superseded policies.	Emergency Management Officer

**Review date**

30 May 2017

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