



BLACKWOOD BIOSECURITY

Land Lifestyle Livelihood

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2024

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Blackwood Biosecurity Inc.

Community

Fox Shoot 2024



Mark the date!

12th, 13th & 14th April 2024.

Register now with Blackwood Biosecurity Inc.

Forms available from

104 Hampton Street, Bridgetown, or call 0455 522 750 or email
admin@bbisouthwest.org.au or check our website
<https://www.blackwoodbiosecurity.org.au/news>

Sunday 14th April - 8:30am

Breakfast, Tally and prizes - Bridgetown Football Club car park
Les Woodhead Avenue, Bridgetown
(off Bridgetown-Boyup Brook Road)



Good Luck!

P.A. DOUST & Co.
est. 1949



THE REGIONAL
MEN'S HEALTH
INITIATIVE



Sporting Shooter's Association of Australia
(Western Australia) will donate \$5 for every
fox culled, up to \$20,000, annually to the
Regional Men's Health Initiative.



Land Lifestyle Livelihood

Our Work in the Field

Darkan Fox Shoot

On 17th of March, Blackwood Biosecurity hosted breakfast at the Darkan Fox Shoot count. There was a nice turn out of participants who really enjoyed the breakfast we put up. Operations Manager Jason Dearle and Customer Service Officer Max Cornish cooked the breakfast. They also had a nice chat with a few of the locals who participated in the Fox Shoot. They had a total 110 foxes culled this year and hope to get a bit more next year!



Blackberry Spraying

Throughout the month of March, our Operation Manager Jason Dearle and Operations Officer James Moyes have been spraying blackberries in the Bridgetown Greenbushes and Balingup areas. Some of the photos shown are what some of the areas look like.

Blackberries can take up to 1 year to kill using Metsulfuron and Endorse. It is a mild herbicide that is used at a low rate to allow the plant to slowly translocate the chemical through the entirety of the plant including rhizomous root system. The key to properly control blackberry is to do it slowly.

It is a preferred chemical option to use in sensitive areas such as bushland and pastures as it will generally impact on other established pastures/plants.

Our Operations Manager, Jason recommends following up with a burn to stimulate any dormant seed germination.



Land

Lifestyle

Livelihood

Our Special Programme

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:

We have recently received an update from DPIRD NSW about our order for the K5 vials and they have notified us that they could not fulfill our order for the Autumn release and supply will be delayed.

Once we receive our order, we will get in touch again about doing a release.

The K5 program is but one of the tools in the toolbox. We have several other ways to manage the growing population.

Other methods include:

- Pindone baiting
- Smoking warrens
- Shooting (via licensed pest controllers)
- 1080 training available for landholders eligible



Our Upcoming Events

Balingup Small Farm Field Day - Saturday 6th April 2024

Blackwood Biosecurity will be participating with a stall to provide information on declared pest management to the local community. Pop over to have a chat on the day and attend our 'Bunny Igloo' making demonstration.



Blackwood Biosecurity Fox Shoot Breakfast - Sunday 14th April 2024

Blackwood Biosecurity will be concluding the Community Fox Shoot Sunday morning, The Fox Shoot will be taking place starting Friday 12th of April and will end Sunday 14th of April.



News and Information

Backyard Buddies: Whitefly Woes



Close up of adult whitefly on leaf, mango leaves in home garden with evidence of whitefly, eggs and adults on underside of leaf (photo: left & right: DPIRD, centre: MyPestGuide report)

In the intricate world of plant pests, whitefly, from the family Aleyrodidae, have a misleading name, given they are not flies at all. Instead, they belong to the order Hemiptera, sharing kinship with other sap sucking insect pests like aphids, scale, and mealybugs.

In their juvenile form the nymphs bear a resemblance to scale, while in their adult stage they take on the appearance of small moths. The only part of their name that is accurate, is the 'white'. This is particularly obvious when adult whiteflies are abruptly disturbed and take flight. The result is a large white plume or cloud of these tiny insects around their host plant. This behaviour is often referred to as 'flushing'.

Biology & Lifecycle

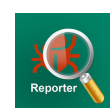
Whiteflies are a tiny insect with a rapid and prolific lifecycle. Females lay between 30 to 40 near-microscopic eggs on the underside of leaves. Upon hatching, the 0.3 mm nymphs actively seek a feeding spot. Once found, they stay put, feeding, and molting until their final form reaches 1 mm. The nymph then transforms into a winged adult, approximately 1.5 to 2.5 mm in size, completing the lifecycle in about one month. In spring and autumn, this lifecycle may be completed in as little as 18 days for some species. This efficient reproduction results in multiple overlapping generations each year, making the management of whitefly populations challenging.

Whiteflies are not fussy eaters and have a broad host range of horticultural plants including tropical fruits, citrus, and solanaceous vegetables, plus many ornamental species, trees, and weeds. They are relatively weak flyers and rely on wind and human assistance for transportation, hitching rides on clothing, gardening equipment, and plant material. Three of five important species of whitefly in Western Australia were introduced this way. The other two, citrus whitefly and the native strain of *Bemisia tabaci*, are both native to Australia.

Impacts & Management

Like other sap sucking insect pests, feeding damage caused by whitefly, in both its adult and nymph stages, can result in cell or leaf death (necrosis), impacting plant growth. Certain whitefly species are also able to transmit plant viruses. Virus symptoms include irregular ripening in tomatoes and blanching in carrots and broccoli.

The key to effective whitefly management is early detection. Check the upper surface of leaves for signs of feeding damage such as yellow mottling, silvering, wilting, curling, or distortion and check the underside of leaves for a sticky excretion (known as honeydew) or sooty mould.



Report a pest today!

MyPestGuide® was developed to encourage everyone (public, industry and government) to report observations of any common, interesting or possibly exotic pests, as well as the absence of pests across Australia.