



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Standing Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

**MEDIA ALERT**

Issued: 10 May 2005

*Chair: Alby Schultz MP*

# The Impact of Pest Animals on Agriculture

## Public Hearing at Parliament House, Canberra, 11 May 2005

The House of Representatives Agriculture Committee will hear evidence tomorrow (11 May) from the Pest Animal Control Cooperative Research Centre as part of its inquiry into the impact on agriculture of pest animals in Australia.

The public hearing will take place in Committee Room 1R3, Parliament House, Level 1 at 5pm.

The Pest Animal Control CRC works to develop practical, cost-effective and socially acceptable products to reduce the damage caused by pest animals. In the past three years, it has developed new approaches for baiting foxes, wild dogs and feral pigs and taken on a research program for carp control.

In its submission (no. 33 on the inquiry website), the Pest Animal Control CRC lists the European rabbit, European red fox, wild dog, feral pig and mouse as pest animals of national significance. It highlights the need for substantially more funding of pest animal control programs by all Australian governments and the need for a national strategy in setting priorities for dealing with pest animal issues.

The Pest Animal Control CRC is currently in year six of its seven-year term. Its membership comprises CSIRO, the Universities of Adelaide, Sydney, Western Australia and the Australian National University, the Agriculture Protection Board and the Department of Conservation and Land Management in Western Australia.

Further details about the inquiry, including terms of reference and submissions, can be obtained from the committee's website at [www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/primind/](http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/primind/) or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4500 or emailing [aff.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:aff.reps@aph.gov.au).

**For media comment:**

please contact the office of committee chair, Alby Schultz, on (02) 6277 4386.

**For background information:**

please contact the committee secretary, Ian Dundas, on (02) 6277 4194.