



THE SENATE

**RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT REFERENCES COMMITTEE**

**Red Imported Fire Ants in Australia**

**PUBLIC HEARING  
Monday 4 March 2024**

**Waldorf Room  
Novotel Brisbane Airport , 6/8 The Cct, Brisbane Airport**

Time	Witness
8.30 am	<b>Invasive Species Council</b> ( <i>Submission 54</i> ) Mr Jack Gough, Advocacy Director Mr Reece Pianta, Advocacy Manager
9.15 am	<b>Dr Anthony Young, Private Capacity</b> ( <i>Submission 21</i> )  <b>Professor Nigel Andrew, Chair of Science and Professor of Entomology, Southern Cross University</b> ( <i>Submission 57</i> )
9.45 am	<b>Dr Pam Swepson, Private Capacity</b> ( <i>Submission 62</i> )  <b>Mr Richard Shannon, Private Capacity</b> ( <i>Submission 60</i> )
<b>10.15 am</b>	<b>Morning tea</b>
10.30 am	<b>AgForce Queensland</b> ( <i>Submission 47</i> ) Dr Annie Rutledge, Senior Policy Officer Ms Belinda Callanan, Chair, AgForce Biosecurity Committee Mr Ken Cunliffe, Member, AgForce Biosecurity Committee  <b>Queensland Cane Growers Organisation</b> ( <i>Submission 42</i> ) Mr Dan Galligan, Chief Executive Officer Dr Mick Quirk, Senior Manager, Environment and Sustainability Mr Greg Zipf, Chair, Rocky Point District
11.10 am	<b>Australian Environmental Pest Managers Association</b> ( <i>Submission 5</i> ) Mr Stephen Ware, Executive Director
11.35 am	<b>Dr Helen Scott-Orr, Private Capacity</b>
<b>12.05 pm</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
1.30 pm	<b>City of Gold Coast</b> ( <i>Submission 8</i> ) Cr Hermann Vorster, Councillor, Division 11  <b>Logan City Council</b> ( <i>Submission 41</i> ) Ms Emily Shafto, City Safety and Liveability Manager Mayor Darren Power

2.00 pm	<b>Tweed Shire Council</b> Mayor Chris Cherry Ms Denise Galle, Director Planning and Regulation
2.20 pm	<b>Queensland Farmers Federation</b> ( <i>Submission 40</i> ) Dr Laurie Dowling, Policy Advisor, Intensive Animal Industries Mr Paul Sloman, Policy Officer, Cotton Australia and Queensland Farmers Federation
<b>2.45 pm</b>	<b><i>Afternoon tea</i></b>
3.00 pm	<b>National Fire Ant Eradication Program - Steering Committee</b> ( <i>Submission 16</i> ) Dr John Roberston, Former Chair  <b>Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries</b> Dr Rachel Chay, Deputy Director-General and Chief Biosecurity Officer Mr Ashley Bacon, Executive Program Director, National Fire Ant Eradication Program  <b>Queensland Department of Environment, Science, and Innovation</b> Mr Ben Klaassen, Deputy Director-General, Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service and Partnerships
<b>4.30 pm</b>	<b><i>Adjournment</i></b>