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## **APVMA decision allows for wild dog control**

The NSW Farmers' Association says the recent decision by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) to issue permits to allow continued use of higher 1080 baiting rates to control wild dogs is a very necessary step in the right direction.

NSW Farmers' Association Conservation and Resource Management Committee member Rod Young says in widespread areas of NSW wild dogs are devastating wildlife and domesticated livestock, and control measures are very important.

"It is absolutely essential that the use of 1080 in coordinated strategic aerial baiting programs continue," Mr Young said.

Sodium fluoroacetate commonly known as 'ten-eighty' (1080), is used for the control of feral animals including rabbits, foxes, wild dogs and pigs. Its use in controlling feral animals such as foxes plays an important role in agricultural production and in the protection of native animal species.

"We are pleased that the APVMA have listened to the concerns presented to them by the NSW Farmers' Association, NSW Department of Primary Industries and the Rural Lands Protection Boards and will now allow the continued use of 1080 under controls," he said

"The huge build up in wild dog numbers is responsible for the on-going threat and destruction of our native wildlife on our public lands, the huge losses of livestock and major financial stress and trauma for affected landowners.

"Major sheep losses continue on the Tablelands in particular. In the last 12 months 3 landowners east of Walcha have collectively suffered over \$100,000 in losses from ongoing wild dog attacks," he said.

"Cattle losses also continue. Figures from the north coast Kempsey RLPB report losses from the last 4 years amount to 351 cows and 3068 calves killed, and a further 1574 mauled.

"The public need to be aware that APVMA is applying these permits for a transitional period while further research is being carried out to establish a minimum effective bait rate," Mr Young concluded.

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***FAST FACT: Australian farms and their related industries generate \$103 billion a year in production***