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Short window for locust control

The NSW Farmers' Association says farmers need to be proactive now to limit the impact of locusts come spring.

NSW Farmers' Association President Charles Armstrong says the Association continues to urge all landholders to report locust sightings and undertake control measures, particularly in the next fortnight.

"If proper locust control is undertaken over the next few weeks, we can effectively reduce the egg laying for spring hatchings," Mr Armstrong said.

Chemicals for locust control are available free of charge from farmers local Livestock, Health and Pest Authority (LHPA).

"Landholders must also continue to report egg laying to their local LHPA to allow for plans to be made for control activities as spring approaches," he said.

Under favourable conditions, the Australian Plague Locust Commission is expecting the upcoming spring to possibly be one of the biggest locust seasons on record.

"With reports of diminishing numbers and varying life stages rather than neat generational patterns the current situation is manageable.

"However the potential of even these low density swarms in the southern, central and western areas cannot be underestimated.

"Help all of us protect our spring crops by reporting and acting on these pests now. We don't want to leave it until too late," Mr Armstrong concluded.

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