

# Rural Lands News

June 2019

## Hungerford Field Day

James Theuerkauf and Tay Proud attended this years 30th Hungerford Field Day with over 625 people in attendance. Landholders from both sides of the border were keen to obtain information about:

- Wild dogs
- Biosecurity
- Pest animals
- Pest weeds

Tay is Council's Biosecurity Engagement Officer. This is a part-time, funded position to support the Bulloo Shire Biosecurity Enhancement Project. Tay is assisting landholders to develop their own Property Pest Management Plans in line with the Bulloo Shire Biosecurity Plan. Talk to Tay about developing a Property Pest Management Plan for your place today.



Photo: left to right - James Theuerkauf, Rural Lands Officer and Tay Proud, Biosecurity Engagement Officer.

## Feral Pigs

Feral pigs are typically smaller, leaner and more muscular than domestic pigs with well developed shoulders and necks, smaller, shorter hindquarters. The body is usually covered in sparse, coarse hair and they have a longer, larger snout, longer tusks, a straighter tail and narrower back than domestic pigs. Feral pigs are mostly black, buff-coloured or spotted black and white. Adult female feral pigs usually weigh 60-75kg, while males usually weigh 90-110kg.

Pigs feed on seed, sugar cane and grain crops, fruit and vegetables crops. Pigs can also transport weeds, damage and foul the water in tanks, bore drains and silt up troughs. They also damage fences and dam walls.

If you have a feral pig problem, call Council for more information.



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### **Biosecurity Act 2014 - the general biosecurity obligation for livestock**

As a livestock producer you will need to take an active role in managing biosecurity risks under your control. You will not be expected to know about all biosecurity risks, but you will be expected to know about those associated with your day-to-day activities and your hobbies.

The general biosecurity obligation means you will need to ensure your activities do not spread a pest, disease or contaminant.

You will need to:

- Take all reasonable and practical steps to prevent or minimise each biosecurity risk.
- Minimise the likelihood of the risk causing a biosecurity event and limit the consequences of such an event.
- Prevent or minimise the adverse effects the risk could have and refrain from doing anything that might exacerbate the adverse effects.

A biosecurity risk exists when you deal with any biosecurity matter, including a pest, disease or contaminant, or with something that could carry one of these, such as animals, plants, soil and equipment that could carry a pest, disease or contaminant.

A biosecurity event is caused by a pest, disease or contaminant that is, or is likely to become, a significant problem for your industry, human health, social amenity, the economy or the environment.

Where a specific and significant threat exists, regulations or other measures may be introduced to specify how the general biosecurity obligation is to be met.

You can read more about the *Biosecurity Act 2014* and the general biosecurity obligation on DAF's website at [www.daf.qld.gov.au](http://www.daf.qld.gov.au) or call Council for more information.

The Bulloo Shire Biosecurity Enhancement Project is funded by the Queensland and Australian Governments as part of the Queensland Feral Pest Initiative.



**Queensland  
Government**



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### **Weeds**

There are some unusual plants that are appearing due to flood and rain. If you are unsure of a weed, please contact James.