

AEPMA

MAGAZINE



STEVE BELL - KEYNOTE SPEAKER

LEADERSHIP UNDER PRESSURE

2025 AWARDS

ENSYSTEX SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

BASF 2025 PEST MANAGER OF THE YEAR AWARD

AWPMA EXCELLENCE AWARD

PEST PHOTOS WORTH A THOUSAND LAUGHS

ENTER AEPMA'S NEW "SHUTTERBUGS" COMPETITION

PESTiCON

2025

6-8 AUGUST

ADELAIDE CONVENTION CENTRE, ADELAIDE SA

ADAPT
& THRIVE:
NAVIGATING
CHANGE IN PEST
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PESTICON 2025 - PROGRAM RELEASED

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AEPMA MAGAZINE

SHUTTERBUGS WANTED

SNAP, SEND, AND WIN!

Pest control isn't always serious business. In between the inspections, treatments, and unexpected surprises, there are moments that just make you laugh. Now's your chance to turn those hilarious pest encounters into prizes.

Introducing "Shutterbugs" – AEPMA's first-ever funny pest photo competition.



HERE'S HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

- Take a funny pest-related photo while on the job
- Send it to info@aepma.com.au
- Make sure it lands with us by 31st May 2025
- Cross your fingers and hope your shot stands out

Judging will be based on originality, humour, and how well the photo captures the wild and wonderful reality of pest management.

28 CLOSING DATE: 31st MAY 2025

Thanks to Sundew Solutions for backing this lighthearted look at our work



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ENGAGING.
VIBRANT.
EXPERIENCED.
UNFORGETTABLE.



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WELCOME

This edition marks a powerful moment in pest management—one that blends tradition with transformation.

With Pesticon 2025 fast approaching, we're not just counting down to a conference—we're stepping into a conversation about the future of our industry. From climate-driven pest behaviour to cutting-edge tech, this issue captures the pulse of what matters most to pest professionals right now.

Inside, you'll meet voices shaping the direction we're heading. Keynote speaker Steve Bell reminds us that resilience isn't theory—it's practice, forged through challenge. At the AWPMA breakfast, Taryn Brumfitt brings a bold perspective on leadership and empowerment.

You'll also find moments of levity—from pest photo competitions to stories from the field that prove this work is as human as it is technical.

This magazine isn't a sideline update. It's a snapshot of a living, evolving profession—grounded in science, driven by ethics, and fuelled by people.

Let's get to work.

Be Surprised...

We invite you to Be Surprised with what South Australia has to offer. A visit to Adelaide offers delegates easy access to beautiful beaches, with the world-famous regions of the Barossa and McLaren Vale less than an hour away. Adelaide has an enviable variety of globally renowned restaurants and wine bars and a fun laneway culture.

Plan your next business event now, visit:

www.businesseventsadelaide.com.au



Welcome Message

Vasili Tsoutouras
AEPMA President



As AEPMA President, I'm excited to invite you to Pesticon 2025—Australia's premier event for pest management professionals. This year's program is packed with real-world insights, emerging tech, and practical strategies to keep your business ahead of the curve. Whether you're new to the game or a seasoned pro, you'll find content that hits home.

We're tackling the big issues head-on: new pests, changing regulations, smarter tools, and the rising push for sustainability. Pesticon 2025 is your chance to reset, refocus, and lead with confidence.

Our keynote speaker, Steve Bell—Everest summiteer and leadership expert—will share powerful lessons on resilience and decision-making in high-stakes environments. His message couldn't be more relevant to pest managers navigating constant change.

Beyond the main stage, expect expert sessions, fresh ideas, and tools you can use straight away. Sustainability is front and centre too, with a spotlight on eco-friendly solutions that don't sacrifice performance.

And of course, there's the networking. This is your chance to connect with peers, build partnerships, and share what's working.

If you're serious about staying sharp and future-ready, Pesticon 2025 is where you need to be. I look forward to seeing you there.



HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

**STRONGER TOGETHER: JOIN AUSTRALIA'S
LEADING PEST MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION**

Join AEPMA to stand out as a trusted, professional pest manager.

Membership gives you access to training, Codes of best Practice, Exclusive Resources, and real-time support—so you're not just keeping up, you're leading the pack.

Visit aepma.com.au or email info@aepma.com.au for more information

WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN AEPMA



REPRESENT YOUR INDUSTRY

Have a say on key
issues facing
pest management



NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

Connect with other
pest management
professionals



CODES & RESOURCES

Locate best practice
codes of practice
and more



The voice of the
Australian Pest
Management Industry



PESTiCON

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**ADAPT
& THRIVE:
NAVIGATING
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MANAGEMENT**

**WHY PESTICON
2025 SHOULD BE
IN YOUR DIARY**

PESTICON 2025 IS COMING TO ADELAIDE FROM 6-8 AUGUST 2025, WITH A PROGRAM DESIGNED TO CHALLENGE THE STATUS QUO, OPEN UP CONVERSATIONS WE NEED TO HAVE, AND EQUIP PEST MANAGERS WITH TOOLS TO THRIVE IN THE FACE OF CHANGE.

Held at the world class Adelaide Convention Centre, this year's theme—Adapt and Thrive: Navigating Change in Pest Management—isn't just a catchy title. It's the thread running through every session, keynote, and networking moment.

First impressions matter, and the Welcome Reception, sponsored by Ensystex on Wednesday night sets the tone. It's more than just drinks and handshakes—it's a moment to meet your peers, hear from the AEPMA President, and honour the industry's commitment to sustainability with the AEPMA Sustainability Award.

Thursday kicks off early with the AWPMA Networking Breakfast, hosted by Envu. If you want to connect with forward-thinking women in pest management, this is where you'll want to be.

Then it's straight into a powerful keynote from Steve Bell, an Everest guide who knows a thing or two about risk, resilience, and leadership under pressure. His message? In adversity, there's opportunity.

But it's not all inspiration without application. Thursday's sessions dive into automation, digital tools, and how technology is actively reshaping pest control.

The panel on AI, drones and smart sensors is especially timely for businesses looking to scale or pivot.

Then on the Thursday afternoon, Syngenta will once again be hosting Happy Hour Drinks – this time at The District, a small microbrewery – just moments' walk from the Convention Centre – a great opportunity to kick back, relax and catch up with friends

old and new and test your knowledge at the inaugural "Pesties Pub Quiz".

Friday takes a step further with a deep dive into the science behind our changing environment. Dr Theo Evans from UWA explores how climate shifts are affecting termite behaviour—critical knowledge for anyone working in termite-prone regions. And if you're mentoring or hiring, you'll want to catch the session on preparing the next generation of pest managers.

Friday night join us for the Industry Awards Gala Dinner, kindly sponsored by Rentokil Initial and the announcement of the much anticipated Excellence Award 2025, sponsored by Envu and the Pest Manager of the Year Awards 2025 – kindly sponsored by BASF.

The Exhibition Hall is another reason not to skip this event. It's the space where products are tested, innovations are explained, and you get real-time answers from suppliers who actually understand the pressures you're under.

Then there's Adelaide. Known for its wine, food and short escapes to Kangaroo Island or the Hills, it's not a bad place to wind down once the conference wraps. Extend your trip and turn a work week into something more.

With attractive early bird rates available until 30 June 2025 - Full delegate passes include all sessions, materials, social functions, and access to the expo floor and start from \$550 for members and \$575 for non-members. Register before 30 June to go into the draw to win a PelGar \$500 Pre-Paid Mastercard. (Prize drawn 8/8/25).

If your business has plans to evolve—or even just survive—the next wave of industry change, Pesticon 2025 is where that planning starts.

IT'S NOT JUST A CONFERENCE. IT'S A STRATEGIC INVESTMENT IN WHERE PEST CONTROL IS HEADING.



Click here to view the
full program





FROM EVEREST TO ADELAIDE

You've probably faced your own version of a mountain this year. A business challenge that felt bigger than expected. A goal that kept shifting. A decision that had no clear path.

Steve Bell knows that feeling—but he's faced it while dangling off ice walls at 8,000 metres with frostbitten fingers and a team depending on him to make it home.

He's not your typical keynote speaker—and that's exactly the point.

Steve Bell isn't here to deliver platitudes or reheated TED Talk wisdom. He's a former British Paratrooper turned mountaineer who led guided expeditions up the world's toughest peaks—Everest,

Denali, Elbrus, Aconcagua—and turned his grit into a multi-million-dollar adventure company that redefined high-altitude tourism. But behind every summit photo is a hard-earned lesson about leadership, risk, and mental clarity under pressure.

His session at Pesticon 2025 isn't just for the thrill-seekers in the room. It's for anyone running a business in a high-stakes, rapidly evolving environment—sound familiar? Pest control today demands more than technical skill. It demands the ability to adapt

quickly, make decisions without a map, and bring others with you while the ground is shifting.

Steve's talk, *Ascending Through Adversity*, isn't about climbing mountains—it's about what happens when your path is steep, your plan goes sideways, and you have to find a way forward anyway.

He's brutally honest, funny in the way only someone who's suffered properly can be, and generous with what he's learned—about resilience, calculated risk, and staying calm when it counts.

You'll walk away with more than inspiration. You'll walk away rethinking how you lead through uncertainty.

This is the kind of keynote that lingers. The kind that sparks conversations over lunch. The kind that makes you stop and recalibrate, in the best way.



STEVE BELL PESTICON 2025 KEYNOTE SPEAKER

A FASCINATING TALK.'

'AN EXCEPTIONAL STORYTELLER.'

'ONE OF THE BEST KEYNOTES I'VE HEARD.'

**DON'T MISS IT. STEVE BELL TAKES THE STAGE ON THURSDAY 7 AUGUST
AT PESTICON 2025.**



YOU'RE COMING TO ADELAIDE FOR PESTICON 2025, AND WHILE THE CONFERENCE PROGRAM IS PACKED WITH VALUABLE CONTENT, THERE'S STILL PLENTY OF OPPORTUNITY TO ENJOY SOME DOWNTIME. INDULGE IN GREAT FOOD, SOAK UP SOME FRESH AIR, AND EXPERIENCE A SIDE OF ADELAIDE YOU MIGHT NOT HAVE SEEN BEFORE - ALL WITHOUT MISSING A BEAT OF THE ACTION AT THE CONFERENCE.

The beauty of Adelaide is how compact it is. You can walk from the Convention Centre to the heart of the city in minutes. Start your morning with a brisk walk along the River Torrens or grab a coffee from one of the laneway cafés near Leigh Street.

The city wakes up early, and the coffee scene means you'll be wide-eyed before the first session starts.

Adelaide won't demand a full itinerary. It gives you back those in-between moments that often get lost during a conference.



If you are extending your stay or looking for a bite later in the evening - there's still plenty to explore. Adelaide's laneways like Peel Street and Leigh Street are dotted with small bars and eateries worth a visit. Prefer something more relaxed? The West End pubs offer a casual option, and the Central Market is great for a quick bite if you're around before it closes.



If you're up for a quick reset, the tram to Glenelg is free in the city and gets you to the beach in under 30 minutes. Walk the jetty, watch the sun go down over the ocean, grab fish and chips or a gelato, and be back at your hotel before too late. No over-planning needed—just a jacket and a bit of spare time.



Keen to extend your stay?

A world of adventure awaits, beyond Adelaide. Within an hour's drive, you'll find yourself at some of the world's most magnificent beaches, peninsulas, wineries, and countryside. A few hours away, you can reach the outback, an abundance of national parks, and the famous Kangaroo Island. South Australia is mother nature's best work.



So bring your notebook for the sessions - but also be ready to embrace a few moments of unexpected enjoyment. Adelaide has a way of making even a brief stay feel like a refreshing experience, all without missing out on the conference.



Take a quick walk to the Art Gallery of South Australia or explore the Botanic Gardens - both are just a short distance away, making them easy to visit during your free time. No need for long detours or transport planning. It's all right there.



To learn more
southaustralia.com

TARYN BRUMFITT: REDEFINING BEAUTY AND EMPOWERING CHANGE AT THE AWPMA BREAKFAST - PESTICON 2025

ENGAGING.
VIBRANT.
EXPERIENCED.
UNFORGETTABLE.



Taryn Brumfitt is our special guest at the AWPMA (Australian Women in Pest Management) breakfast during Pesticon 2025. Taryn, a globally recognised body image activist, filmmaker, and the founder of the Body Image Movement, has inspired millions with her message of body positivity and self-empowerment. Her powerful work in challenging societal beauty standards resonates far beyond the world of body image, offering invaluable lessons on resilience, leadership, and transformation—lessons that are incredibly relevant to all of us in the pest management industry.

Taryn's personal journey from struggling with body image issues to becoming a champion for self-acceptance and social change is nothing short of remarkable. Her advocacy has shifted the conversation about beauty and worth, encouraging individuals to embrace themselves as they are. Through her documentaries and speaking engagements, Taryn has created a global movement that challenges perceptions and empowers people to feel confident and valued—no matter their appearance.

At Pesticon 2025, Taryn will share her insights at the AWPMA breakfast, where she'll discuss how her principles of empowerment, self-belief, and resilience can apply to the challenges faced by women in the pest management industry. Women in our field are continuously breaking barriers, innovating, and leading the way forward, and Taryn's talk will provide powerful tools to foster that same sense of courage and self-assurance in both our personal and professional lives.

While pest management may seem worlds apart from body image advocacy, the themes Taryn champions—embracing who we are, tackling challenges head-on, and leading with confidence—are universal. Just as we confront new regulations, evolving technologies, and diverse customer needs, Taryn has shown us how to transform obstacles into opportunities for growth. Her approach encourages us to rethink how we perceive ourselves, our businesses, and our potential for innovation.

She has taken the stage for some of the world's most iconic brands like Google and GE, and inspired scores of Australian and international organisations including L'Oreal, Sky News, Lorna Jane, Business Chicks and CPA.

Taryn's presence at the AWPMA breakfast is a special moment for all of us, as it allows us to learn from a powerful woman who has used her voice to create meaningful change. Her message will inspire those of us who sometimes struggle with self-doubt or face challenges in navigating a male-dominated industry. Taryn's words will motivate us to embrace our strengths, value our contributions, and continue pushing forward with resilience and confidence.

From a Facebook post to a worldwide movement, Taryn knows what's possible when you embrace your life and purpose - because she's done it.

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MANAGEMENT

REGISTRATION RATES

Full Delegate registration includes 2 streams, conference materials, lunches, morning tea, Friday breakfast, Welcome Reception, "Happy Hour" Drinks and Conference Gala Dinner (Partner not included in rate)

**EARLYBIRD
REGISTRATION**
CLOSES 30th June 2025
*Groups of 10 or more will be
at a rate of \$500.00 each

| AEPMA MEMBER | Earlybird | After 30/06/2025 |
|---|-----------|-------------------------------|
| First Delegate | \$550 | \$600 |
| Each additional delegate | \$500 | \$550 |
| NON MEMBER | Earlybird | After 30/06/2025 |
| First Delegate | \$575 | \$625 |
| Each additional delegate | \$525 | \$575 |
| NON-DELEGATE PARTNER ATTENDANCE AT SOCIAL FUNCTIONS | | |
| Welcome Reception – 6th August 2025 | | \$90 |
| "Happy Hour" Drinks – 7th August 2025 | | \$90 |
| Conference Gala Dinner – 8th August 2025 | | \$160 |
| SPECIAL PRICE: Partners attending all 3 social functions | | \$340 \$320 |

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WIN \$500
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EARLYBIRD COMPETITION

Register before 30 June 2025 for your chance to win a
PelGar \$500 pre-paid Mastercard !

Don't miss out—secure your spot early and be in the draw!

www.aepma.com.au/conference/registration



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KEY BUSINESS PARTNER



Builders Be Aware

Builders and Certifiers need to be aware that not all systems promoted for the protection of New Buildings from termite attack are fit for purpose. As an industry body, AEPMA recommends that builders always look for the security provided from using ABCB CodeMark® Certified systems.

As an Association, AEPMA has acted against some types of products through varied communications with the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA), Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB), State building regulators and others.

The Use of Boron Compounds for Buildings Under Construction Concern is expressed with claims made for some boron compounds. Builders and certifiers should look very closely at the supporting documentation provided with boron compounds before considering their use.

It is also noted that the APVMA registered labels for boron compounds fail to provide approval for some of the uses being claimed for termite protection of new dwellings in accord with the NCC.

Boron products are registered as timber preservatives, providing protection against fungal and insect attack. Current registrations do not provide for these compounds to be used to provide termite management to buildings under construction in accord with the Australian Standard AS3660:2014 Termite management, Part 1: New Building Work.

The use of boron compounds is not compliant with Section 7 of the above Australian Standard. This Standard includes methods to deter concealed entry by termites from the soil to the building above the inspection zone.

No boron products have shown evidence of suitability for new building work in accord with AS 3660:2014 Termite management, Part 3: Assessment criteria for termite management systems.



No boron compounds are currently certified in the ABCB's CodeMark® Australia Scheme.

For this reason, Professional Pest Managers, Builders and Certifiers must ensure they study all 'expert opinion' reports very carefully.

Before relying on any independent report, we strongly recommend that you contact the author(s) of the report, to ensure the report remains current. Also check the credentials of the author to ensure they are an expert.

You MUST also get a copy of, and read, EVERY report that is referenced; and contact the authors of those reports too! And be especially diligent if the product is only supported by an expert opinion provided by the marketer of the product or system.

Where warranties are offered for any termite protection system, builders should satisfy themselves of the ability of the company to make payment should an expensive claim be made.

Be Aware... If you get it wrong, and termites attack the property. It could prove very costly!



We believe that the use of boron compounds for the protection of new building work is likely to be considered as misleading homeowners who rely upon it to protect their valued property. When a termite infestation occurs, who will the homeowner turn to, to address their expectations and their financial costs?





Talk to Heiko about AuroTrap™
Urban and Rural multi-benefits.



Comprehensive IoT based Rodent Control.
Auto reset, 24/7 real-time kill status reports.



AuroTrap™ PESTTECH
TAKE BACK CONTROL
Rodent Multi-Kill Device

Don't stop at one! Get them all! ...with AuroTrap™ Rodent Multi-Kill Trap.

AuroTrap™ is the multi-kill rodent control device for Rats and Mice, delivering optimal kill outcomes for control of persistent rodent infestations. The AuroTrap™ is leading-edge IoT (Internet of Things) pest management technology. Trap maintenance software connects 'you and your phone' in real time, for accurate, efficient, time-saving, trap status information.

We understand the needs of today's Pest Technicians - the pressure to deliver enhanced control outcomes for demanding clients and environments. AuroTrap™ automated multi-kill systems bring measurable performance. Your business will reap benefits of multi-kill capability - including scalability, efficiency, profitability, ease of service and more free time.

AuroTrap™ comes in two versions, "Nature" and "Collect". The Nature model lets nature take care of rodent carcasses which are recycled into the forest environment; and the "Collect" version which has a compartment to discreetly hide carcasses from public view.

- Both Nature or Collect kill traps deliver up to 80 activation kills / per trap CO2 reset.
- AuroTrap™ Kills rodents humanely and reliably. Without use of rodenticides.
- Transform your business model with IoT interactive AuroTrap™ automations.
- Free up valuable time - reduce false call outs - new efficiency for trap outcomes.
- Real-time trap status reporting and kill-count data. Proof of effectiveness on site.

Inquire about PESTSTOP's range of automated pest control technology and solutions. We Deliver to you. Increase business competitiveness, scalability, free-up your time and profitability. We're on your side, call today and step up your game.

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**The clear
choice for
fly control**



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- Enables users to simply and precisely place bait where nuisance flies naturally go
- Drying clear and odourless Seclira Pressurised Fly Bait is the perfect solution for sensitive areas
- Fast-acting and highly efficacious as a unique near field attractant
- Long-lasting efficacy controlling nuisance flies for 4-6 weeks

For more information on Seclira® Pressurised Fly Bait, visit pest-control.basf.com.au or contact your local BASF representative on **1800 558 399**

BASF
We create chemistry

How to Deal with European Wasp Nests: Insights from Industry Experts

On January 13, 2025, ABC Hobart aired an insightful interview by David Reilly featuring two leading voices in pest management: Myles Dunbabin Fazackerely of Tasman Pest Management and David Priddy, CEO of Sundew Solutions. Together, they explored how to deal with these dangerous pests and highlighted the ground-breaking VESPEX Solution System for controlling European wasp populations.

European wasps are not native to Australia but have adapted alarmingly well to the environment, causing significant ecological and social issues. They form large nests, with each one capable of hosting thousands of wasps. Their presence can:
Pose a serious risk to humans and animals through painful and potentially dangerous stings.

Disrupt local ecosystems by preying on native species and competing for resources. Create nuisances around food, drink, and outdoor events.

During the interview, Myles and David highlighted the VESPEX Solution System, a revolutionary approach to European wasp management. Here's how it works:

Targeted Baiting: VESPEX uses a specially formulated bait that is highly attractive to wasps but harmless to other species when used as directed.

Remote Baiting: By strategically placing bait stations, pest management professionals can lure worker wasps to collect the bait and transport it back to the nest.

Colony Elimination: Once ingested by the

wasps in the nest, the bait works to rapidly reduce the wasp biomass and eliminate the colony, often within days.

This innovative method avoids the dangers of physically accessing wasp nests, making it safer for pest control operators and the public.

As Myles and David emphasised, tackling European wasps isn't a DIY job. Disturbing a nest can provoke a dangerous swarm attack, and improperly applied treatments may fail to address the root of the problem. Pest management professionals are equipped with the expertise and tools to implement solutions like VESPEX safely and effectively.

"It's about working smarter, not harder," said Myles. "The VESPEX system allows us to neutralize the problem without unnecessary risks or harm to the environment."

David Priddy added, "Sundew Solutions is committed to providing cutting-edge, eco-friendly pest control technologies, and VESPEX is a testament to that vision. We're proud to empower pest management professionals to address European wasps efficiently and responsibly."

[Listen to the Full Interview](#)

Want to learn more about how to protect your property from European wasps and the science behind the VESPEX Solution System?

PERMETHRIN 40:60 vs. 25:75

The Ratio Makes All The Difference.

StarrdustPRO: The Power of 40:60 – Superior Knockdown, Longer Residual, Better Control

When it comes to insecticidal dust, not all permethrin formulations are created equal. **StarrdustPRO** is powered by **permethrin 40:60**, delivering superior performance where it counts.

- **More Potent, Less Product Needed** – The higher **cis isomer (40%)** in StarrdustPRO means greater potency, ensuring faster knockdown and improved control over pests. Inferior 25:75 formulations simply **don't pack the same punch**.
- **Longer Residual Protection** – With **40:60**, StarrdustPRO remains active for extended periods, keeping pests at bay long after application. **25:75 formulations degrade faster**, reducing effectiveness and requiring more frequent reapplications.
- **Built for Professional Results** – Australian pest professionals trust **StarrdustPRO** because it delivers reliable, long-lasting control, even in challenging environments. Don't settle for weaker formulations that fade before the job is done.

Choose **StarrdustPRO** with **40:60 permethrin**—because when it comes to pest control, **performance matters**.



sundew
PROFESSIONAL SOLUTIONS

Shutterbugs Wanted - Snap, Send and Win!!

Pest control isn't always serious business. In between the inspections, treatments and the unexpected surprises, there are moments that just make you laugh. Now's your chance to turn those hilarious pest encounters into prizes.

Introducing Shutterbugs—AEPMA's first-ever funny pest photo competition kindly sponsored by our friends at Sundew Solutions.

Seen a rat with a taste for fine dining? Caught a cockroach mid-catwalk? Snapped a possum with attitude? If it made you laugh, we want to see it. We're looking for those offbeat, unexpected and downright funny moments that come with the job.

To sweeten the deal, the top three entries will each score a Sundew Prize Pack.

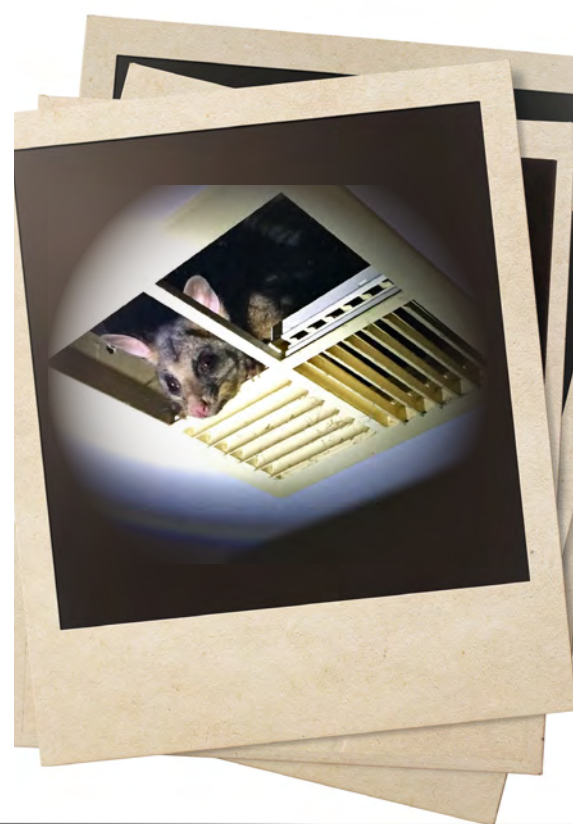
Here's how to get involved:

Take a funny pest-related photo while on the job

Send it to info@aepma.com.au

Make sure it lands with us by 31st May 2025

Cross your fingers and hope your shot stands out



Possum in a roof - courtesy of Emma Mendelsohn



SHUTTERBUGS WANTED SNAP, SEND, AND WIN!

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Judging will be based on originality, humour, and how well the photo captures the wild and wonderful reality of pest management.

CLOSING DATE: 31st MAY 2025

Thanks to Sundew Solutions for backing this lighthearted look at our work

Mice are a growing pest challenge, especially in supermarkets. Stricter regulations limit control options, requiring smarter strategies, new lures, and adaptable methods to stay ahead.

By Gerwyn Jones – Asia Pacific Manager,
PelGar International Limited

Recently I asked my fellow pest control colleagues what rodent is causing them the most concern. The answer was mice.

They even said they would rather tackle a black rat (*Rattus rattus*) infestation than a mouse one. This intrigued me and thought it would be useful to dig a little further and see why mice are becoming more prevalent.

There were a few common themes that stood out from my investigation, one of them were sites with abundance of different food sources, properties operating 24/7 and the reluctance by the client to have traps/bait stations on the shop floor. This was of course supermarkets.

A quick internet search will reveal many cases around the world where mice have gotten out of control within supermarkets and through social media have been reported very quickly and made the National news.

There was an incident at a major supermarket in New Zealand a few years ago that dominated the media channels at the time. It was discovered that baby food pouches on the supermarket shelves had small puncture marks in them. Initially it was thought that this was done intentionally, and the NZ Police were involved. Further infestation revealed that this was mice damage.

A full nationwide product recall of three baby food brands was carried out by the supermarket chain at a considerable cost not only in monetary terms but to the reputation of the brand of the manufacturer and the supermarket.

GLOBAL CHALLENGES FACING MICE CONTROL



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A quick internet search will reveal many cases around the world where mice have gotten out of control within supermarkets and through social media have been reported very quickly and made the National news.

There was an incident at a major supermarket in New Zealand a few years ago that dominated the media channels at the time. It was discovered that baby food pouches on the supermarket shelves had small puncture marks in them. Initially it was thought that this was done intentionally, and the NZ Police were involved. Further infestation revealed that this was mice damage.

A full nationwide product recall of three baby food brands was carried out by the supermarket chain at a considerable cost not only in monetary terms but to the reputation of the brand of the manufacturer and the supermarket.

The supermarket chain and its main distribution centre had pest control programs in place, but something went drastically wrong.

This is an example of the challenges we face as pest controllers to keep our client's pest free but due to many different variables the job is getting a lot more complex.

There has been a move globally to reduce the amount of toxins that we are able to use on certain sites, and in some cases even the external bait stations are required to have a non-toxic block or some form of kill trap.

In Australia they have a supermarket chain that will not allow break back traps within any of their stores.

As an industry we are seeing our pest control toolbox being raided, and more and more of our tools for mice control are being taken away from us.

So, what do we do?

We really need to adapt and understand what we are looking to

control and the parameters that have been given to us by the client, and in some part get back to basics. In the past we would have got away with placing a few mouse stations around the site loaded with rodenticide bait with a view to achieve some sort of control or monitoring.

Now we need to take some quality time looking for the usual signs and come up with a plan which involves several different control and restriction methods.

Understanding your client is very important and could easily bring in extra revenue. With Australia exporting more and more goods into global markets your customer may be looking into entering these territories much means they will have to comply with the standards imposed by their end customer, such as YUM, BRC, AIB etc..

Such compliance and extra reporting will require more time and therefore more revenue for the pest controller.

Keeping your finger on the pulse with what is happening in the industry and what new products are coming through for mice control. This sector has really started to improve with many manufacturers introducing new stations/traps and what is most interesting is the introduction of new rodent lures.

There is a train of thought that mice

with their natural curiosity habits will enter a trap/station just to have a look, more recently this is not the case and as pest controllers we need to entice them in.

Several years ago, the only lure that I could recall was Provoke from Bell Labs, now this space is really starting to open up with different matrixes and smells. My advice would be to give them a go and see which one suits you best, plus understand what you are targeting.

At PelGar we have several different bait flavours depending on which country we are going into. We even have an amaretto one!

Think outside the box when choosing what lure to use, especially if there is an abundance of food, maybe look at putting nesting material such as cotton wool on the trap. There was a lone mouse on a Conservation Estate in New Zealand that eluded capture for quite some time, they were eventually caught using the litter from the mouse cage at the local pet shop as an attractant.

If you are going to clean your traps make sure that you only lightly brush them and oil the springs with either linseed oil or beeswax, you want to make sure you keep the pheromones intact to entice more rodents onto them.

When placing your traps, many

of the rodent stations now come equipped with tabs at the back to securely hold the rear of the traps in place. This seemingly insignificant feature plays a crucial role. When a trap is triggered and its rear is firmly anchored to the floor, it results in the transfer of greater kinetic energy into the unit, leading to a more efficient and successful kill compared to an unsecured trap.

In closing, one little gem I would like to share with you is a relatively unknown scientific paper that was published in 2017 by M. Frankova, V. Stejskal & R. Aulicky.

The title being “Suppression of food intake by house mouse (*Mus musculus*) following the ingestion of brodifacoum-based rodenticide bait.”

In essence the paper shows that once mice had started to consume a rodent bait which contained brodifacoum then their appetite was suppressed to such an extent that at the point of 100% mortality overall mean food consumption was 75% lower than mice which had not consumed the brodifacoum bait.

Food for thought?



Now available from your local Garrards Branch

CONVENIENT SHAKER PACK FOR INCONVENIENT PEST.

The power of ADVION® Fire Ant Bait now comes in a convenient 1 kg shaker pack to treat mounds any time of year and keep areas free of this aggressive, painful and invasive pest. ADVION® Fire Ant Bait provides control of foraging fire ants within 12 to 48 hours and total colony control within 3-14 days depending on nest numbers and population densities.

The bait is highly attractive to Red Imported and Tropical Fire Ant species and is one of the key products in the Fire Ant Eradication Project.

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For more information, contact Syngenta on 1800 022 035, go to www.syngentappm.com.au or visit your local Garrards branch.

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 **Advion® FireAnt**
Bait

 syngenta

Exciting New Leadership: Steve Bitter joins Syngenta Professional Solutions

Syngenta is pleased to announce the appointment of Steve Bitter as the new Head of Syngenta Professional Solutions for Australia & New Zealand and the role of Director for Macspred Pty Ltd. The previous Head of Professional Solutions ANZ – Peter Holmes – has been appointed as Head of Marketing for Syngenta Australia & New Zealand, effective January 1, 2025.

Steve brings a wealth of experience and an entrepreneurial vision to lead the Professional Solutions team into its next phase of growth.

For Steve, this new role is all about Syngenta customers:

“I’m very excited to take on this new challenge as Head of Syngenta Professional Solutions ANZ. Having worked closely with our customers across various roles, I’ve gained deep appreciation for their needs and aspirations. My goal is to leverage this understanding to enable our customers to succeed in new and innovative ways.

I also look forward to building on our strong foundations and driving

growth through collaboration, innovation, and customer-centric strategies”

Since joining Syngenta in 2016 as a Territory Sales Manager, Steve has demonstrated his leadership capabilities and deep industry knowledge.

With a background rich in various business and customer-facing roles, Steve is well-equipped to lead the Professional Solutions ANZ team into the future. His appointment brings fresh perspectives to the business’ strategic direction.



Steve Bitter- Head of Syngenta Professional Solutions for Australia & New Zealand

Making mozzie treatments work harder for you and your business

By Carole Cast, Business Manager for Syngenta

The Australian mosquito season is in full swing already, with outbreaks across several states due to the wetter weather.

Making the most of every opportunity is the key for any Professional Pest Management business, and the revenue profile of mosquito treatments should make them a staple in your pest control service.

Here are some best practices for mosquito treatments to increase revenue for your business:
Offer comprehensive service packages:

Include mosquito treatments as a part of your general pest control packages

Upsell mosquito treatments to existing customers while on-site for other services

Focus on education and communication:
Educate your customers on mosquito biology, behaviour, and health risks

Explain the concept of treating areas/vectors rather than spraying mosquitoes directly

Discuss the importance of source reduction with customers on their property, and also encourage them to talk to neighbours about eliminating any standing water, like potted planters around doorways.

Implement Integrated Pest Management (IPM):

Conduct thorough inspections

Emphasise source reduction
Combine larval and adult control methods

Use proper application equipment and techniques
Invest in proper equipment:
Read each product label, and use the recommended application equipment
Maintain equipment regularly, and be sure to thoroughly clean when changing products. Tank cleaner is recommended.

Use effective products:
Utilise long-lasting residual insecticides like DEMAND 100CS Insecticide with iCap technology

Highlight benefits such as DEMAND 100CS's 3-month outdoor control, and up to 14 weeks control of mosquitos when applied to foliage

We recommend retreatments at



10 weeks for Mosquito Control, giving Customer Satisfaction, peace of mind and your business a recurring revenue stream.

Target high-value customers:
Focus on residential customers who are willing to pay for regular service
Pursue commercial clients and public space managers (for example, councils, golf and bowling clubs etc.)

Offer flexible treatment plans:
Provide options for regular maintenance (for example, every 10-12 weeks) and if possible, book in the next treatment before you leave the customer's premises

Tailor services to customer needs and local mosquito seasons
Stay compliant and safe:
Know and follow local council and state regulations

Use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
Ensure all staff are properly trained and certified

Demonstrate value:
Highlight the cost-effectiveness of treatments

Emphasise the improved quality of life for customers

Monitor and adapt:
Keep track of local mosquito species and behaviours

Stay informed about new products



and techniques
Adjust strategies based on customer feedback and results

By implementing these practices, pest control businesses can maximise revenue from mosquito treatments while providing high-quality, effective services to their customers.

A crucial benefit of DEMAND 100CS is its use of iCAP™ technology to extend its residual effect. This technology encases the active ingredient, lambda-cyhalothrin, in a polymer microcapsule suspended in water.

When a surface is treated, more than 64,000 microcaps per square metre stick to the treated surface. As insects land, the microcaps attach to their waxy cuticles and spread to other insects.

The smaller microcaps release the active ingredient quickly, resulting in fast knockdown. The larger microcaps remain intact longer providing residual effect.

DEMAND® 100CS is a cost-effective, long-lasting general pest spray for that can be used indoors and outdoors including foliage.

When applied to shrubs, DEMAND® 100CS controls mosquitoes for up to 14 weeks. DEMAND® 100CS also controls ants, cockroaches, fleas, flies, silverfish and spiders for up to



12 months indoors and 3 months outdoors.

The knockdown and residual aspects of DEMAND® 100CS that allows it to provide excellent control of mosquitoes. In order to provide A Life Uninterrupted for your customers we suggest that you offer a DEMAND® 100CS mosquito spray as an add-on to your routine service calls.

Kristy Dawson joins the Syngenta Professional Pest Management team

Syngenta Professional Pest Management are very pleased to announce that Kristy Dawson has joined the team as Territory Sales Manager. She will represent Syngenta's innovative range of pest management products and focus on delivering excellent customer service. Kristy is skilled in modern pest management practices with strong industry knowledge. Joining Syngenta from her most recent position as Trainer and Assessor at the MPL Training Centre, Kristy is well versed in delivering industry leading face-to-face training to professional pest technicians.

Prior to that Kristy worked as a pest manager, gaining experience in all facets of pest control administration and management; from bookings all the way through to contract negotiations in all areas, and including general pest, termites, bird proofing and pre-construction. Along with her certification in Urban Pest Management in Training & Assessment, Kristy's practical, hands-on experience brings added depth to helping customers in her role at Syngenta.


For Kristy, this new role is the pinnacle of a career in Pest Management



Kristy's strong knowledge of practical pest management enables her to assist Syngenta customers with anything product related. An amazing asset to the Syngenta PPM team. Don't hesitate to contact her for a chat either via email **Kristy.Dawson@syngenta.com** or mobile **0417 748 924**.

Syngenta are dedicated to delivering the best products and services that support the specific needs of the professional pest management industry. The Syngenta range continues to grow and expand. And Australia wide, more and more leading professional pest controllers are seeing the benefits to their businesses of working with Syngenta.

Whether it is the R&D based products that are giving them a competitive advantage or the customer support that helps them open new opportunities, Syngenta is here to support you.



PROFESSIONAL PEST MANAGEMENT



COST EFFECTIVE AND LONG LASTING.

DEMAND® 100CS Insecticide delivers long-lasting residual control of up to 12 months indoors and up to 3 months outdoors. PLUS it can be applied to foliage – a proven option for mosquito control.

DEMAND® 100CS is an economical general pest spray with the 1 L bottle mixing to 200 L spray at the high rate or 400 L at the maintenance rate.

FOR LIFE UNINTERRUPTED™

For more information visit www.syngentappm.com.au

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NEW REGULATIONS ON GLUE TRAPS

WHAT IT MEANS FOR PROFESSIONAL PEST MANAGERS

The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Regulation 2025 introduces significant changes to pest management practices in New South Wales, particularly the prohibition of glue traps for rodent control.

This shift raises pressing concerns for the pest management industry, especially in sensitive environments where traditional rodent control methods are not viable.

The entire state of New South Wales is designated as an area where glue traps are restricted.

The definition of a glue trap includes any device capable of capturing an animal using a non-drying adhesive.

Challenges for the Pest Management Industry



For professional pest managers, this prohibition presents serious challenges. Glue traps have been a critical tool in high-risk environments such as:

- Hospitals**
- Food manufacturing plants**
- Baby food production facilities**
- Aged care facilities**
- Pharmaceutical manufacturing sites**

In these settings, rodenticides are often prohibited due to the risk of chemical contamination.

Glue traps have provided an essential, non-toxic alternative for rodent monitoring and control, ensuring compliance with health and safety regulations.

Their removal as a pest control option could compromise both food safety standards and public health protections.

Additionally, alternative rodent control methods such as snap traps, electronic traps, and live capture traps may not always be effective in high-traffic areas where infestation control must be immediate and absolute. The loss of glue traps could also increase operational costs for pest managers who would be forced to implement more expensive and labour-intensive methods.

Seeking Clarification and Possible Exemptions

Given the importance of glue traps in sensitive environments, the Australian Environmental Pest Managers Association (AEPMA) is seeking clarification on whether licensed pest controllers may be eligible for exemptions under specific circumstances.

AEPMA is also inquiring whether there is an industry consultation process that could lead to amendments in the regulation, ensuring that pest management professionals retain access to effective tools while aligning with animal welfare priorities. Exemptions for certain high-risk industries may provide a balanced approach that meets both regulatory intent and industry needs.

Next Steps for Pest Managers

The implementation of this regulation underscores the importance of industry engagement with policymakers. Pest managers in NSW should stay informed about compliance requirements and potential alternatives.

AEPMA will continue to advocate on behalf of the industry and keep members updated on any developments regarding exemptions or alternative control measures.

If you are a pest manager affected by this regulation, we encourage you to share your insights and operational challenges with AEPMA to support an informed discussion with regulators.

Have Your Say

What are your thoughts on the proposed ban on glue traps?

Are there alternative solutions that meet both regulatory and industry needs?

Let us know your concerns and experiences so we can represent your voice in ongoing discussions.

AEPMA continues to liaise with regulatory authorities, including the NSW Department of Primary Industries and animal welfare bodies, to advocate for practical, science-based exemptions that support professional pest control in sensitive environments.

If you are interested in joining AEPMA's industry consultation efforts, please contact us to contribute your expertise and insights. (info@aepma.com.au)

YOUR NATIONAL VOICE IN PEST MANAGEMENT



Australia-wide support. Local knowledge. National Membership. Advocacy. PestCert Accreditation.

Join now at aepma.com.au

Managers all expect the best from their Pest Management Technicians.

What can we do to help get the best?

Imagine the satisfaction of witnessing a trainee's transformation into a confident, competent professional.

Can your technicians say “I’m proud to be a part of a professional team that sets industry standards”? It all starts with you.

Whether you’re just starting out or have long seen yourself as the mentor who shapes tomorrow’s experts, this is your moment to shine.

Training for Tomorrow’s Experts
In pest management, the strength of your business lies in the calibre of your team. A technician’s journey is only as robust as the support they receive.

We believe that every trainee should arrive with a spark of enthusiasm—a hunger to ask the essential questions:

What is the problem?
Where is the problem?
Why do they have a problem?
What solutions can we provide?
Where can we innovate?



This proactive curiosity is the cornerstone of mastering the pest management craft, ensuring that each new team member is not only learning processes but also understanding the reasons behind every decision.

A workplace that is more
Imagine a workplace where every job is more than just a task—it’s an opportunity for meaningful instruction, engaging discussion, and hands-on observation.

When your new trainees shadow experienced technicians, they absorb not only technical skills but also the professional ethos that defines your business and our industry. In such an environment, challenges become lessons, and everyday work transforms into a

dynamic learning experience.

Mentorship: The Catalyst for Excellence

The true difference in a trainee’s development is made by the mentor guiding them through the intricacies of pest management.

But what qualities make an effective mentor?

Licensed Expertise: The mentor must hold all the necessary qualifications, ensuring that they lead by example.

Extensive Experience: Years of hands-on work and overcoming diverse challenges equip mentors with invaluable insights.

Clear Communication: It’s essential for a mentor to explain processes in a way that is both understandable and relatable, sharing not just the “how” but the “why” behind every task.

Commitment to Safety & Best Practice: A mentor who demonstrates safe and effective practices sets a benchmark for trainees to emulate.

Professionalism: Conducting themselves with integrity and a consistent work ethic, mentors model the standards our industry demands.

Matching your new trainee with a

licensed technician is more than a pairing—it’s a commitment to excellence.

Time for Learning

By dedicating extra time for instruction and discussion during each job, we ensure that every task is a learning opportunity. When the schedule is designed with training in mind, there is ample space for observation, questions, and real-time feedback. This structured approach not only enriches the trainee’s experience but also strengthens the overall competence of your team.

The Reality of On-the-Job Training
In many workplaces, the expectation is that an extra pair of hands can simply slot into the usual workflow without disrupting efficiency. Often, the trainee is assigned to work alongside an experienced technician with the assumption that their presence will have little impact on the pace of operations.

Unfortunately, this can result in missed opportunities for thorough training.

When time becomes the enemy of learning, the valuable moments for discussion, clarification, and demonstration are lost.

At ProTrain, our approach is different. We advocate for a training model where every job is tailored to include a deliberate period for instruction.

A good mentor is the linchpin in the educational journey of any trainee.

By setting aside additional time, your workplace mentors are empowered to explain complex processes and provide detailed insights that can only be gained through observation and practice. This thoughtful allocation of time ensures that trainees are not just passive observers but active participants in every step of the process.

The result is a technician who is confident, competent, and capable of adapting their skills across a variety of workplace scenarios. A Closer Look: The RTO Perspective From the viewpoint of Registered Training Organisations (RTOs), the success of a trainee is measured by a blend of knowledge and hands-on skill. RTOs have clear benchmarks for assessing a technician's journey:

- Knowledge Absorption: It is crucial that trainees internalise the theoretical underpinnings of pest management.
- Skill Development: Practical skills must be honed through repeated practice and guided experience.
- Integrated Performance: A trainee's ability to combine learned knowledge with practical skills is key.

This includes:
Performing tasks across a range of workplace scenarios,

Demonstrating consistency in skill execution,

Showing a clear understanding of both the processes and the reasoning behind them, and
Adapting to varying contexts with confidence and precision.

A trainee must be rigorously assessed against each identified task in their unit or module, ensuring they meet every requirement of the competency framework. Only through this comprehensive evaluation can we be confident that the technician is prepared for the complexities of the industry. The assessment process is not merely a formality; it's a vital component of building a workforce that upholds the highest standards of pest management.

Partner with ProTrain for a Successful Future

At ProTrain, we are dedicated to bridging the gap between raw potential and professional excellence. Our training programs are designed to empower both trainees and mentors, ensuring that every participant is equipped with the skills and knowledge to excel in the pest management field.

“By focusing on structured learning, dedicated mentorship, and rigorous assessment, we set the stage for a future where your business thrives on expertise and innovation”



If you are considering the addition of a new technician to your team, remember that their success starts with the quality of their training.

With ProTrain by your side, you can be confident that every trainee will receive the attention, guidance, and practical experience necessary to become an invaluable asset to your business.



Bruce Dekker 0418 786 711
Email: info@protrain.com.au
Visit our website <https://protrain.com.au/>



2025 SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

THE AEPMA SUSTAINABILITY AWARD IS AN ANNUAL EVENT RUN BY AEPMA AND SPONSORED BY **ENSYSTEX** TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABILITY IN THE WIDER PEST MANAGEMENT INDUSTRY.



Pesteco, based in New South Wales, were winners of the 2024 Sustainability Award for their innovative approach to pest management. The company has shown an unwavering commitment to environmental conservation and community-focused practices, setting a high standard in the industry.

The 2025 Sustainability Award, sponsored by Ensystex Australia, continues to recognise organisations that demonstrate outstanding leadership in sustainable business practices and meaningful community engagement.

This award highlights businesses that have successfully implemented innovative, cleaner initiatives, achieving measurable outcomes in preventing pollution, conserving energy and water, minimising waste, and maximising resource efficiency.

Nominations for the AEPMA Sustainability Award are open to all businesses within the pest management sector that have implemented effective sustainability initiatives.

Whether it's reducing environmental impacts, improving resource efficiency, or fostering community partnerships, we encourage businesses of all sizes to showcase their achievements.

By sharing these successes, nominees not only gain recognition but also inspire others in the industry to adopt innovative, sustainable practices that contribute to a cleaner and healthier future for Australia.

The Sustainability Award Aims To:

Promote the pest management industry as a leader in sustainable and ethical practices to government, the public, and key stakeholders.

Drive industry-wide adoption of sustainability, uphold professional standards, and support ongoing learning.

Showcase initiatives that foster environmental responsibility and community engagement.

NOMINATIONS CLOSE 31ST MAY 2025
VISIT [AEPMA.COM.AU](https://aepma.com.au) FOR MORE INFORMATION



With proven 100% kill rates, Diathor Flowable offers long-term residual performance with NO avoidance or resistance.

THE ULTIMATE SOLUTION FOR COCKROACHES AND BED BUGS



From May, the future of pest control will change fundamentally, with the launch of Ensystex's Diathor Flowable, the revolutionary solution for the elimination of cockroaches and bed bugs. With a proven 100% kill rate, Diathor Flowable challenges traditional pest control methods, offering a groundbreaking approach that ensures lasting results.

Diathor Flowable uses a specially designed delivery system, ensuring ease of application while maximizing effectiveness. This system is optimised to provide consistent and reliable results, enhancing the overall performance.

Diathor Flowable uniquely offers: 100% Kill Rate & Long-Lasting Performance: with superior residual efficacy and zero resistance or avoidance.

Innovative Mode of Action: Unlike traditional neurotoxic insecticides, Diathor Flowable uses a unique physical action to kill insects, bypassing the common issue

of pesticide resistance. This guarantees elimination, regardless of resistance profiles.

Unrivalled Effectiveness: It delivers exceptional control over even the most resilient cockroaches and persistent bed bugs – including those resistant to pyrethroids, neonicotinoids, phenylpyrazoles, oxadiazines, organophosphates, and carbamates.

Optimized Delivery System: The precision application system ensures precise and reliable coverage, maximizing its effectiveness.

The list of Key Benefits is impressive:

Viral Transfer™ Technology: spreads dust particles throughout insect aggregates, to kill insects not directly treated.

Quick Action: Diathor Flowable floats like a cloud, reaching deep into cracks, crevices, and harbourages for rapid results.

Low-Toxic: Low toxicity to humans and animals, odourless, and non-staining.

The active ingredients have been used in a wide variety of consumer applications including food, cosmetics and pharmaceutical products for many decades.

Non-Repellent: Long-lasting control with no repellency, ensuring pests are eradicated.

Revolutionary Blend: A sophisticated formula combining three high-performance silicates for maximum impact.

No other product compares to the performance of Diathor Flowable.

For more information or to pre-order, call Ensystex at 13 35 36 today or visit www.Ensystex.com.au!

ON SALE MAY 2025



diathor™ flowable



The **ULTIMATE SOLUTION** for eliminating **COCKROACHES** and **BED BUGS**



Diathor Flowable employs a physical mode of action to kill insects, ensuring their elimination.

Diathor Flowable eliminates the MOST resilient cockroaches and persistent bed bugs.

It overcomes high level resistance and cross-resistance to pyrethroids, neotenics, phenylpyrazoles, oxadiazines, organophosphates and carbamates.

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THE INNOVATORS

PEST MANAGER OF THE YEAR 2025

BASF ARE PROUD TO BE A LONG-TIME SPONSOR OF THE PEST MANAGER OF THE YEAR AWARD & AWPMA EXCELLENCE AWARD.

THESE AWARDS CELEBRATE EXCELLENCE IN THE PEST CONTROL INDUSTRY, RECOGNISING OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONALS WHO HAVE DEMONSTRATED EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE, INNOVATIVE APPROACHES, AND A COMMITMENT TO UPHOLDING THE HIGHEST STANDARDS IN PEST MANAGEMENT.



2025 PEST MANAGER OF THE YEAR CATEGORIES

THE KYLEE ENWRIGHT MICRO BUSINESS AWARD

SOUTH PACIFIC PEST MANAGER OF THE YEAR

A PEST MANAGEMENT FIRM EMPLOYING FEWER THAN 10
PEOPLE

A PEST MANAGEMENT FIRM EMPLOYING MORE THAN 10
PEOPLE

NOMINATIONS OPEN

VISIT [AEPMA.COM.AU](https://aepma.com.au) FOR MORE INFORMATION

2025 AWPMA - EXCELLENCE AWARD - NOMINATIONS OPEN

The Australian Women in Pest Management Association (AWPMA), proudly supported by BASF, is excited to announce that nominations are now open for the 2025 AWPMA Excellence Award!

Since its launch in 2019, this prestigious award has celebrated the outstanding contributions of women in the pest management industry, recognising leadership, innovation, mentorship, and excellence. Each year, we shine a spotlight on those who are shaping the future of our industry, setting new standards, and inspiring the next generation.

Why Nominate?

The AWPMA Excellence Award is more than just an accolade; it's about recognition, empowerment, and progress. By nominating an outstanding woman in pest management, you are helping to highlight their achievements, validate their hard work, and inspire others to pursue leadership roles in the industry.

The winner of the 2025 AWPMA Excellence Award will receive:

- \$1,000 cash prize
- Industry-wide recognition
- Exclusive networking opportunities
- Award presentation at the AWPMA Pesticon Gala Dinner on 8 August 2025
- Who Can Be Nominated?
- Any woman working in the Australian pest management industry who exemplifies:
 - Innovation - Driving change through new ideas, technology, or business practices.
 - Mentorship & Support - Actively supporting and encouraging others, particularly women in the industry.
 - Leadership - Demonstrating exceptional leadership and making an impact within their business or the industry.
 - Professional Achievements - Significant contributions that have advanced the pest management sector.

Let's continue to support and empower the incredible women leading the way in pest management!



How It Works

Nominate - Anyone can submit a nomination via our online form between 1 April – 30 April 2025.

Application - Nominees will be invited to complete an application by 31 May 2025.

Judging - A panel of industry experts will assess applications and select three finalists.

Interviews - Finalists will participate in interviews before the winner is chosen.

Award Ceremony - The winner will be announced at the AWPMA Pesticon Gala Dinner at the Adelaide Convention Centre on 8 August 2025.

This award is a testament to the remarkable women shaping the pest management industry. Whether you know an exceptional woman in pest control or you are one yourself, don't miss this opportunity to be part of the movement that recognises and celebrates excellence!

Submit your nomination today: <https://awpma.org.au/awpma-awards/>

For more details, contact awpma@awpma.com.au.



A Legacy of Excellence: Past Winners

With nominations now open for the 2025 AWPMA Excellence Award, it's time to acknowledge the remarkable women making an impact in pest management. Since 2019, this award has highlighted those who lead, innovate, and break barriers, inspiring the next generation of professionals.

Every past winner has brought something unique to the industry, reinforcing the importance of recognising women's contributions to the future of pest management.

KYLEE



Kylee's legacy of mentorship and support continues to inspire women in pest control, proving that leadership and technical expertise go hand in hand.

Her technical expertise was equally impressive. Holding a Certificate III in Pest Management and multiple specialist accreditations, including Termatrac and Exterra Termite Interception.

Despite her leadership position, Kylee remained hands-on in the field, providing termite solutions and commercial pest services.

A Trailblazer in Pest Management

2019

The late Kylee Enwright, Director of CPR Pest Management Services, was the inaugural winner of the AWPMA Excellence Award.

With a background in sales and marketing, Kylee played a pivotal role in her company's success, implementing strong marketing strategies and ensuring industry-best practices.

2020

Michelle Downs, owner of Lethal Pest Control, transformed what began as a one-woman operation into a thriving, reputable enterprise within a competitive industry.

Balancing her business in its infancy while also working as a Vector Control Technician, Michelle demonstrated not only technical expertise but an extraordinary level of grit and determination. Her early days were filled with long hours, hands-on service, and a clear vision for what Lethal Pest Control could become.

That perseverance paid off—her company rapidly gained traction, earning the trust of clients and steadily expanding both in size and in the breadth of services offered.



Michelle is a passionate mentor who actively encourages women to enter the pest control industry, sharing training videos to educate and empower others.

Leading the Charge for Women in Pest Control

MICHELLE

A Legacy of Excellence: Past Winners



2021

With over a decade in pest management, Kuyan Rider, General Manager at Allure Pest Control, exemplifies innovation and leadership.

But it's her people-first approach that really sets her apart. Kuyan has grown the team from three to thirteen, building a culture where communication, well-being, and flexibility come first.

She's created a workplace where people thrive—not just perform.

Creating space for women in pest management starts with changing what leadership looks like.

A strong advocate for women in the industry, Kuyan is leading by example. She champions work-life balance, mentors others, and continues to prove that empathy and innovation go hand in hand when it comes to effective leadership.

Whether it's tech, team culture, or pushing for a more inclusive future, Kuyan Rider is shaping the industry from the inside out.

Innovation and Team Leadership

2022

Asita Devi Deo, Director of Fastkil Pest Control Services, has set new benchmarks for the industry in Fiji. Under her leadership, Fastkil became the first pest control company in the country to achieve both HACCP and ISO accreditation—a major step forward in aligning local standards with global best practice.

Beyond certifications, Asita has played a hands-on role in shaping the future of the profession. She collaborated with a local university to develop pest control training programs, helping build a skilled and knowledgeable workforce from the ground up.

Her leadership style is inclusive, forward-thinking, and deeply rooted in community values. Asita continues to advocate for professional excellence while inspiring the next generation of pest professionals to lead with purpose and pride.

Elevating Standards in Pest Management



When the industry grows, the whole community benefits.

KUYAN

ASITA

A Legacy of Excellence: Past Winners



*When you lead with
purpose, people respond
with trust*

Recognising a gap in the industry for female-friendly pest control, she built IDeBug as a safe and supportive option—especially for women, families, and vulnerable clients. Delia's approach is deeply community-minded. She offers free services to those in crisis, builds strong relationships with her clients, and prioritises environmentally responsible solutions.

Her business has grown through word-of-mouth—testament to the trust she's earned and the connections she's built. In an industry often focused on fast fixes, Delia is proving that empathy, consistency, and meaningful service create long-term success.

Restoring Safety, Rebuilding Confidence

2023

For Delia Sanig, pest control is more than just a business—it's a way to make people feel safe again.

As the founder of IDeBug Pest Control, Delia turned her personal experiences as a survivor of domestic violence into a mission-driven enterprise, offering services that put care, dignity, and trust at the centre of every visit.

2024

Sue-Ann Tysoe began her career in pest management behind a desk, handling administration—but it didn't take long before she wanted more. Stepping into the field, she became a qualified termite and pest technician, overcoming self-doubt and carving out a space for herself in a traditionally male-dominated role.

Now a confident leader, Sue-Ann plays a central role in her business's growth and is passionate about helping others find their feet.

She mentors women entering the industry, offering encouragement, skills, and support to help them succeed.

Sue-Ann is also working toward expanding her business with a strong focus on inclusion—actively looking to hire individuals with disabilities and build a team that reflects the community it serves. Her story is one of personal growth, professional determination, and a clear commitment to lifting others as she climbs.

Empowerment and Growth



*Confidence doesn't come
first - courage does.*

SUE-ANN

THE DECISION MAKERS

Now that you've met the women who've led the way in recent years, it's time to meet the ones making the call this year...



Emma Mendelsohn Operations Manager, Noahs Ark Pest Control

Emma brings a wealth of leadership and operational insight to the panel. As Operations Manager at Noah's Ark Pest Control and a board member of AWPMA, she's been at the forefront of raising industry standards. With hands-on experience in business operations, staff development, and service innovation, Emma knows exactly what strong leadership looks like - and what it takes to build it.



Sue-Ann Tysoe Director, Checkmate Pest Control & 2024 Excellence Winner

As last year's AWPMA Excellence Award winner, Sue-Ann brings a unique perspective to the judging panel. Recognised in 2024 for her commitment to mentorship, inclusive leadership, and industry growth, she knows firsthand what it takes to stand out. This year, she'll be looking for finalists who lead with authenticity, create lasting change and bring others along with them.



Kiana Barrie-Gresham Technical Development Specialist, BASF Professional & Speciality Solutions ANZ

Kiana brings technical depth and practical know-how to the judging panel. At BASF, she works across product development and field support, helping pest managers apply smarter, more effective solutions in real-world settings. With a solid understanding of industry standards and day-to-day challenges, she'll be focusing on nominees who are driving improvement through skill, knowledge, and hands-on contribution.



The 2025 AWPMA Excellence Award is about recognising women who are making a difference in pest management through leadership, mentoring, innovation, or simply showing up and doing the job with skill and integrity.

Visit awpma.com.au/nominate or scan the QR code to apply.



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Generic Fipronil
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 - Ability to penetrate active leads



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 - 175 drill holes
 - No warranty
 - Unable to penetrate active leads



Generic Manufacturer:
"Our formulation is as good as Termidor HE, but cheaper"

MEET OUR

At the Australian Environmental Pest Managers Association (AEPMA), we pride ourselves on being a collective of dedicated, professional pest managers committed to upholding the highest standards of the industry. But what truly sets us apart is our members—the individuals and businesses who make up the very fabric of our association.

MEMBERS

Our members are the backbone of AEPMA. They come from all corners of Australia, representing a diverse range of pest management companies, from large enterprises to small family-owned businesses. Whether they're working in urban pest control, commercial pest management, or environmental sustainability, each member plays a pivotal role in driving the industry forward and ensuring the safety and well-being of Australian communities.

Sarah Cutting - Manager|Beekeeper|Pest Management Technician | Spiderman SE Eco Pest Management

"I never expected to find myself in the pest management industry, but over the past decade, it has become not just my career but my passion"



My husband, Michael, and I started Spiderman SE Eco Pest Management in 2014 as a small, family-run business in Mount Gambier.

We've been proud AEPMA members since day one, valuing the professionalism, support, and industry standards that AEPMA upholds. But for me, pest management is about more than just running a business - it's about people. It's about providing a valuable service to our community, supporting our team, and contributing to the industry in a meaningful way. That's why I've always been drawn to initiatives that promote education, professional development, and industry representation.

In 2021, I joined PWAPM (now Australian Women's Pest Management Association [AWPMA]) as Treasurer, where I had the privilege of sitting on the board. While I no longer hold that formal role, I remain actively involved in the team, helping to organise the annual AWPMA Excellence Award and Networking Breakfast alongside my colleagues and dear friends Kuy and Amy.

At Pesticon 2024, I worked as part of the Careers in Pest Management working party, helping to launch a new website and hosting the Careers in Pest stand. It was a fantastic opportunity to encourage more people- especially young people and women - to consider pest management as a viable and rewarding career. (Because let's face it, how many kids say, "I want to be a pest controller when I grow up"? Time to change that!)

The AWPMA Networking Breakfast was another highlight, where I shared my experience of navigating personal challenges and using them as opportunities for growth. I've always believed that the toughest moments in life can shape us in the best possible ways, and I'm grateful to be in a position where I can help support others on their own journeys.

Each year at Pesticon, I've set myself a goal to do something braver than the year before. Thanks to the unwavering support of my AWPMA peers, I've gone from being absolutely petrified of public speaking to confidently standing in front of an audience. What once felt impossible has become something I now embrace, and I'm proud of how far I've come.

2025 will mark my fourth Pesticon in a row, and each year, I leave feeling more inspired and connected. The camaraderie and support I've found through AWPMA and AEPMA has given me wings. The friendships, mentorship, and shared knowledge have been invaluable, and I'm deeply grateful for the incredible people in this industry.

Now, as a member of the AEPMA Training and Event Management Taskforce, I hope to contribute to shaping the future of our industry. I'm particularly passionate about modernising how we engage with pest managers, making training and events more accessible to rural and regionally based businesses like ours, practical, and relevant to our real challenges. I believe AEPMA has a huge opportunity to better serve its members, and I'm excited to contribute to that conversation.

In addition to running our pest management business, I'm a qualified Pest Management Technician and beekeeper with a Certificate III in Beekeeping. I run our spinoff business,

Swarm SE Eco Bee Management, focusing on ethical bee rescue and education. Beekeeping has given me a new perspective on pest management and balancing environmental responsibility with practical solutions.

Most importantly, I'm a wife and mum. My two boys, Josh and Lachie, keep me grounded, and our life is always full of adventure. Josh is an accomplished musician - whether he's behind the drum kit or taking the lead on vocals in his band or duo. He recently started his apprenticeship as a mechanic, and I couldn't be prouder of him for chasing his own path. Lachie, meanwhile, throws himself wholeheartedly into everything he does - whether it's school, army cadets, or just being the kindest, most easygoing kid you'll ever meet. Watching both of them grow into their own passions is my greatest joy.

And if you really want to know what makes me tick outside of work? It's a bit of a split personality - heavy metal or pottering around the apiary, depending on the day. Our family is obsessed with heavy and deathcore metal, and over the past year, we've had some of our best trips travelling to see Slipknot, Parkway Drive, The Amity Affliction, and Lorna Shore. There's something incredible about the energy of a live show: the pulse of the drums, the roar of the crowd, and the way a breakdown just hits in your chest. It's a far cry from the world of pest control... and somehow, exactly what I need to recharge.

I don't claim to have all the answers, but I do care deeply about this industry and the people in it. I'm looking forward to continuing to work with the AWPMA and the AEPMA Training and Event Management Taskforce to help make a difference where I can.



Ali Ghafoor - Director AMG Pest Management

“I pride myself on my professional knowledge, quick response times, and commitment to environmentally safe practices”



Hello, I'm Ali, a dedicated pest control technician with over five years of hands-on experience in the industry. After working with several reputable companies, I decided to branch out and start my own business, which has been a rewarding journey. My passion for pest control comes from my desire to help people live comfortably in their homes and workspaces, free from pests that can cause stress and damage.

I pride myself on my professional knowledge, quick response times, and commitment to environmentally safe practices. Over the years, I've developed a deep understanding of local pest issues, whether it's termites, rodents, or insects, and I'm equipped with the latest tools and techniques to effectively solve any pest-related problem.

As a business owner, customer satisfaction is my top priority, and I make sure every job is done with precision and care. It's been an amazing experience building my business and I look forward to helping even more clients maintain pest-free environments.



SueAnn Tysoe - Checkmate Pest Control

“Receiving the Logan Home Services Award from the Chamber of Commerce meant the world to us, especially because it came from the community we grew up in”



My journey into pest management kicked off when I met my partner, Luke, who was already working in his family's pest control business. But the curiosity started much earlier—I still remember watching a cockroach treatment behind my parents' stove, fascinated by how the product was applied and how effectively it worked.

As Luke and I began taking on our own customers, it became clear how much I had to learn. That realisation pushed me to get my licence, immerse myself in the industry, and constantly look for ways to improve—not just my own knowledge but how we run our business.

Winning the AWPMA Women in Pest Excellence Award was an incredible honour. Still, I'm just as proud of the business we've built. Receiving the Logan Home Services Award from the Chamber of Commerce meant the world to us, especially because it came from the community we grew up in.

Another highlight was being invited to speak on a global panel of women in pest management, discussing how the role of women in our industry is evolving. But honestly, it's the day-to-day feedback from our customers—their support, their trust—that constantly reminds me why I love what I do.

Self-doubt has been one of my biggest hurdles. Even after years in the business, stepping into a more active role brought moments of uncertainty. Pest management is always changing, and it can feel like there's always more to learn.

What shifted things for me was the understanding that no one knows everything. Learning is ongoing. Each job, each conversation, every bit of training adds to my confidence. I've learned to lean on the people around me, ask questions freely, and back myself to keep growing.

On a more practical level—I'm scared of heights. Not exactly ideal in this job! Climbing into roof voids and doing elevated inspections used to terrify me.

Over time, I've managed that fear by focusing on the work and building my confidence step by step.

Social media has completely changed the way we communicate with our clients. It's not just about marketing—it's about education. Pest management is often misunderstood, and having a platform to explain what we do, bust myths, and give people solid information has been a huge asset.

Behind the scenes, we've streamlined internal systems, improved our treatment processes, and enhanced how we track pest activity. Earning my licence gave me a deeper appreciation of the technical and problem-solving side of the work. There's always room to grow—and we're all in on that journey.

Encouraging more people—especially women—to join the pest control industry is something I care deeply about. The opportunities are there, and sometimes all it takes is seeing someone else do it to realise you can too.

I'll never forget a woman who came up to me in the elevator the night I won the AWPMA award. She'd lost her partner, who'd worked in the industry, and told me she wanted to be where I was in twelve months. She said seeing me have a go gave her hope. That moment stuck with me. It's a reminder that mentorship matters—and sometimes, leadership just means being visible and encouraging someone else to believe in themselves.

People often think pest control is just about spraying products. That couldn't be further from the truth. It's investigative. Effective pest management requires understanding environments, identifying contributing factors, and using a combination of

strategies—like exclusion and habitat modification—alongside treatments. Being able to explain that to clients helps them see the value of what we do.

Outside of work, I love spending time with my family—and grabbing a nice, iced long black. (Caffeine's practically a work requirement!) That said, even when I'm "off," I'm usually still working. Whether it's tweaking our systems, managing social media, or knocking off items from my ever-growing to-do list, there's always something on.

At this point, I really should add "professional multitasker" to my job title.

Three people stand out when I think about role models.

Luke's dad, who at 71 is still out there on the tools—his resilience, experience, and dedication are nothing short of inspiring.

My husband, Luke, is my biggest cheerleader and mentor. He pushes me to grow, helps me refine my skills, and reminds me of my strengths when I forget them. His support has shaped every part of my journey.

And finally, the broader pest management community—especially the women and men constantly learning and lifting each other up. Watching others push themselves to grow motivates me to keep doing the same.

Looking forward, I want to grow our business, bring more people on board, and continue refining how we do things. A big part of that vision is about training—helping the next generation step into this industry with confidence and skill.



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AEPMA Branch Update

This update brings together recent news and outcomes from several AEPMA branches.

From regulatory engagement to training and industry developments, these meetings continue to play a vital role in supporting members and advancing pest management across Australia.

If you would like more information on our branch meetings, please contact info@aepma.com.au

New South Wales

An AEPMA NSW/ACT State Council meeting was held via Zoom on 17 February 2025 at 3:30pm. It was a well-attended session, with 12 members present and a few apologies noted. Chairperson Patrick Legey opened the meeting and welcomed everyone in attendance.

After reviewing the minutes from the previous meeting, we moved into general business, including a discussion on the upcoming 2025 AEPMA Conference, themed “Adapt & Thrive: Navigating Changes in Pest Management”, scheduled for 6–8 August in Adelaide. Members are strongly encouraged to attend and be part of what promises to be an insightful industry event.

A number of key industry matters were discussed, such as the Review of the Industry Codes of Best Practice—with particular focus on Termite Management in existing buildings (available via the AEPMA website). We also touched on the ongoing concern around the lack of qualifications required for Pre-Purchase Timber Pest Inspectors, developments with the Field Biologist Course, the idea of recognising Pest Management as a Trade, and potential updates by BuildSkills Australia to the Pest Management Training Package. Topics around traineeships, Fair Work obligations, the Pest Management Award, and broader workforce development were also raised.

On licensing, a major update was shared regarding our negotiations with EPA NSW. A meeting was held on 18 March 2025 between AEPMA NSW/ACT delegates (Patrick Legey, Gary Stephenson, and Paul Enwright) and

EPA representatives (Martin Bowles, Patricia Fabiano, Luke Formosa, and Arhmaan Bhatti).

After nearly 18 months of sustained advocacy, we’re pleased to advise that an agreement has been reached allowing a probation period before trainees must be enrolled in a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) course. This outcome is a significant win for the industry.

To explain the issue: EPA NSW previously required all trainee pest technicians to be enrolled in an RTO course from day one in order to obtain a trainee permit. This created a financial burden for businesses—especially if the new hire turned out to be unsuited to the role, as fees are often non-refundable or non-transferable. As of 14 March 2025, the new probation/exemption arrangement has been gazetted (with formal wording to be released by EPA within the next fortnight).

Our understanding is that businesses must still register a trainee for an EPA permit from their first day, but they will now have up to 12 weeks to provide evidence that the trainee has been enrolled with an RTO. If they’re already enrolled earlier, that’s fine—but by week 12, businesses must either supply proof of enrolment or explain why it hasn’t occurred. Be aware that failure to register for a permit and complete RTO enrolment may impact the trainee’s ability to gain a full pest management licence and could result in penalties from EPA if unlicensed work is carried out.

We’ll share more details as soon as EPA issues the official notice. A special thank you goes to our volunteer delegates on the NSW/ACT State Council who’ve put in the time and effort to deliver this practical, cost-saving outcome. Both members and non-members across the state will benefit from this ruling—thanks to AEPMA’s continued advocacy.

We also discussed that EPA NSW is likely to begin a review of the Pesticide Regulations 2017 in late 2026, with consultation expected to commence in early 2026. AEPMA will be actively involved in the process.

Separately, we’ve submitted two enforcement cases to EPA: one involving a trainee who was applying pesticides without a permit for over six months, and another where a business failed to

Both are currently under investigation. Lastly, while the meeting touched on NSW Department of Agriculture's restrictions on glue boards, it was clarified that this matter does not fall under EPA's jurisdiction.

The next NSW/ACT State Council meeting will be held via Zoom on Monday 12 May 2025 at 3:30pm. If you'd like to attend, please reach out to the AEPMA National Office.

For any questions or assistance, you can contact me directly:
patrickmarclegey@gmail.com
0438 022 984

Alternatively, contact the AEPMA National Office at info@aepma.com.au, or speak with any of your State Council delegates.

Victoria

As Chair of the AEPMA Victoria Branch, I'm pleased to share an overview of our recent meeting, where members from across the country came together to discuss current issues, share insights, and collaborate on future opportunities for our industry.

One of the key topics raised was a compliance challenge in Mildura, where a business is facing regulatory hurdles around the use of 1080. The situation involves several departments, creating unnecessary complexity. As a group, we offered support and suggested industry connections who may be able to assist in navigating the issue.

At the national level, we discussed the launch of a new careers website designed to attract and inform people considering a future in pest management. We also looked ahead to the AEPMA Conference in Adelaide

from 6–8 August. This year's program will feature two focused streams—technical training and business development—ensuring something of value for both technicians and business leaders.

James Wallace provided a timely presentation on insurance and risk management. He emphasised that most claims stem from genuine mistakes and highlighted the importance of clear client communication, thorough documentation, and strong complaint handling processes. His outlook on stabilising premiums for the sector was welcomed by many.

We also received updates on the fire ant response, with concern growing over their continued spread across South East Queensland and their ability to survive extreme conditions. Yellow crazy ants were also identified as a serious emerging threat with the potential to cause even greater ecological damage.

Training remained a strong focus throughout our discussion. Members expressed strong support for more accessible resources, including webinars and recorded sessions on topics like termites and cockroaches. A new webinar on the updated termite Code of Practice is already in the works, and we're committed to making ongoing education more available to our industry.

To strengthen engagement, we've agreed to move to quarterly meetings, with options for hybrid attendance to suit participants from different regions. We're also exploring the possibility of hosting a meeting session during Pesticon in August to continue these valuable conversations. — **Emma Mendelsohn, Chair, AEPMA Victoria Branch**

Queensland

Across Queensland, pest managers are juggling a lot right now—extreme weather, shifting regulations, and the everyday demands of running a business. Despite it all, the energy in recent discussions has been clear: this industry is nothing if not resilient. Weather Woes and Community Impact From floods to cyclones, the weather's made work tough in many regions. Some businesses have had to shut down temporarily, and there's growing concern about how this is affecting rural communities—especially farmers doing it tough both mentally and financially. These challenges are a sharp reminder of the need for solid backup plans and local support.

Licensing: Still Some Bumps

Most members say the online system is working well, but a few hiccups came up—like duplicate mailouts and trouble accessing training info. One smart suggestion: make the ID card the main licence, ditch the paper. Queensland Health is looking into it.

Fire Ants Still Front and Centre

Fire ants are still dominating the conversation. Reporting rates are low—especially on golf courses—and there's concern some baits might not be working as expected. Clearer labels and stronger industry messaging around reporting are both on the table.

Funding has improved, with \$24 million committed at the state level thanks to advocacy from producer groups. But there's still uncertainty around the program's long-term future, depending on political winds.

Nationally, though, pest control funding is ramping up—with over \$230 million pledged, and South East Queensland high on the priority list.

Training, Events and What's Ahead

Fire ant roadshows are coming to SEQ, and they're shaping up to be great awareness-raisers. Pesticon banners are being prepped, a "Show and Shine" event is in the works, and monthly training sessions are rolling out—covering key topics like WHS.

Nationally, we're getting closer to the release of revised termite and pre-construction codes, expected in April. Funding is locked in for broader improvements to pest management training across the board.

Looking ahead, all signs point to a big turnout at the AEPMA National Conference in August. Exhibitor interest is strong, and the buzz from interstate and international attendees is already building. — **Kuyan Rider Chair, AEPMA QLD Branch**

Interested in joining an AEPMA branch meeting? AEPMA members are welcome to attend.

To get involved, email info@aepma.com.au for details

Forecast chemical review timeframes extended

The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) has revised the expected publication dates for the proposed regulatory decisions on fipronil, neonicotinoids, and anticoagulant rodenticides.

The expected publication of the proposed decisions on fipronil agricultural chemical products has been delayed until April 2026 and fipronil veterinary chemical products until March 2026.

Proposed decisions on the individual chemistries within the neonicotinoid review (acetamiprid, clothianidin, dinotefuran, imidacloprid, thiacloprid and thiamethoxam) will be published separately commencing in late 2025.

The expected publication date for the proposed decision on anticoagulant rodenticides has been delayed until July 2025.

The APVMA is committed to undertaking rigorous evidence-based reviews, and must consider all relevant information. As a result, the timeframes for these reviews have been extended to allow us to appropriately consider information that has been provided to us or identified in the public domain.

The APVMA continues to progress all ongoing chemical reconsiderations, including prioritising the finalisation of chemical reconsiderations subject to the Ministerial Direction given by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator the Hon Murray Watt, in July 2023. The ongoing reconsiderations subject to the ministerial direction are paraquat, diquat, fenitrothion, neomycin and fipronil.

If a chemical poses a serious or imminent risk to human health, the environment, or trade, the APVMA will take action to mitigate those risks as quickly as possible. None of the assessments completed to date indicate the need for an urgent regulatory response.

For more news and updates from the APVMA, visit our website.

Fire ant update

Fire ant biosecurity zones

The fire ant biosecurity zones have been updated to help minimise the risk of fire ants spreading through human-assisted movement. If you live or work near a fire ant detection and move materials that can carry and transport fire ants, these changes may affect you.

Full or partial suburbs have been expanded or added to zone 1 and 2 to reflect recent fire ant detections in the Sunshine Coast, Moreton Bay, Somerset, Brisbane, and Gold Coast local government



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PRODUCT OVERVIEW

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box of 12
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