



## Farming Fact Sheets

### 1080 Poison

From 1 January 2006, 1080 (*sodium monofluoroacetate*) will not be used in State forests. However, private forestry operators and farmers can continue to use 1080 to target browsing animals such as possums, wallabies and pademelons.

This fact sheet looks at the regulation of 1080 use in Tasmania.

#### Permits to Use 1080

The use of 1080 is supervised by the Department of Primary Industries and Water (*DPIW*), pursuant to the *Poisons Act 1971* and other legislation. The following permits are required before 1080 baits will be issued:

- Permits under the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Control of Use) Act 1995* for use of a controlled poison;
- A permit to “take” (that is, to kill) specified wildlife under the *Nature Conservation Act 2002*;
- If any threatened species will be affected, a permit to take the threatened species under the *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995*.

The *Code of Practice for the Use of 1080 for Native Browsing Animal Management (1080 Code)* provides that a permit to lay 1080 poison will not be issued unless an authorised officer is satisfied that:

1. There is an unacceptable risk to existing crops or pasture (determined by a formal damage assessment); **and**
2. The use of 1080 does not pose an unacceptable risk to non-target species (a risk assessment must be completed); **and**
3. Alternative control measures including shooting and fencing have been tried and are not effective.

In general, only one permit will be issued for the same site within three years.

#### Restrictions on the Use of 1080

The 1080 Code provides that poison baits must not be laid within:

- **200 metres** of an occupied house (unless the owner consents) or a public picnic facility
- **20 metres** of a permanent stream
- **5 metres** of a property boundary or public road

The permit may also impose restrictions on the laying of 1080 baits in areas occupied by large numbers of non-target species. You should notify DPIW if you are aware of areas on the property that may be highly sensitive to 1080 poison (such as wet areas, feeding grounds etc).

The permit holder must take all reasonable measures to prevent movement of 1080 poison from the site, and must dispose of uneaten baits and animal carcasses (including carcasses on neighbouring properties). Records of the number of carcasses recovered must be maintained and provided to DPIW.

#### Notification Requirements

Anyone with a permit to lay 1080 poison must give written notice to all landholders within 500 metres (or more, if ordered by an authorised officer) of the poison line. Notice must be given at least 4 working days before the poisons are laid. If the poisoning is delayed by more than 7 days (for example, due to bad weather), the notification procedure **must** be repeated.

Landowners must also put up notices stating that 1080 poison has been laid on their property gates and fence-lines. These notices must be displayed for at least 28 days after the poison is laid.

*This Fact Sheet has been prepared for information only and does not constitute legal advice.  
For advice on your legal rights and enforcement options, contact the  
Environmental Defenders Office (Tasmania) on (03) 6223 2770 or email [edotas@edo.org.au](mailto:edotas@edo.org.au)*

