Coordinated broad-scale baiting with 1080 helps keep pest animal populations low. Large numbers of pest animals in the landscape can impact profitability – and even viability - of farming, damage the environment and lead to extinction of native animals and plants. Keeping pest animal numbers low means we need to control less of them in the future.

The facts:

- Only a small amount of 1080 is needed to kill wild rabbits, feral pigs, foxes, feral cats and wild dogs. It works by stopping the function of vital organs leading to death.
- 1080 is a naturally occurring chemical found in over 40 Australia plants. It is naturally broken down in the soil and water by microbes, fungi, bacteria and plants so there is very little or no impact on the environment.
- Native marsupials are less sensitive to 1080 than dogs, foxes, cats, pigs and rabbits. That’s one reason why it is such a good poison to use in Australia. People and birds are the most tolerant to 1080 followed by reptiles, amphibians and fish.
- The use of 1080 is highly regulated in NSW. Only Authorised Control Officers can prepare and supply poison baits. People that use the baits must also complete training and provide proof of training before baits will be supplied.
- 1080 has been thoroughly tested in many different environments over many years to ensure it will kill pest animals in a safe and effective way. This includes studies on the best bait material to use for the target pest animals and to reduce the risk to non-target animals. The placement of baits is recorded and baits are generally spaced out over long distances to reduce the risk of animals taking multiple baits.
- 1080 has been assessed as causing mild to moderate suffering of affected animals, but when this happens the animal may have already become unconscious and unable to feel pain. Time to death can range from 5-48 hours after eating a lethal amount of 1080.
- Domestic animals such as dogs, like their wild cousins, will be killed by 1080 so you need to ensure you keep them away during a baiting program which will be identified by appropriate signage.
- Seasonal conditions affect how long baits will remain toxic after being put out. Things like the time of year, the amount of rain and the type of bait will all have an influence.
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