

COUNCIL ACTION PLAN FOR THE ERADICATION OF INDIAN MYNAS AND STARLINGS 2006 (Revised 2007)

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SIX BASIC STEPS TO GET YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL INDIAN MYNA / STARLING ERADICATION PROGRAM STARTED

- 1) ORDER MYNA X INDIAN MYNA/STARLING TRAPS FROM BACKUP SYSTEMS**

- 2) RECRUIT CATCHERS FROM COMMUNITY, THIS INCLUDES COMMUNITY GROUPS AS WELL AS INDIVIDUALS – LOCAL PAPER PRESS RELEASE ANNOUNCING. “ _____ COUNCIL JOINS FIGHT TO SAVE NATIVE BIRDS AND ANIMALS”** (contact Garry for help with balance of press release if needed) Once you have them organise a meeting to show them the traps and outline the program. We can provide a speaker for this. (Fee applies)

- 4) CONTACT LOCAL BUSINESS FOR HELP IN SPONSORING TRAPS** (can also be mentioned in press release) Garry can help with letter and will be approaching large companies for sponsoring.

- 5) CONTACT LOCAL ROTARY, SES, LIONS CLUBS, and BUSHFIRE BRIGADE MEMBERS** for help in disposing of trapped birds. Mrs. Jones may be happy to trap but not kill the birds.

- 6) CONTACT GARRY FOR DETAILS OF HOW TO GET SPECIALISED CO2.** A special blend of CO2 gas designed to eradicate Indian Mynas and Starlings is being developed.

As part of our eradication program you will save 25% on the cost of CO2. Application forms and further info available on request.

COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

Q) Why must Indian Mynas and Starlings be eradicated?

A) The brief answer is that they take over hollows needed by our hollow dwelling/ breeding native birds and marsupials leaving them nowhere to live or breed. Any hollows in an area they have claimed that they do not need Indian Mynas fill with garbage to prevent their use by our native birds and marsupials. If the hollows are occupied they eject and/or kill the native birds or marsupials that are already there.

Q) How does this effect our native birds and animals?

A) Our marsupials are territorial and once ejected from their territory are unable to survive. Native birds that end up with nowhere to breed are unable to replenish the flocks with young birds. Some species are already under severe threat of extinction. Unless Indian Mynas and Starlings are eradicated others will disappear from our skies as well.

Q) How many “MynaX” Indian Myna Traps will we need?

A) This will depend on the number of volunteers you have and the population density of Indian Mynas and Starlings in your area. Four traps will get you started. Most regions will need thirty traps, council will not have to purchase them all as a number of ratepayers will purchase their own traps. Adding this link to your web-site will help them do this.

Q) Are the traps easy to handle and transport?

A) The “MynaX” has been designed to be easy to handle and transport. The foyer fits into the holding cage so that you have a 44x44x44cm unit to transport or store. This means they are easily transported in most sedan boots. Sharp edges and protrusions have also been eliminated to avoid damage to vehicles, users and the caught birds.

Q) How many people does it take to assemble the trap and is it difficult?

A) The only assembly required is screwing in two hooks. One person can comfortably do this in one minute or less.

Q) Can the trap be used on balconies and in small backyards?

A) The size of the trap makes it ideal for use in any location. This includes balconies, small backyards, rooftops and awnings.

Q) Can the trap blow over and injure the trapper or a passerby?

A) Unlike two part aviary style traps the “MynaX” has a low profile so it is impossible for it to blow over.

Q) What bait do I put in the trap?

A) It has been found that dog food is highly attractive to Indian Mynas and Starlings. Purchase dry puppy food from your local supermarket.. Put a separate container of water in as well. If your local Indian Mynas and Starlings are already happily feeding on your dog, rabbits or cats current food then try that first.

Q) What if I catch another type of bird such as a magpie?

A) The design of the trap means that most other birds can not enter the trap. It is unlikely that you will catch anything apart from Indian Mynas and Starlings particularly if you stick to the recommended bait food.. Should a non-target bird enter the trap they can be easily released.

Q) Do I have to have a free feeding time before I can catch the Indian Mynas and Starlings?

A) If you have Indian Mynas already feeding on your property you do not have to free feed. The trap can be placed in position straight away..

Q) I am concerned that I may come into contact with lice from the birds while handling them, how do I handle them safely?

A) At no time during the trapping, gassing or disposal of the birds do you have to handle them..

Q) Who is involved in the eradication program?

A) Councils, landcare groups, lands department officers, wineries, cereal and stone fruit growers, racetrack operators, horse breeders, schools and colleges, leading businesses plus hundreds of private individuals across the country.

Q) Can I get plans for the MynaX trap?

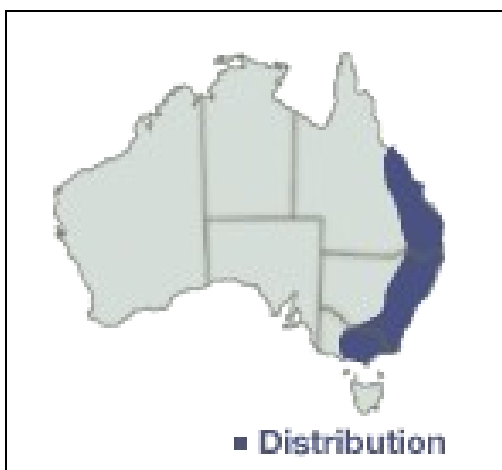
A No, both the trap and the name MynaX are protected by patent and copyright.

WILL IT WORK? A few traps here and there will have minimal effect. Thousands of traps across the country, meeting the Indian Mynas and Starlings wherever they are will have a huge effect. This is a long-term project. Every 3,000 birds trapped and gassed this year will mean 500,000 fewer in three years.

Where are the Indian Mynas and Starlings located?

The following maps will give you an idea.

MYNA BIRD DISTRIBUTION



STARLING DISTRIBUTION



Sponsors, Councils and residents may order the trap directly from Backup Systems. Sponsors should specify the council they are sponsoring it for. We will advise the council of the availability of the trap and the sponsors name.

Appeals for sponsors can be made through local papers alongside the announcement of the program in the municipality.



“MYNA X” THE INDIAN MYNA /STARLING TRAP

Each trap consists of two cages that link together and operate side by side. Instructions are supplied.

Discounted CO2 Gas Supply accounts available. OH&S Information provided.

ORDERING:

By phone 0438198460

By email cunichbuyercoop@bigpond.com

Payment Methods:

Bankcard / Mastercard/ Visa

Direct Deposit. Details on request.

Cheque

ANY QUESTIONS ?

CONTACT: GARRY CUNICH (02) 9872 5822

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