

FOR INFORMATION

SWFSPP Steering Committee Annual Meeting 2025

Agenda Item 2.2

Last updated: 29 August 2025

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Screw-worm Fly Surveillance and Preparedness Program Report 2024-25**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the SWFSPP Steering Committee NOTE the program report and performance for 2024-25 and provide input, if required, into the strategic direction for the upcoming year.

BACKGROUND

2. Animal Health Australia manages the SWFSPP in consultation with a committee of industry and government stakeholders. The program aims to detect an incursion early enough to ensure a high likelihood of success of an eradication program.
3. The objectives of the SWFSPP are to:
 - a. Conduct targeted surveillance for SWF nationally
 - b. Promote awareness to animal health stakeholders of the risk to Australia from SWF and an understanding of how to support the surveillance system
 - c. Monitor Australia's SWF entomology capability and capacity and provide training if required
 - d. Provide a national forum/committee to monitor and address Australia's SWF risk profile and incursion preparedness.
4. From AHA Annual Operating Plan for 2024-25 the key outcome for the year was: Early detection of potential screw worm fly incursions and support national capability to mount an emergency response.

DISCUSSION**5. Financial Summary**

The total budget for the SWFSPP as approved through the business plan and AHA Annual Operating Plan for 2024-25 year was \$213,434. At the end of June 2024, the total expenditure was within budget with an overall expenditure of \$157,353 (Figure 1). The 2024-25 expenditure was impacted by prior year accruals for state and territory services for fly trapping. Under expenditure was primarily due to underactivity for monitoring, and communications expenses and trapping materials being under budgeted due to a large batch of both being produced and distributed in the prior financial year. Program administrative costs were also under budget due to the AHA surveillance coordinator role being unfilled for the first quarter of the financial year. Meeting expenses were under budget.

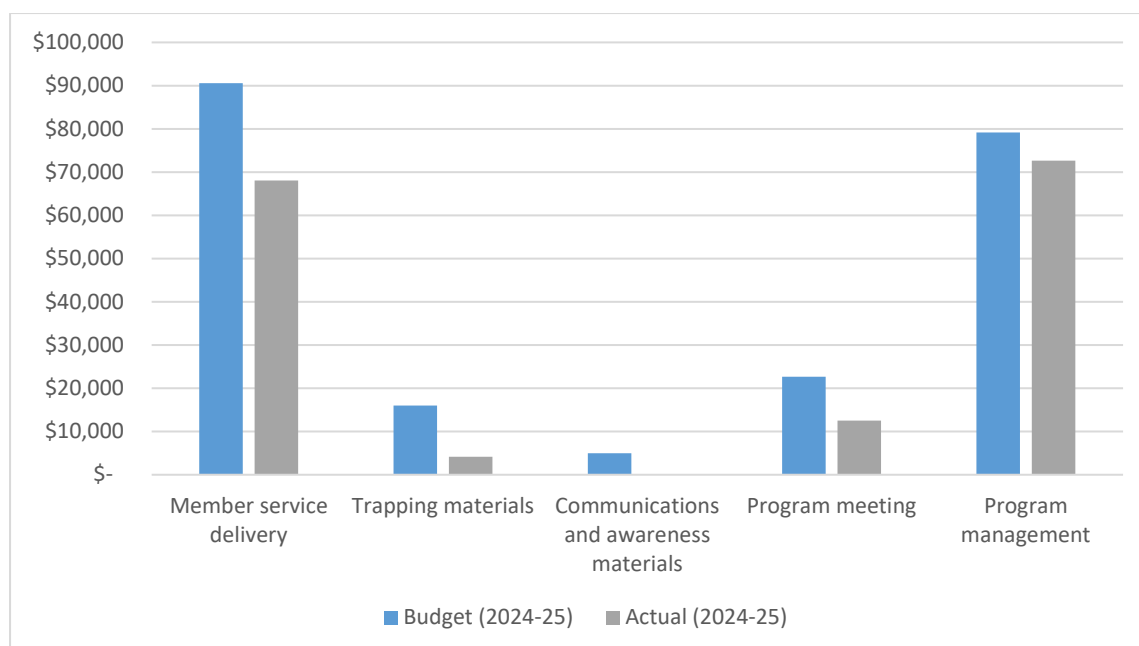


Figure 1 Project financial summary 2024-25

Note the figure for member service delivery is affected by prior and current year accruals.

Table 1 Deliverables and performance

Key output/deliverable 2024-25	Target	Outcome	Comment
Fly trapping data reported to NAHIS	Quarterly (NAHIS reporting schedule)	Complete for 2024-25	Details of fly trapping data in Appendix A.
Myiasis monitoring data reported to NAHIS	Quarterly (NAHIS reporting schedule)	Complete for 2024-25	Details of myiasis data in Appendix A.
Myiasis collection kits distributed to target audience and extension work undertaken	Ongoing	Complete for 2024-25	No outstanding requirements. See coordinator reports for details on passive surveillance.
SWF web pages maintained	Ongoing	Complete for 2024-25	AHA program website maintained.
Communication awareness materials maintained (currency of content; in stock) available and in-use by target audience.	Ongoing	Complete for 2024-25	Poster, brochure, and magnet are all up to date. Discussion under agenda item 7.1 on future needs, adjustments and distribution of materials. AHA contact Wildlife Health Australia to connect on SWF awareness for wildlife clinics.
Entomology training workshop delivered.	2025	On track	The next workshop will be held on the 10 th September in Darwin.

Key output/deliverable 2024-25	Target	Outcome	Comment
Entomology reference materials reviewed and acquired/republished as required.	Ongoing	On track	A stocktake of available reference specimens is included as an appendix to the business plan. Any required updates or requirements for reference materials will be discussed under agenda item 5.1.
Steering Committee updated on international SWF situation including distribution, outbreaks, research and development, other matters of potential importance for Australia.	Presented to annual meeting.	On track	To be discussed under agenda Item 3.2 and Item 5.1.
Steering Committee updated on domestic SWF situation including research and development, minor use permits and other matters of potential importance for Australia	Presented to annual meeting.	On track	Minor use permits for OWS remain in force with the APVMA through to 31 October 2026 https://permits.apvma.gov.au/PER90398.PDF Master of Applied Epidemiology scholar Harriett Garvey is undertaking an evaluation of the SWFSPP (item 6.1)

Appendix A: Monitoring and Performance Plan

Appendix A

Table 1 Schedule of SWF trapping plans and number of trapping events conducted by quarter, July 2024 to June 2025 (as at 29 August 2025)

Fly trap location	Site code	Agency	No. traps	Planned trapping fq/yr	Total trapping events planned	Number of trapping events conducted					
						Jul-Sep 2023	Oct-Dec 2023	Jan-Mar 2024	Apr-Jun 2024	Total events complete	% complete
Broome	BRO	DPIRD	3	12	36	9	9	9	6	33	92
Fremantle	FRE	DPIRD	3	12	36	9	9	9	9	36	100
Geraldton	GER	DPIRD	3	12	36	9	9	9	6	33	92
Wyndham	WND	DPIRD	4	9	36	9	9	9	9	36	100
Darwin wharf	EAW	NT DPIF	1	12	12	3	3	3	3	12	100
Darwin other	Various	NT DPIF	6	6	36	9	9	9	9	36	100
Townsville	Various	Qld DAF	6	6	36	7	12	6	6	31	86
Northern Peninsula Area	Various	NAQS	15	4	60	0	4	4	4	12	20
Total			41	NA	288	55	64	58	52	229	80

Table 2 Schedule of targeted myiasis plans and number of inspections conducted by quarter, July 2022 to June 2023 (as at 2 September 2024)

Monitoring site	Agency	Survey fq/yr	Min no. animals inspected/survey	Total inspections planned	Jul-Sep 2023		Oct-Dec 2023		Jan-Mar 2024		Apr-Jun 2024		Total animals inspected
					# myiasis surveys	Total # animals	# myiasis surveys	Total # animals	# myiasis surveys	Total # animals	# myiasis surveys	Total # animals	
Northern Territory													
Garrihiya, East Arnhem Land, NAMP sentinel herd T080	NAQS	12	10-15 cattle	120-180	0	0	4	40	3	29	2	20	89
Gunbalanya, West Arnhem Land, NAMP sentinel herd T121	NAQS	12	10-15 cattle	120-180	0	0	0	0	2	7	3	10	17
Darwin Periphery Berrimah Export Yards BEY, Adelaide River Bridge Creek Export Yards BCEY, Coomalie Holding Depot COOM, Santavan Export yards SEY	NT DPIR	12	50 cattle	600	11	1,857	9	997	3	30	9	1,328	4,212
NAMP Sentinel Herds Douglas Daly Research Station T122, CPRS 108, Daly River 107	NT DPIR	12	10-15 cattle	120-180	16	283	15	295	16	401	15	332	1,311
Top end region (northern NT) – various locations	NAQS	5	10-50 various feral animals	50-250	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Queensland													

Monitoring site	Agency	Survey fq/yr	Min no. animals inspected/survey	Total inspections planned	Jul-Sep 2023		Oct-Dec 2023		Jan-Mar 2024		Apr-Jun 2024		Total animals inspected
					# myiasis surveys	Total # animals	# myiasis surveys	Total # animals	# myiasis surveys	Total # animals	# myiasis surveys	Total # animals	
Torres Strait Islands and Northern Peninsula Area	NAQS	1	10-50 various domestic animals	10-50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
York Downs , Coen, NAMP sentinel herd Q145	NAQS	12	10-15 cattle	120-180	0	0	4	98	2	37	3	55	190
Bertiehaugh , Coen, NAMP sentinel herd Q379	NAQS	12	10-15 cattle	120-180	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cape York Peninsula (Far North Queensland) – various locations	NAQS	5	10-50 various feral animals	50-250	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Western Australia													
Broome Feedlot/Export Depot and sentinel herd (W131), WXXX	DPIRD	10 (excl. Jan, Feb)	50 head (if av. wound rate 8%)	500	1	149	1	154	0	0	1	297	600
Kalumburu (W012)	NAQS	2	20-30 cattle	40-60	0	0	1	61	0	0	1	8	69
Kimberly region (northern Western Australia) – various regions	NAQS	5	10-50 various feral animals	50-250	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		97		1,900-2,860	28	2,289	34	1,645	26	504	34	2,050	6,488

Table 3 Disease investigations (general surveillance) for Old World and New World screw-worm fly as listed in the National Notifiable Disease Investigation project of NAHIS, July 2024 to June 2025

Species	Date	Location	Finding	Investigation	Outcome
Dog	3/9/24	NT: Katherine	No definitive diagnosis	<i>Chrysomya bezziana</i> (Old World screwworm) and <i>Cochliomyia hominivorax</i> (New World screwworm)	Negative
Chicken	19/9/24	NT: Darwin	Suspect botulism	<i>Chrysomya bezziana</i> (Old World screwworm) and <i>Cochliomyia hominivorax</i> (New World screwworm)	Negative
Cattle	29/9/24	NT: Katherine	No definitive diagnosis	<i>Chrysomya bezziana</i> (Old World screwworm) and <i>Cochliomyia hominivorax</i> (New World screwworm)	Negative
Dog	23/12/24	Qld: Cassowary Coast	Insect identification by microscopy	<i>Chrysomya bezziana</i> (Old World screwworm) and <i>Cochliomyia hominivorax</i> (New World screwworm)	Negative

Note: There were also two wildlife exclusions in Qld as advised by WHA.



Figure 2 Location of investigations of Old World and New World screw-worm fly as listed in the National Notifiable Disease Investigation project of NAHIS, July 2024 to June 2025

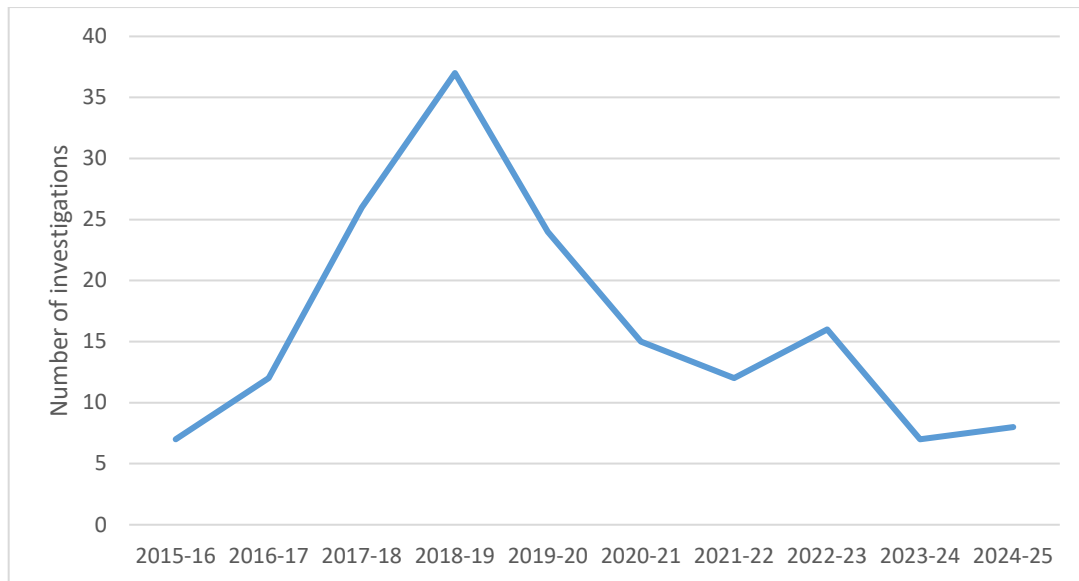


Figure 3 Number of screw-worm fly (Old World and/or New World) investigations reported in NAHIS for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2025.

Note: one investigation typically results in the exclusion of both Old World and New World SWF (i.e. a count of 2)