

Fox control advice

Concern: Attacking livestock | Property: Over 5ha



Control foxes well before your lambing season starts and work with your neighbours to coordinate efforts across property boundaries.

1. Remove food sources

Avoid attracting foxes! Make sure all domestic rubbish is securely stored inside bins and avoid leaving pet food or scraps outdoors.

- ✓ Control [rabbits](#), mice, and non-native rats.
- ✓ Clean up fallen fruit under trees.
- ✓ Control weeds such as [blackberry](#) and [briar](#)
- ✓ [rose](#).

2. Guardian animals

Protect your flock. Good guardian animals require training. Before you buy any animal, ensure you have a suitable property as well as the time and ability to provide adequate care.

- ✓ Small, level paddocks are easier to defend.

- ✓ Trusted dog breeds include the Great Pyrenees from France, Maremmas from Italy, and Akbash and Anatolian Shepherds from Turkey.
- ✓ Alpacas - a pair of desexed males can work well together.
- ✓ Donkeys - one donkey can care for 100 sheep.

3. Modify their habitat

Don't give foxes an easy home! Stop the breeding cycle - if they have nowhere to live, they have nowhere to breed.

- ✓ Fill in fox holes or dens with rocks or wire to block access.
- ✓ Clean up debris and hiding places from your property.
- ✓ Trim low-hanging plants around property buildings and sheds to 50 cm aboveground.

4. Den fumigation

Fumigation with carbon monoxide gas cartridges is a useful measure to eliminate active dens in areas where shooting and baiting is restricted.

- ✓ Check dens before fumigation to ensure they're not being used by native wildlife.
- ✓ Stop foxes re-using the den by ripping or destroying after fumigation.
- ✓ Spring to early summer is ideal.
- ✓ Local contractors are also available to undertake fumigation services.
- ✓ Must be done away from buildings and by qualified persons. Check local regulations. Standard procedure: [NATSOP-FOX004 – Fumigation using CO](#)

5. 1080 baiting

Baiting with 1080 (Sodium Fluoroacetate) requires careful planning and strict adherence to regulations. Read [PIRSA Baiting for Foxes](#).

- ✓ Plan early: the approval process must be completed before 1080 bait can be purchased.
- ✓ Follow all directions-for-use: This includes mandatory neighbour notifications and maintaining specific distances to protect pets.
- ✓ Most effective in spring (breeding females) and autumn (young foxes).
- ✓ There are two suitable baiting methods:
Canid Pest Ejectors and **meat baits**.
For meat baits, neighbours' dwellings must be more than 500m away from bait sites.
When using ejectors this is reduced to more than 150m away.
- ✓ Book an appointment with a Landscape Hills and Fleurieu Stewardship Officer.

6. Shooting

Shooting can be a humane method of eliminating localised fox problems when done by a trained and responsible shooter.

- ✓ Always check local firearms regulations.
- ✓ For assistance, contact [SSAA Farmer Assist Program](#).

Standard procedure: [NATSOP-FOX003 – Ground Shooting](#).



Further information

Further information is available through
Landscapes Hills and Fleurieu
landscape.sa.gov.au/hf