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SA

Your strong and independent voice for livestock producers



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28 February 2019

Mr Andreas Glanznig
Chief Executive Officer
Centre for Invasive Species Solutions
Building 22, University of Canberra
University Drive South, BRUCE ACT 2617
(Email: weeds@invasives.com.au)

Dear Mr Glanznig,

10-Year National Investment Plan for Weeds Research, Development and Engagement

The Centre for Invasive Species Solutions (CISS) is to be congratulated on developing the 10-year National Investment Plan for Weeds Research, Development and Engagement. With weeds costing industry an estimated \$4.3 billion annually, such a plan is long overdue.

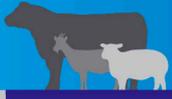
The Plan provides a useful structure from which to work and to be able to add the detail. Livestock SA has already been involved in a forum in Adelaide where the discussion was about the South Australian priorities going forward, and the State's capabilities and resources towards projects that will hopefully be developed as this Plan is finalised.

Livestock SA represents and promotes the interests of beef cattle, sheep and goat producers in South Australia. It currently has over 3,500 members, predominantly sheep and cattle producers, spread throughout the State.

For most livestock producers, pest animals are in the main of much more concern than weeds, and we would be concerned if the development of the weeds 10-year Plan was at the expense of CISS's excellent work on pest animals. The emphasis to date on rabbits, wild dogs, foxes, feral pigs and feral deer has been well received by industry and needs to continue.

In the Plan, under the section on "A call for collaborative action" (page 10) there is the following statement:

"However some industries, such as livestock industries, operate at landscape scales and choose to collaborate in areas where impact and management responsibilities are blurred. Here, collaborative and co-investment models between industry and government can achieve a critical mass of effort to be effective and provide the desired mix of public and private benefits."



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Livestock SA seeks more detail on this statement. It is hoped that this issue has been raised by CISS both with government and in discussions with MLA, AWI and the peak national livestock bodies.

An area that is in our view often blurred is in determining what is a weed and what is a useful livestock feed source. One such example is buffel grass. Here in South Australia there are many who classify buffel grass as a weed that needs eradication, while for pastoralists it is often a very important feed resource.

Yours Sincerely

Andrew Curtis
Chief Executive Officer
Livestock SA