



THE SENATE

RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT REFERENCES COMMITTEE

Red Imported Fire Ants in Australia

**PUBLIC HEARING
Monday 4 March 2024**

**Waldorf Room
Novotel Brisbane Airport , 6/8 The Cct, Brisbane Airport**

Time	Witness
8.30 am	Invasive Species Council (<i>Submission 54</i>) Mr Jack Gough, Advocacy Director Mr Reece Pianta, Advocacy Manager
9.15 am	Dr Anthony Young, Private Capacity (<i>Submission 21</i>) Professor Nigel Andrew, Chair of Science and Professor of Entomology, Southern Cross University (<i>Submission 57</i>)
9.45 am	Dr Pam Swepson, Private Capacity (<i>Submission 62</i>) Mr Richard Shannon, Private Capacity (<i>Submission 60</i>)
10.15 am	Morning tea
10.30 am	AgForce Queensland (<i>Submission 47</i>) Dr Annie Ruttledge, Senior Policy Officer Ms Belinda Callanan, Chair, AgForce Biosecurity Committee Mr Ken Cunliffe, Member, AgForce Biosecurity Committee Queensland Cane Growers Organisation (<i>Submission 42</i>) Mr Dan Galligan, Chief Executive Officer Dr Mick Quirk, Senior Manager, Environment and Sustainability Mr Greg Zipf, Chair, Rocky Point District
11.10 am	Australian Environmental Pest Managers Association (<i>Submission 5</i>) Mr Stephen Ware, Executive Director
11.35 am	Dr Helen Scott-Orr, Private Capacity
12.05 pm	Lunch
1.30 pm	City of Gold Coast (<i>Submission 8</i>) Cr Hermann Vorster, Councillor, Division 11 Logan City Council (<i>Submission 41</i>) Ms Emily Shafto, City Safety and Liveability Manager Mayor Darren Power

Committee Chair: Senator the Hon Matthew Canavan

Committee Secretary: Tas Larnach

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2.00 pm	Tweed Shire Council Mayor Chris Cherry Ms Denise Galle, Director Planning and Regulation
2.20 pm	Queensland Farmers Federation (<i>Submission 40</i>) Dr Laurie Dowling, Policy Advisor, Intensive Animal Industries Mr Paul Sloman, Policy Officer, Cotton Australia and Queensland Farmers Federation
2.45 pm	<i>Afternoon tea</i>
3.00 pm	National Fire Ant Eradication Program - Steering Committee (<i>Submission 16</i>) Dr John Roberston, Former Chair Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries Dr Rachel Chay, Deputy Director-General and Chief Biosecurity Officer Mr Ashley Bacon, Executive Program Director, National Fire Ant Eradication Program Queensland Department of Environment, Science, and Innovation Mr Ben Klaassen, Deputy Director-General, Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service and Partnerships
4.30 pm	<i>Adjournment</i>