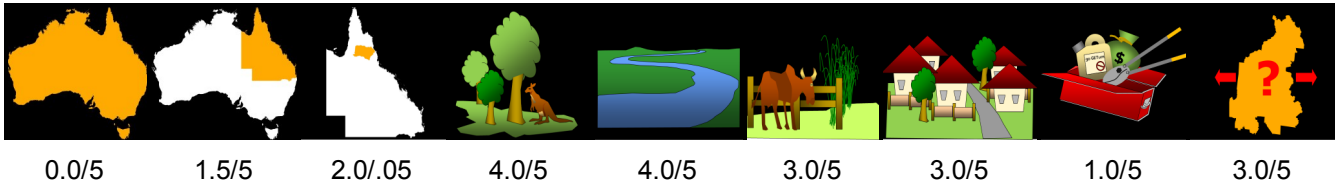


Rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus*

National priority State priority Previous local Conservation Water resources Agriculture and industry Community and residential Feasibility of control Current extent



Priority

Details

Description Rabbits are around 34–45cm in length and usually grey/brown with a pale underbelly. Other colours include piebald, black and ginger. Rabbits have long ears (10 cm) and weigh around 1–2.1kg.

Distribution Localised populations occur in Walkamin, Tolga, Atherton, Tinaroo Dam, Lake Barrine, Lake Eacham, Malanda and Millaa Millaa.

Impacts Rabbits can impact small crops and cause destruction of native vegetation, which may lead to erosion. They compete with native animals for food and shelter affect both the quantity and quality of pasture.

Key projects Strategic use of the K4 virus and baiting with Pindone is applied on occasion.

Background

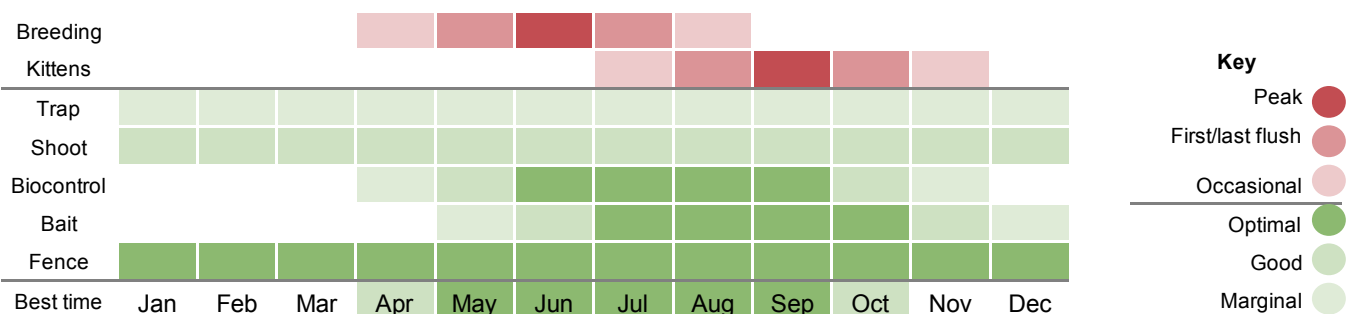
Brought to Australia for sporting purposes in 1788, Rabbits have successfully spread from isolated populations to become one of the most widely-distributed mammals in Australia.

Rabbits are found in high numbers in the southern third of Queensland with isolated populations found in the remainder of the state. Even when low in numbers they can cause significant damage to crops and native flora at the seedling stage.

Impacts on production contribute to grazing pressure and reduced crop production. Environmental impacts include degradation of water from overgrazing, direct competition with native animals for food and space, and changes to population dynamics of predator species.

A range of control methods are available for Rabbits. The preferred method is based primarily on Rabbit numbers and an understanding of their behaviour, social structure, habitats and food preferences.

Control calendar



For more information on using this biosecurity action plan fact sheet, and further information on control tools, refer to the [Tablelands Biosecurity Plan](#) available at trc.qld.gov.au and customer service centres.

1300 362 242 (24hr Customer Service)

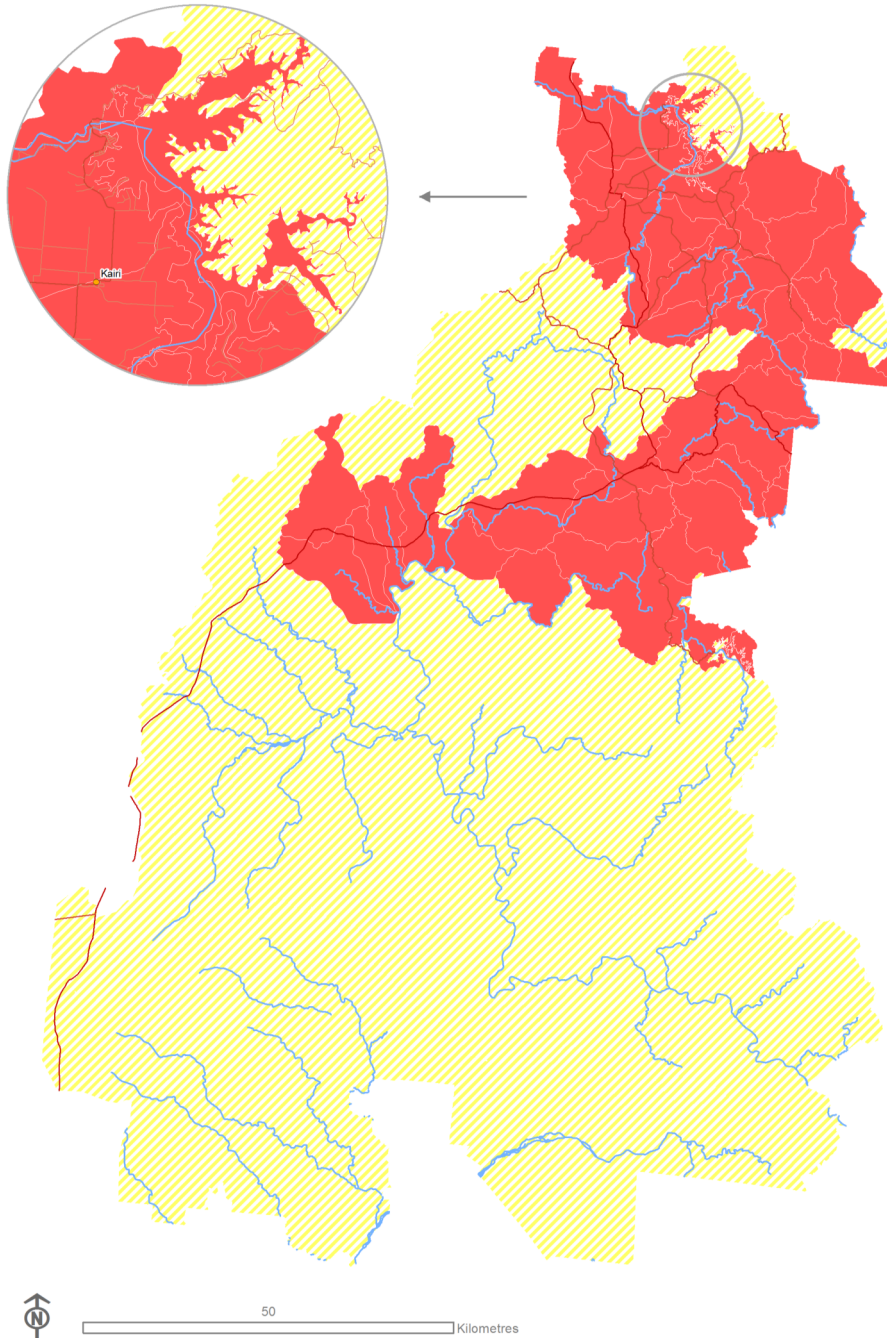
info@trc.qld.gov.au

www.trc.qld.gov.au

PO Box 573, Atherton QLD 4883

Tablelands Regional Council

Customer Service Centres in Atherton, Herberton, Malanda & Ravenshoe



Vertebrate

Herbivore

Biosecurity Act Restricted matter category

2
Must be reported

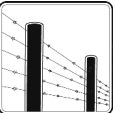
3
Do not distribute

4
Do not move

5
Do not keep

6
Do not feed

Control



What is my biosecurity obligation?

In the asset protection zone

Rabbits are a restricted invasive animal under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*. They must not be moved, fed, given away, sold, or released into the environment without a permit.

Control during the breeding season with biological control, trapping, shooting and baits is most effective.