

# CONNOVATION RESEARCH

## CONNOVATION RESEARCH MONTHLY REPORT- May 2008

**HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS:** - very significant progress was made in May in terms of advancing more humane pest control with cyanide as an alternative to 1080 for wallabies and para-aminopropiophenone (PAPP) for cats. Some of the most significant research outcomes in a decade!

1. Dama wallaby Feratox study completed. 17/18 wallabies humanely culled in a pen trial. Associated reports all completed within the month.
2. Good progress with Bennett's wallaby pen trials with unconsciousness and death in < 10 minutes and < 20 minutes. Similar to that previously reported in possum.
3. Promising mortality in early feral cat field trials with PAPP and new trial site identification completed. Scoping-direction and guidance from Department of Conservation experts agreed.
4. Exciting invitation to be involved for in major stoat control initiative in August trialling PAPP with Department of Conservation in Waitutu.
5. Good progress in work on solid multispecies bait for possum, rodent and mice and new cyanide pellets for ferrets.
6. Presentation given by Charlie Eason/Steve Hix to Lincoln University Committee was well received- and subsequently granted including work on rats and possums and pigs.
7. 95% completion of APVMA Chemistry and Manufacturing dossier for PAPP registration for Australia - additional data generated on minor impurities.
8. Two "pre-assessment screens" of ZP dossiers (efficacy and welfare) for NZFSA submission completed.
9. National Task Force review of our "Smart Pest Control" FRST programme completed focused on delivery of improved baits for mice.
10. Presentation given at "International Workshop on Anticoagulant Rodenticides" in Hawaii on optimising use of toxins for conservation-

learnt EPA withdraws brodifacoum from US consumer market May 2008!

11. Drafted and submitted a grant to UK agency DEFRA with Neville Gregory for new rodenticide research.

### PUBLICATIONS

Murphy, E.C.; Eason, C.T.; Hix, S.: MacMorran, D.B. 2007 Developing a new toxin for potential control of feral cats, stoats and wild dogs in New Zealand. In *Managing Vertebrate Invasive Species: Proceedings of an International Symposium (G.W.Witmer, W.C.Pitt, K.A.Fagerstone, Eds)*. USDA/APHIS/WS, National Wildlife Research centre, Fort Collins, CO pp 469-473

Gooneratne S. R., Eason C.T., Milne L., Arthur D.G., Cook C., Wickstrom M. (2008) Acute and long-term effects of exposure to sodium monofluoroacetate (1080) in sheep. *Onderstepoort Journal of Veterinary Research*, 75:127-139 (2008)

Shapiro L, Hix S, MacMorran D B, Eason C. T. (2008). Bait delivery cage trials on Dama wallabies. *Connovation Contract Report* pp 6.

L Shapiro L, Hix S, MacMorran D M, Eason C. T. (2008) Feratox cage trials on Dama wallabies. *Connovation Contract Report* pp 9.

Hix S., Henderson R.J., Eason C.T. MacMorran D.B. (2008) Cage testing PAPP paste for non-target effects in weka pp 9.

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