



Little Corella Management on Private Property Fact Sheet

Introduction

Little Corellas (*Cactus Sanguinea*) are a native Australian bird found in many parts of South Australia. However, with changing land use, the balance of native species has altered and some are now more abundant than they were in the past. The change in abundance can have many undesirable effects on communities and the environment.

The increase in the number of Little Corellas has caused significant concern for some sections of the community and this brochure provides some management options for private landholders.

Management Techniques

Visual screens are barriers installed around or through food and water sources. The purpose of visual screens is to decrease the ability of the birds to see the area surrounding them. Little Corellas like to be able to see the surrounding country so they can detect predators. They will avoid areas that don't provide good visibility.

Exclusion is where barriers are installed to physically prevent the birds from accessing a site. You can place netting on a high value crop or site.

On buildings exclusion spikes, netting or electric perching deterrents can be used. Private land holders can choose to shoot birds on their properties. This is best used in conjunction with other management approaches such as screening and scaring with lights.

If shooting is to be part of a control program the *Code of Practice for Humane Destruction of Birds* by Shooting in South Australia must be followed. This is available from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources website or from the Council office. Shooters are encouraged to seek advice from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources or your local Natural Resource Management Board. **(See Page 2 for contact information)**

Visual deterrents, movement and light has been used for bird management for many years. It can include using strobe lights and flashing torches at roosting birds. This will disturb and scare birds which will cause them to seek other sites.

Other methods include using kites or fright balloons, however these methods require the user to alter movement and techniques so birds don't become accustomed to the deterrent.

Gas guns are commonly used in commercial enterprises such as vineyards or fruit orchards. The guns automatically fire a non lethal shot to scare birds away from the area. Gas guns are best used in conjunction with other management methods and they should be moved occasionally so birds don't become accustomed to the deterrent.

Crops or food sources can be provided to lure birds away from commercial crops or infrastructure.

Understanding the Behaviour of Little Corellas

An important part of any Little Corella control program is understanding their behaviour. To have an effective management approach you will need to know:

- Where the flocks are roosting
- Where they are feeding
- How they move about during the day

It is also important to know if the flock population is increasing or decreasing.

Mid Murray Council has conducted public consultation in relation to the problems further associated with Little Corellas.

You are encouraged to share any information relating to Little Corellas with Council in an effort to continue to develop improved management programs.

This fact sheet has been produced to provide information to residents of the Mid Murray Council regarding the management of Little Corellas on private property.

For further information please contact:

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

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