

Recycling Plastic Oil Containers

The Problem

Each year, over 30 million motor oil containers are sold across Australia, and largely end up in landfill. Plastic from used oil containers is difficult for recyclers to handle as, even when drained, these containers can retain up to 10% of the oil.

The Solution

There is a collection and recycling program to divert used plastic oil containers from landfill. After collection, special equipment is used to remove the oil from the plastic so that the plastic can be recycled for use in industrial products. The recaptured oil is reprocessed for reuse as lubricants and fuels.

Take your used plastic oil containers to the special recycling bins at your nearest Waste Collection Facility.

If you don't have a Waste Collection Facility nearby, contact your Local Council. Do not store used oil containers at home or dump them in your kerbside recycling bin.

To find out which sites participate in this collection program, please call 1800 982 006, or visit www.oilrecycling.com.au



CANE TOADS their own worst enemy

Encouraging the cannibalistic tendencies of cane toads could be the key to controlling their massive population explosion, new research suggests.

The cane toad diet consists mainly of insects, but a University of Sydney researcher has discovered they have an appetite for their own young, consuming up to 12 other cane toads in a lifetime.

Since their introduction to Australia in 1932, the toads have been a destructive force, their poison killing native fauna. A female cane toad can produce up to 35,000 offspring in one clutch, meaning that the number of cane toads has reached astronomical levels.

Although much research has been devoted to exploring methods of reducing and even wiping out the cane toad population, the creatures have proved to be highly resilient adversaries.

But professor Rick Shine's efforts in getting to know the toad, may provide the break environmentalists have been hoping for. "I have taken the time to understand the biology of the species," Prof. Shine said. This, he said, led to the discovery of cannibalism amongst cane toads.

Adult cane toads wave one of three toes on their hind legs, luring in the young who are fooled into thinking it is an insect. The unsuspecting youngster is then eaten. Prof. Shine says it is possible to take advantage of the toads' own biology in the hope to reduce numbers.

"We will modify ponds to encourage can toads to breed in the same place, then the toads can control [their own numbers]," he said. Adults will eat the young, dramatically reducing the number of offspring and, in turn, the number of cane toads mature enough to breed, he said.

"The aim is to concentrate cane toads to provide a much better situation for Australian fauna," Prof. Shine said. "There is no way we can ever wipe out the entire cane toad population in Australia... If we are able to reduce the population dramatically, I'm sure everyone in Australia would be happy." Unlike other native wildlife, the can toad has no reaction to the poison held in its gland, enough to kill a small dog.

Source: AAP Brisbane Times



FAIRBANKS Wins Major Wetstock Management Contract with a Major UK Service Station Group

The Malhurst Group has awarded Fairbanks a three year contract to provide real-time wetstock management for around half of its UK network of petrol stations.

After successful trials of the new generation 'Ibank' service over twelve petrol stations, Fairbanks commenced the roll-out on the 1st of June this year. The wetstock management service enables Fairbanks' analysts to quickly pin-point the source of problems and act to stem the cause of loss. By utilising broadband technology, the service allows major retail networks to have total control of, and intelligence, about their operations 24/7.

Ibank, a fully comprehensive wetstock management service, features the speedy pin-pointing of meter over-dispensing issues, perhaps the biggest single contribution to stock losses. This is accomplished by highlighting targets for adjustment without waiting for a scheduled programme to commence, or unnecessary calibration checks on other meters.

The focused approach to meter calibration checks by

Fairbanks, will provide a significant cost benefit to Malhurst.

About Fairbanks Environmental Pty Ltd
Fairbanks is a leading independent specialist in providing monitoring and management services to the petrol retail industry. Formed in 1996, it is owned and run by its two directors, Bob Conlin and Steve Jones.

The company was founded on the principle that independent monitoring and management of wetstock would have the dual benefit of detecting leaks in underground petroleum installations at a very early stage, and producing considerable savings for the client.

The company recently launched its new generation 'Ibank' wetstock management service, which utilises real-time data analysis.

Fairbanks Environmental Pty Ltd in Australia are a valued Business Partner of the Service Station Association Ltd.

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