

How do dung beetles help livestock producers?

Unburied dung can take months to break down. Cattle can leave up to 12 dung pats each day, which means much of the pasture surface will not be suitably grazed. By burying and shredding dung, dung beetles can;

- improve soil
- reduce water runoff
- reduce fly populations and livestock parasite burdens
- sequester carbon and reduce greenhouse gas emission
- improve pasture fertility and growth

Get involved

- **Record sightings of dung beetles** on your pastures using the MyDungBeetle Reporter phone app. See the app store or visit our website for more information or a direct link.
- **Identify dung beetles** on your property by downloading our ID handbook from our website.
- **More information** about the project and how to become involved is available on the DBEE Project website.



**DUNG
BEETLE**

Ecosystem Engineers

Beetles with benefits.

The DBEE project will expand the range of dung beetles across southern Australia and analyse their ecosystem services for livestock producers.

The project runs from **2017 to 2022**.

How can you get dung beetles on your property?

A list of commercial suppliers of previously imported dung beetles species is available on our website (www.dungbeetles.com.au).

You can also get more information about the project and how to become involved on the DBEE Project website.



Visit our website ►

www.dungbeetles.com.au

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What is DBEE?

The Dung Beetle Ecosystem Engineers (DBEE) project is a five-year project supported by MLA through funding from the Australian Government's Rural Research & Development for Profit program.

In this project a survey of dung beetles across southern Australia will be conducted to assess seasonal activity. Data collected will be collated into a larger database which will be useful to identify distribution of dung beetles across Australia, identify gaps in activity and later facilitate their introduction into new regions.

Another project theme is focused on importation and mass rearing of three newly introduced species

of dung beetles and two endemic species that should be well-suited to conditions in inland Australia.

Dung beetle populations differ with respect to their range and adaptation to climatic conditions. A key goal of the project is to have an effective network of dung beetles working across all seasons and regions to keep Australia's pastures clean and well-fertilised.

Questions?

Visit our website for answers to frequently asked questions. Or contact our project team at:

dungbeetles@csu.edu.au

Key project objectives

- 1 The project builds on previous research and will fill seasonal and geographic gaps in the distribution of beetles across southern Australia, by introducing new dung beetle species and expanding the distribution of existing species.
- 2 The ecosystem services and benefits that dung beetles provide for primary producers will be quantified and shared with landholders.

Beetles with benefits.

