Southwest Mornington Peninsula Landcare Group’s Indian Myna Trapping Program

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Today’s talk

• Why are Indian Mynas a problem
• Distribution
• The solution: Discouraging & controlling mynas
• What’s happening around the state?
• Starting the myna trapping program
• Progress to date
Indian Mynas (*Acridotheres tristis*)

- One of most invasive pests in the world
- Introduced to Australia from Sri Lanka in 1880s to control garden pests
- Not to be confused with native Noisy Miners
Why are mynas a problem?

- Reduced biodiversity
- Reduced aesthetics
- Damage to Homes
- Damage to crops
- Disease vector
Distribution across Victoria
Legislative Status

• Not a declared pest animal under the CALP act
• However, it is not specifically protected by law in Victoria, so a person may capture and/or destroy these birds by appropriate legal and humane methods.
Humane Euthanasia

• Injection of barbiturates by a veterinarian.
• Cervical dislocation
• Carbon dioxide (CO2)
Victorian Trapping programs

- SWMP Landcare Group
- Yarra Indian Indian Myna Group
- Macedon Ranges IM Action
- NE Victorian IM Control Network
- Yarrawonga Mullaga Mens’ Shed
Starting the program

• Ran a ‘Indian myna info & trap making’ workshop – attended by 90 people!!
• Followed up with a practical trap making workshop
• Held a “Starting your trapping program” meeting
  - euthanasia
• - setting up the traps
• - reporting
Becoming a member of the program

• Join Landcare group

It is requested that all members:
- Record the number of mynas trapped and report this monthly basis
- Do a ‘Garden survey’ of birds in their gardens on a weekly basis & provide to SWMPLG annually.
The program

- Unlikely to totally eliminate Indian mynas from the local environment
- However, a coordinated approach can lower Indian myna numbers, helping to protect our native birds and small mammals.
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