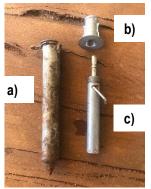
Canid pest ejectors

What is a canid pest ejector (CPE)?

CPEs are a mechanical device used for the lethal control of wild dogs and foxes. CPEs are made of several parts including the ground stake, piston ejector, lure head and poison capsule. CPEs are simply a 'static' bait that propel the contents of a 1080 (or PAPP) capsule directly into the mouth of a wild dog or fox as it pulls the lure head.





A well-oiled and used CPE: a) the ground stake, b) lure head, c) piston ejector, and d) all CPE components put together

Where to use canid pest ejectors?

The benefit of CPEs is that the firm upward pulling action or force required to trigger the poison delivery is easily achieved by foxes and wild dogs, but rarely by non-target species.

The devices can be left in place for extended periods, and easily disabled by removing the piston ejector and lure head, or covering the entire CPE. The piston resides within the ground stake which needs to be firmly anchored into the ground. If you are using your working dogs in the paddock where CPEs have been deployed you can simply remove the piston, lure head and poison capsule from the ground stake until you are finished for the day in the paddock.

Lure heads

There are a range of options when it comes to lure heads, such as, dried meat heads and felt lure heads. The key is to be novel. Trialling a range of lure heads over time will attract a range of wild dogs or foxes.

The dried meat or any form of food based lure heads are not recommended where non-target numbers are high, particularly goannas or bungarras.



CPE that has been fired - poison capsule broken

Using scents on lure heads rather than food based lures means the 'allure' lasts longer, and are less likely to be removed by the non-target species.

It is highly recommended in Western Australia to use the felt lure head with a novel smell upon it for effective wild dog and fox control.



'Off the shelf' kangaroo dried meat lure

Construction of felt lure heads

Use the plastic spiked lure heads and attach a felt strip (1.5cm wide x 10cm long) around the lure head.



Very thin zip ties are used to hold the felt in place around the lure head. The zip ties fit in between the spikes over the

felt. The zip tie is tightened using a zip tie tightener tool. Ensure there are no sharp bits for a wild dog to pull on.

Make sure the felt is a smaller width than the plastic spiked lure head. Wild dogs have been known to pull on the felt only and not CPE lure head.

Soaking the felt in the 'lure' for about a week prior to deployment ensures the scent is maintained on the lure head for up to four weeks of deployment.



Plastic CPE lure head without felt



Zip tie tightener

Use of CPEs in soft ground



Extended CPE

Welding an auger peg onto a ground stake can enable the use of CPEs in wash country. A cordless drill will easily drive the CPE ground stake with the auger extension into the soft ground.

Servicing of CPEs

At the very most CPEs should be left in place for three to four weeks before servicing. If they are left for longer they can corrode and may not fire correctly.

Three weeks is optimal to ensure there is limited human interference (as to not deter wild dog or fox activity) and the CPE is still able to function correctly. Servicing with lanolin or paraffin oil is recommended.



Wild dog interacting with a CPE

Funded by Western Australian Wild Dog Action Plan 2016-2021 and the Centre for Invasive Species Solutions.

More information

Pest and Disease Information Service
T: 9368 3080 | E: padis@dpird.wa.gov.au
For a restricted chemical permit please contact rcp.applications@dpird.wa.gov.au