

How are they being controlled?

Whitsunday Indian Myna Action Group (WIMAG) is a non-profit community action group established in August 2020. WIMAG's aim is to create awareness, track bird movements and set up humane trapping programmes.

The Whitsunday Regional Council has a control programme in place, but more help is needed to reduce numbers and prevent a complete infestation.

How can I help?



 Don't feed them or litter.
Clear away food scraps when eating outdoors.

 Feed pets indoors or clear away when finished.

 Block holes in roofs or eaves to prevent Indian Mynas from nesting – check for other animals first!

 Indian Mynas prefer open areas, so plant native trees and shrubs to reduce open areas in gardens and public spaces.

 On farms and rural properties, feed stock only as much as they need, cover feed bins and clean up any spills.

 Leave trap sites alone and report sightings or any interference or concerns.

 Volunteer with the WIMAG trapping programme.

REPORT SIGHTINGS OR CONCERNS TO:

- Whitsunday Regional Council
P 1300 972 753
- Go to the MynaScan website and record sightings on the interactive map

FOR INFORMATION OR TO HELP OUT PLEASE CONTACT:

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With thanks to:



Men's Shed



NOT WANTED



HOW YOU CAN HELP PROTECT OUR NATIVE WILDLIFE

What are they?

-  Indian (Common) Myna (*Acridotheres tristis*) are birds native to the Middle East, India and Southern Asia. As with cane toads, they were brought to Australia to reduce insect populations
-  First identified in the Whitsundays in around 2015. The population is estimated to be around 300 with sightings of flocks of 2 to 50 birds across the region
-  Are now often the predominant bird in urban areas along the east coast of Australia
-  Are an invasive, unwanted and aggressive pest threatening wildlife, agriculture and public health. If left to increase we'll see less of our wildlife and more Indian Mynas

What do they look like?

- Medium size, about 23 – 26 cm body length
- Chocolate brown with a glossy black head, neck and upper breast
- A distinctive yellow beak, eye patch, feet and legs
- Not to be confused with native Noisy Miners and Yellow Throated Miners which are mostly grey in colour

- In flight white patches can be seen under each wing



- They strut rather than hop

- Bright blue eggs

WHY DO THEY NEED TO BE CONTROLLED?

They threaten biodiversity and the survival of native birds and mammals by reducing successful breeding

- Indian Mynas can have 1 to 3 broods of chicks a year, with 3- 6 chicks in a brood. They could become the dominant bird, reducing native bird, mammal and insect populations

- Bully native birds and mammals such as parrots, lorikeets, honeyeaters, possums and sugar gliders

- Carry mites, lice and diseases which can sicken and kill native birds. They are aggressive and outcompete them for food, water, nests and hollows



Pale-headed Rosella (*Platycercus Adscitus*)

Picture: Dale Mengel

- Harass native birds and prevent them from feeding their chicks or kill chicks and eject eggs from the nest

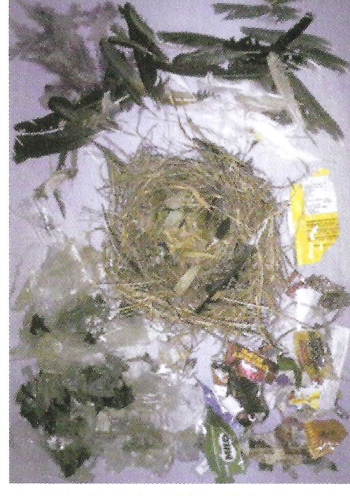
- Drive away small native birds which control insect populations, creating an imbalance in local flora increasing susceptibility to disease

They threaten agriculture

- Are a pest on farms, orchards and vineyards and foul water supplies. They damage fruit, vegetable, cereal crops and stock feed and spread agricultural weeds such as lantana.

They threaten public health & property

- Carry mites and lice that can cause dermatitis, allergies and asthma, and a range of parasites that can cause pneumonia and gastroenteritis
- Scavenge food from outdoor eating areas leaving droppings as they go
- Build nests in roof gutters and down pipes causing a fire or flooding risk



Contents of a single nest

Photo: Debbie Claridge/Chris Tidemann
Fenner School of Environment & Society ANU

- Form large noisy communal roosts in suburban areas
- Harass pets and steal their food