

## **2. CANTERBURY REGIONAL COUNCIL - NEW PEST STRATEGY**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Council is considering what action should be taken for a number of organisms, which are not presently managed under the Biosecurity Act 1993.

This discussion document lists the organisms under consideration, summarises their adverse effects and proposes a management approach (Regional Pest Management Strategy, Regional Surveillance, Other Initiatives and No Action). Where the management approach is a Regional Pest Management Strategy (RPMS) a number of strategy options are outlined.

The purpose of this discussion document is to provide a basis for further discussion with stakeholders on the organisms under consideration, the management approach proposed and the strategy options.

### **THE PLANNING FRAMEWORK**

The feedback from this document will be used to assist in the preparation of a proposed RPMS for a number of the organisms discussed. The proposed RPMS is expected to be considered by the Canterbury Regional Council in the later part of 1999. Formal submissions can then be made on the proposal. A proposed RPMS for the organisms specified in this document is expected to be approved by the Canterbury Regional Council in the first half of 2000. This document will not affect the Regional Pest Management Strategy (1998).

### **THE ORGANISMS**

The organisms discussed in this document are: wasps, possums, goats, darwin ants, mustellids and feral cats, feral pigeons, feral pigs, paradise ducks, canada geese, flax luper, flax notcher, moth, thar, deer, magpies, australian black beetle, sulphur crested cockatoos, boneseed, johnson grass, yellow gromwell, spanish heath, marram grass, bidi bids, blackberry, wild oat seed, cape weed, boxthorn, wild ginger, wilding conifers, grecian thistle, egeria, cotton thistle, hawthorn, barbery, wild thyme, hemlock and hieracium.

These organisms have been divided into four categories for the purposes of this document:

- (a) Those suitable for a RPMS;
- (b) Those pests that should be put under regional surveillance;
- (c) Those for which other initiatives by the Regional Council are appropriate; and
- (d) Those that require no further Regional Council action.

The background to the matter and explanation of the tests that needed to be applied before various organisms can be included in the strategy was provided by Ray Maw, Regional Council officer.

The Committee **resolved** to receive the information.

It was noted that the Regional Council is prepared to make a staff member available to a meeting of the City Council's Environment Committee, in response to the further information sought by that Committee.