



**The NSW Landholder Guide**  
7 Reasons Pest Control Fails — And How to Fix  
It

Davrac Rural Pest Services

Professional, compliant vertebrate pest  
management for rural landholders.

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# Why This Guide Matters

Feral pigs, wild dogs, foxes, rabbits and deer cause significant damage across New South Wales. They affect livestock, pasture, fencing, water points and long-term land condition.

Most pest control fails because it is reactive, unplanned, poorly timed, or not carried out as part of a lawful and coordinated program.

This guide outlines seven common reasons pest control underperforms and explains how to fix each one with a more strategic, compliant and results-focused approach.





## 2. One-Off Control Instead of a Program

A single operation rarely reduces pest pressure for long. If control is carried out once and then stopped, pest numbers often recover quickly, especially where breeding, movement and neighbouring pressure continue.

**Fix:** Use a planned program rather than a one-off response. Effective programs include:

- seasonal timing
- repeat effort where needed
- property-specific targets
- review points after each operation

Long-term pressure reduction comes from consistency, not isolated action.



### 3. No GPS-Mapped Planning

Guesswork leads to missed areas, repeated coverage of the same ground, and poor record keeping. Without mapped planning, it is difficult to track where activity is occurring and what action has already been taken.

**Fix:** Use GPS-supported planning to:

- map activity zones and control areas
- record access routes and operational boundaries
- document where actions have occurred
- support reporting and future decision-making

Mapping brings clarity, accountability and better follow-up.



## 4. Not Following NSW Guidelines

Non-compliant pest control can lead to poor results, non-target risk, reputational damage and legal exposure. In New South Wales, vertebrate pest management must be carried out responsibly and in line with current requirements.

**Fix:** Follow approved guidance and lawful processes for the target species, method, location and season. This includes appropriate planning, safe handling of products, neighbour notification where required, and the use of trained and authorised operators when needed.

Compliance is not an optional extra. It is part of effective pest management.



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## 5. Poor Timing

Pest activity changes with season, rainfall, feed availability, breeding cycles and pressure from surrounding country. Even good methods can underperform if they are used at the wrong time.

**Fix:** Schedule operations around actual pest behaviour rather than convenience. Consider:

- seasonal food and water patterns
- breeding and dispersal periods
- crop, pasture and lambing pressure
- weather and access conditions

Timing can strongly influence the outcome of any control effort.



## 6. No Neighbour Coordination

Pests do not respect fences, property lines or road reserves. A good result on one property can be undermined quickly if surrounding pressure is left unmanaged.

**Fix:** Coordinate where possible with neighbouring landholders, local groups and relevant support services to improve area-wide impact. Shared timing, shared awareness and coordinated action can significantly improve the durability of results.

Broader coordination often matters just as much as what happens inside one boundary.



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# 7. No Reporting or Follow-Up

Without reporting, it is difficult to measure progress, compare outcomes or plan the next stage of control. Many programs lose momentum because no one documents what happened, where it occurred or what changed afterwards.

**Fix:** Use clear reporting after each operation. This should include:

- what activity was observed
- what action was taken
- where the work occurred
- what follow-up is recommended

Good reporting supports better decisions, stronger accountability and more effective long-term management.



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# How Davrac Rural Pest Services Helps

Davrac Rural Pest Services provides a structured and professional approach to vertebrate pest management for rural landholders.

- On-property assessments
- GPS-mapped planning
- Lawful and compliant operations
- Seasonal timing
- Neighbour-aware planning
- Clear reporting and recommendations
- Long-term pressure reduction

## Book your on-property assessment

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