



SOP 05 – Common Indian Myna animal care and ethics issues

Animal Care and Ethics standards (ACE) apply in NSW to any **non-human vertebrate**, whether native or feral. Any trapping activity has an inherent risk of causing stress to both target and non-target animals. As Landcare volunteers, we are required to treat Common Indian Mynas humanely, ethically and set a “best practice” example for trappers.

Humane treatment of caller birds:

- Caller birds must always have access to clean water, food and shelter.
- Caller birds should not be left out in the elements without shelter.
- Ideally, caller birds should be brought in under cover each night unless the callers cage is suitable to be left outside near the trap.
- Cages of caller birds needs to be regularly cleaned.
- Caller cages need to be secured so they cannot easily be tipped over.
- Monitor caller cages for attack from native birds (eg. magpies, crows). If they are being attacked, remove and relocate the trap.
- When transporting caller birds, cover the cage to reduce stress.

Humane treatment of Common Indian Mynas during trapping:

- Traps should be checked daily.
- Traps need to be secured so they will not tip over.
- Any birds trapped should be euthanased asap unless they are required for callers.
- The larger section of the traps should ideally be covered with a waterproof top, shade cloth.
- Fresh water and feed should always be available to birds that become trapped.

Humane treatment of Common Indian Mynas during euthanasia:

- Birds should be euthanased by gassing with CO₂ asap.
- Cervical dislocation (ie. stretching the neck) should only be done by those who are experienced with this method.

Members of the public should be encouraged to ring the CIA Myna Area Coordinator to arrange for euthanasia of any trapped birds. CVCIA Landcare can play an important role educating the public on many aspects of Common Indian Mynas, including the issue of humane treatment and euthanasia.

IMPORTANT POINTS TO REMEMBER ABOUT HUMANE TREATMENT OF MYNAS:

- *If we are inhumane to mynas during our trapping operations, the entire myna trapping program may be shut down by RSPCA or a similar organisation.*
- *All animals being euthanased deserve a humane death.*
- *Report incidents of concern to Myna Trap Coordinator.*