



MONITORING PROTOCOL: Rapid flotation sampling of dung beetles

DB-G2

WHAT TO DO:

Step 1 Find a dung pat that is 1 - 2 days old

Step 2 Put it in a bucket with water and stir

Step 3 Skim off the floating insects, collect them, mail them

1

Find a dung pat



✗ Not too fresh



✗ Not too old

1 or 2 days old

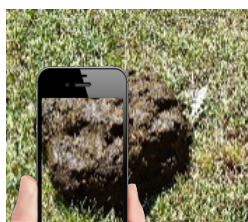


✓ Just right!

2

Take a photo of the dung pat and soil castings, and put them in a bucket of water

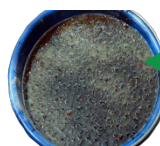
Creep up on the beetles quietly.



Put dung and topsoil into a bucket

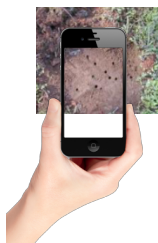


Add water and stir!



Beetles float to the top

Take photos of dung pat and any soil castings or holes



3

Collect beetles



Stir
Skim
Stir
Skim...



Skim off all beetles and other insects with a fine sieve, and rinse into a plastic jar.

4

Preserve the beetles



Half fill with 'pet safe' antifreeze OR regular car antifreeze.

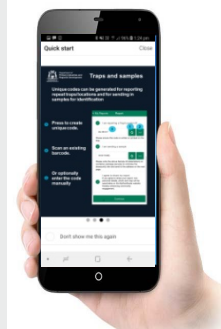
Keep ALL insects, not just dung beetles –we are interested in predator numbers too!

5

Report what you found and mail the sample.

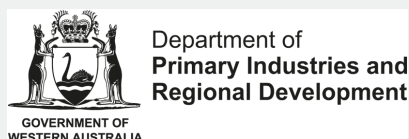
Use the MyPestGuide Reporter™ app (see following page).

This will automatically notify dung beetle experts to expect your sample in the mail and they will tell you what beetles you caught.




Every report you make contributes to a national database of dung beetle distributions on different soil types and climate zones.

How to submit a report using the MyPestGuide™ Reporter app



Open the App. Select the + symbol, then:

- Check **GPS** location is turned on (automatic).
- Select** 'Dung beetle survey' from the drop-down list.
- Press the top left camera icon. Select '**Take Photo**', and then take photos as described on p.1.
You can also '**Attach Photo**' if you have already used your phone camera to take the pictures earlier.
If you need more than 4 photos...make 2 reports!
- In box labelled 'Where', **write** farm or location name
- In box labelled 'I found', **write** "Beetles in 1-2 day old dung"
- Skip** 'I am reporting a Trap/Location ID'
- Photos will normally be sufficient (and you can skip g – i), but if you have found something unusual and want to send a sample, **select** 'I am sending a sample'
- When it appears, **press** the  icon
- A **sample code number** will automatically appear in the box. If you **write** this number on the sample you send, we will be able to tell where the sample came from.
- Select** 'I agree to share my report'.
- Press 'Continue'. Check your 'State', 'Email' and 'Mobile' details are correct then **press** 'Send'.

Report

Press camera icon to start.

a GPS location: -31.991544, 115.899382, 3.0m

b Send report to: Dung beetle survey

c Camera icons (4)

d Where: Jim's Farm

e I found: Beetles in 1-2 day old dung

f ☐ I am reporting a Trap/Location ID

g ☒ I am sending a sample

h Sample ID: 301018CGE

i Please write the above Sample ID (date/letters) on container, package securely to minimise the biosecurity risk and send to the address on the next page.

j ☒ I agree to share my report
If you agree to share your report, non-personal details, photo and map will be searchable on the MyPestGuide website thereby enhancing community engagement.

k Continue

Ready to send a sample?

- Put the dung beetle in a small plastic jar
- Write the automatically generated **sample code number** on the jar
- Put the jar in the freezer for 48hrs
- Air Mail it to the address at the right



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