



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry



Insights into Australia's established pest and weed problems

Tackling pests and weeds for sustainable
agriculture and biodiversity

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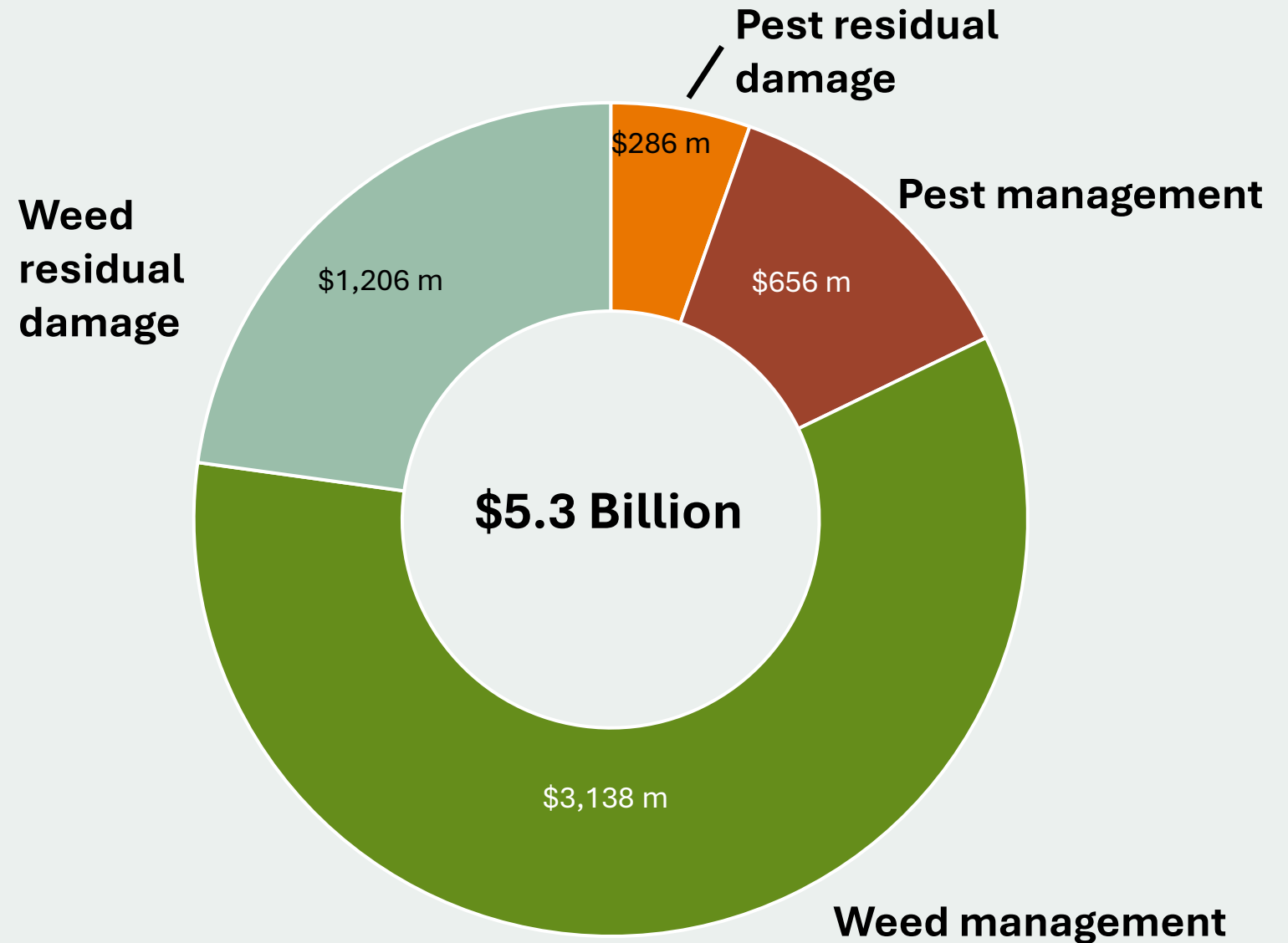
Outlook 2025 conference

Insights for Action: Fostering growth in a changing world

4-5 March 2025 | Hotel Realm Canberra | Online



Cost of vertebrate pests and weeds to agriculture



Feral pests are a significant agricultural problem

89% of agricultural land managers consider feral pests are a problem for them

54%



48%



26%



Weeds are a significant agricultural problem

85% of agricultural land managers are undertaking some form of weed management



Over 30 different weed species affect broadacre agriculture

61% considers Weeds of National Significance are a problem for them

23%

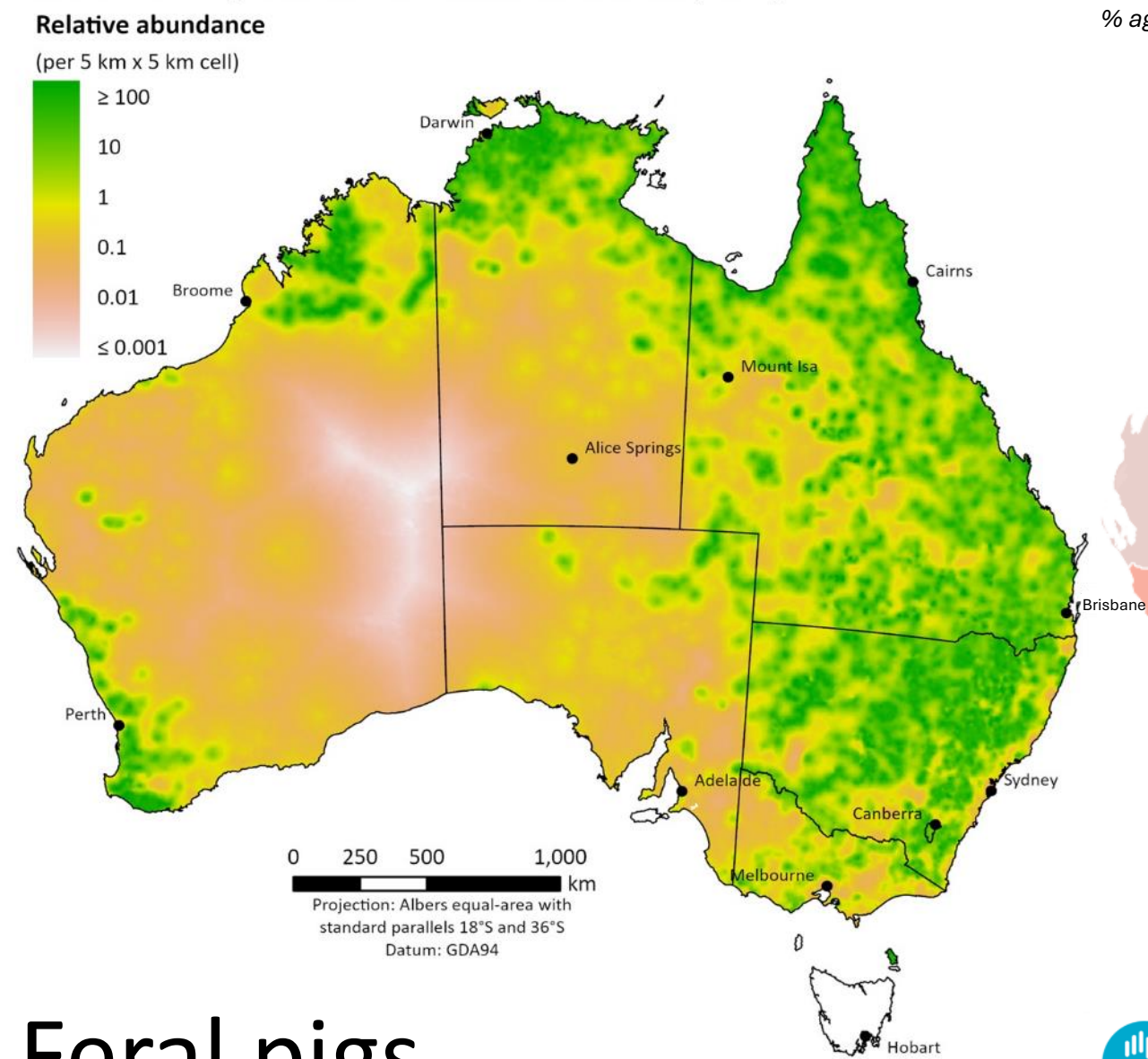


14%

Some pest and weed species impact both biodiversity and agriculture

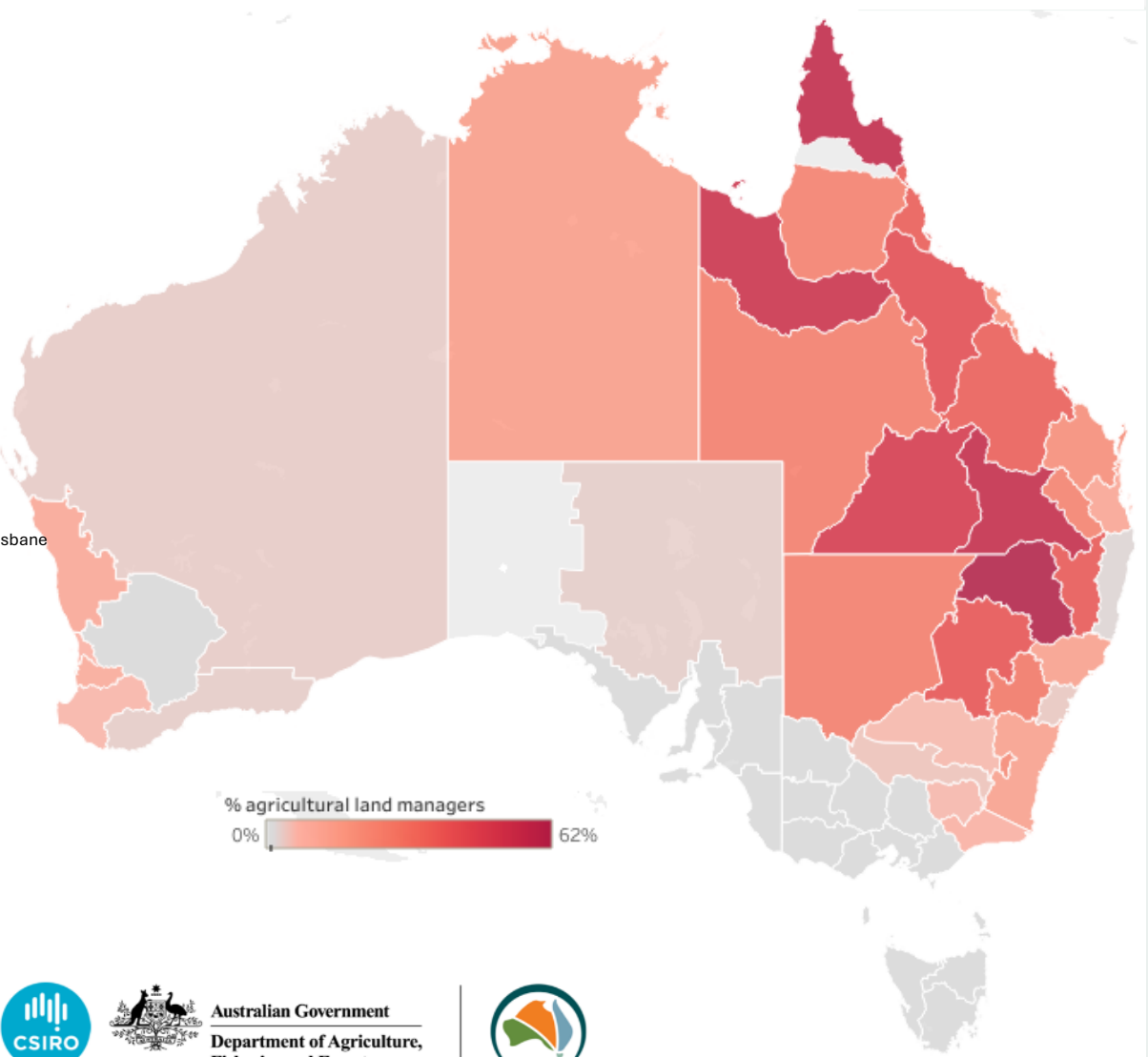


National Feral Pig Current Distribution in Australia (2024)



Reporting major problem with feral pigs on the property in the last 12 months

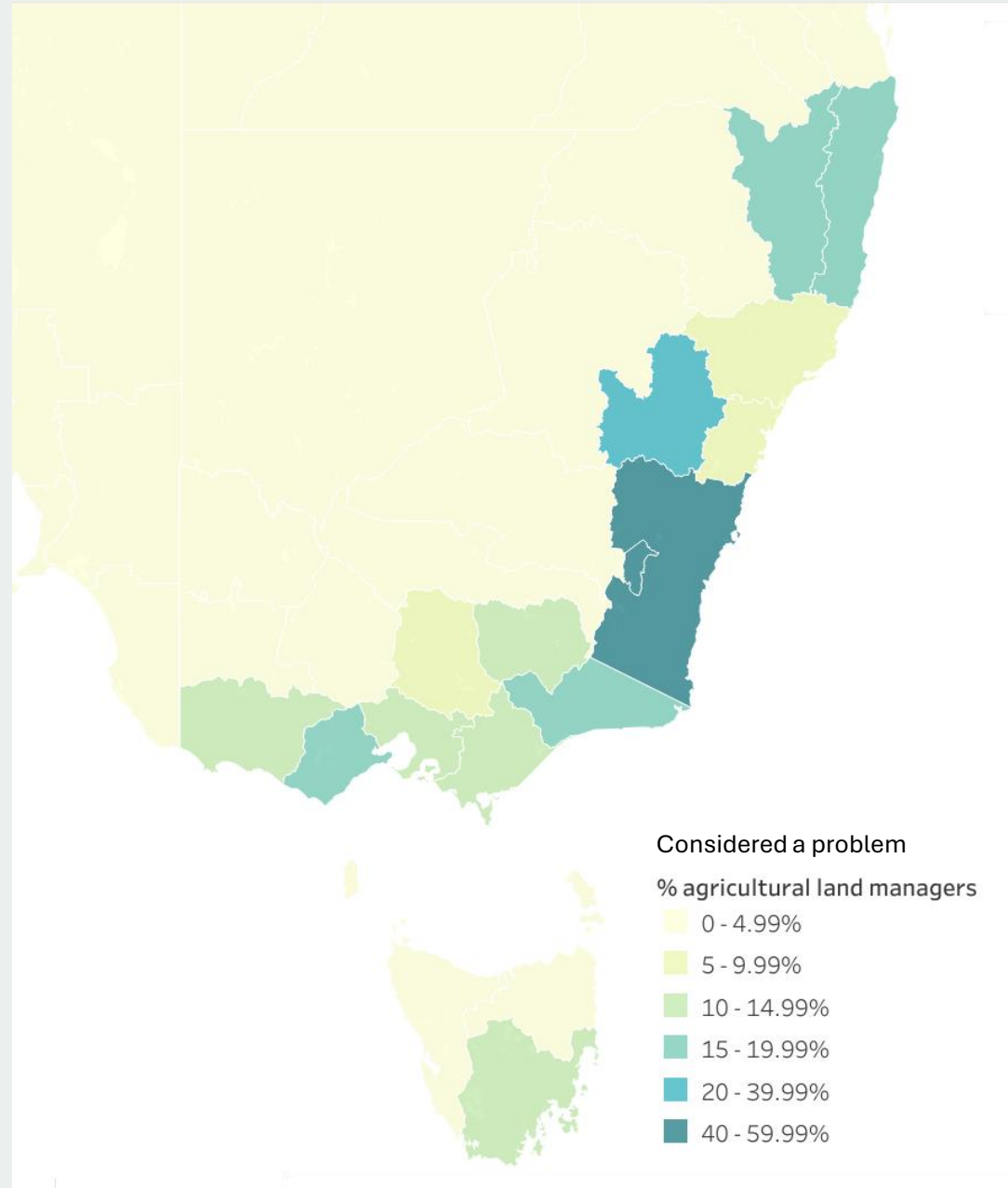
% agricultural land managers 2022 by NRM region



Feral pigs



Serrated tussock



Participation in management groups

Not many members (10%)

More participate in activities (28%)



Herbicides and pesticides control weeds and pests, but can have environmental impacts



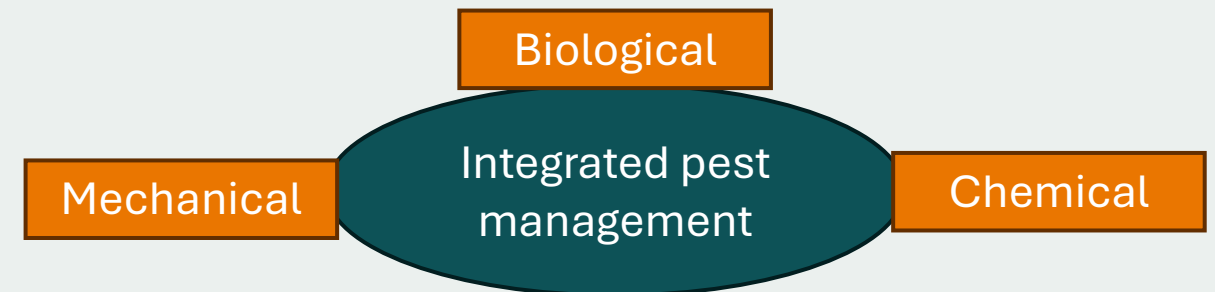
Addressing the challenges

Regulatory systems

Biocontrol



Optically targeted spraying



Summary

- The pest and weed problem is large
- There are many opportunities where pest management objectives clearly align
- There are challenges being overcome where managing pests and weeds might impact biodiversity

