

## WHY ARE INDIAN MYNAS A PROBLEM?

### INDIAN MYNAS ARE:

- ▶ a significant worldwide pest.
- ▶ an invasive introduced species.
- ▶ listed in the top 100 most invasive species (IUCN 2013).
- ▶ adaptable to a range of conditions and exploit a variety of food types.
- ▶ aggressive, territorial birds.

### IMPACTS OF INDIAN MYNAS:

- ▶ actively compete and displace native species.
- ▶ compete for nesting hollows with native species.
- ▶ feed on and foul horticultural crops.
- ▶ carry mites and pathogens which can be harmful to humans.
- ▶ prey on endangered insects and lizards.
- ▶ reduce local biodiversity.
- ▶ can quickly become established in new area.



## IDENTIFICATION

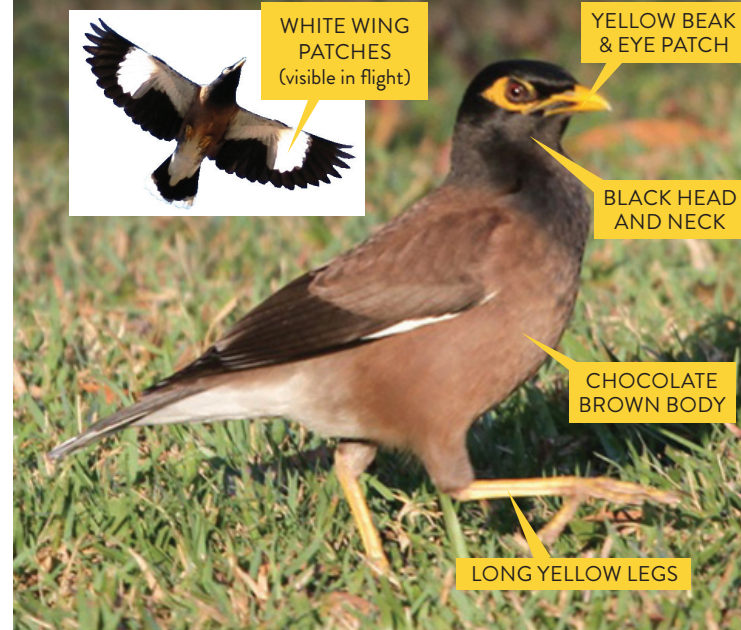


Photo source: Clarence Valley Conservation in Action Landcare

**APPEARANCE:** Chocolate brown body with black head, yellow beak and eye patch. Large white wing patches and tail margin, visible in flight.

**SIZE:** 23-25cm (slightly larger than a starling).

**GAIT:** Indian Mynas walk with a strut.

**INDIAN MYNAS ARE COMMONLY FOUND SCROUNGING FOOD ON THE GROUND ALONG ROADSIDES, IN SCHOOL YARDS AND AROUND POULTRY PENS.**

## HAVE YOU SEEN THIS BIRD?

**INTRODUCED PEST**



**BE ALERT!**

*They impact on our native birds and hollow dependant mammals*

**Indian Mynas are colonising new areas  
KEEP OUR AREA  
INDIAN MYNA FREE**



Environment,  
Land, Water  
and Planning

Funded by Victorian State Government Threatened Species Protection Initiative Community Volunteer Action Grants.

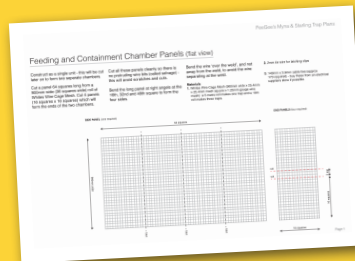
## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- ▶ Raise awareness with neighbours, family and friends about Indian Mynas
- ▶ Feed pets indoors & don't leave pet food in the backyard where Indian Mynas can feed.
- ▶ Dispose of rubbish & food scraps in bins at public places. eg parks, schools, shopping centres & sports grounds.
- ▶ Plant more local indigenous trees and shrubs to encourage native fauna to your garden. Indian Mynas prefer open spaces.
- ▶ Avoid planting tall thin trees with dense foliage such as Pencil Pines & Palm trees. These trees are Indian Mynas favourite roosting sites.
- ▶ Actively preclude Indian Mynas from nesting in houses and sheds eg cover gaps in buildings & eaves with bird netting and block any roost entrances.
- ▶ Secure stock feed from Indian Mynas in sealed containers.
- ▶ Refrain from artificially feeding wild birds if it attracts Indian Mynas.

**CONTROL:  
LANDHOLDERS IN  
SEMI-RURAL & RURAL AREAS  
(WITH A SHOOTERS LICENCE  
AND A REGISTERED FIREARM)  
MAY BE SUCCESSFUL IN  
SHOOTING INDIAN MYNAS.  
WIRE CAGE TRAPS SPECIFICALLY  
DESIGNED TO TRAP INDIAN  
MYNAS ARE AVAILABLE.**

## PEE GEE MYNA TRAP PLANS

Download at: <http://www.indianmynaaction.org.au/documents/PeeGeeTrapPlansrev%20June%202013.pdf>



### NOTE:

When trapping Indian Mynas, you must abide by the state *Animal Welfare protocol for trapping birds.*

## INDIAN MYNA TRAPPING HINTS

These hints are intended as a guide only. We encourage you to experiment and alter trapping arrangements for your best success.

Indian Mynas are extremely intelligent.

**At all times** it is important that you do not let Indian Mynas see you attend the trap, especially when there are trapped Indian Mynas letting out their alarm call. It is best to attend the trap after dark or times when you know Indian Mynas are not present.

- ▶ Use gloves when handling live or dead Indian Mynas as wild birds may carry disease.
- ▶ Release native birds ASAP regardless if there are Indian Mynas in the vicinity- their welfare is priority.
- ▶ Place the trap in a relative open area or where Indian Mynas already feed. Other good trapping areas are quiet areas with limited people or animal interference (ie behind the carport in the vegie patch).
- ▶ Keep pets (particularly cats) away when trapping.

- ▶ Bait the trap with a food the birds are accustomed to feeding on. Such as wet and dry pet food, small red dog biscuits and food scraps.
- ▶ Do not use birdseed. This attracts non-target birds.
- ▶ To attract Indian Mynas to the area, place a little loose feed outside the trap entrance, in the tunnel and inside the feeding chamber where Indian Mynas can see.
- ▶ Do not over feed outside the trap. This is to encourage the birds to feed, not to feed them.
- ▶ Monitor the trap daily to ensure bait and water is available... always away from their view or after dark.
- ▶ Clean (hose down) & relocate trap if the area becomes soiled from captured birds. They don't like being around their own excrement. Placing newspaper or cardboard under the trap on paved surfaces avoids spoiling your pavements.
- ▶ Don't be disappointed if you don't catch birds every day. They are spasmodic in their movements. Keep at it.
- ▶ If you keep a call bird in the containment chamber of your trap to encourage other Indian Mynas, you must provide the captive bird with food, water and a perch.

