



Horticulture

Industry Network

# Vegetable IDO Update



29-JULY-2010

## Locusts – Spring 2010

**Australian Plague Locusts** can be devastating pests of agriculture due to their ability to quickly develop very large populations and to form dense and highly mobile swarms.

Locust swarms can cause severe damage to pastures, field, and vegetables crops wherever they land.



**Australian Plague Locusts are native to Australia**

The control of locusts in Victoria is the responsibility of the land manager.

Victorian farmers will receive a 100 per cent rebate of the purchase price of registered chemicals used to treat locust hoppers on their properties during Spring 2010.

This will enable locusts on private land to be dealt with efficiently and without undue personal hardship.

DPI have been monitoring locust egg bed sites across Victoria since February in preparation for a large scale operation in spring when the locusts hatch.

The major area of locust activity for the 2010 spring/summer season is expected to be across Northern Victoria from Mildura to Bendigo and from Horsham to Shepparton.

### Victoria is gearing up for the greatest locust threat in almost 40 years

Growers in other parts of Victoria are also alerted as migratory locust flights of up to 800 km can occur at night on strong warm winds.

For more information or to report locust activity, please call the DPI Locust Hotline on 1300 135 559 or your Industry Development Officer.



**For more information please contact :**

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