

Citizen Science Project

Counting Stubble Quail During Harvest Operations



Aim

To detect the presence and estimate the abundance of Stubble Quail (*Coturnix pectoralis*)

Method

Please count the number of birds flushed (either flying or running) while harvesting the crop. To prevent double counting of birds please don't count birds that land back in crop you are yet to harvest

Data Collection and Reporting

We recommend using a notebook or tally counter to record each flushing. Once the paddock has been completely harvested, please tally up the count and record in the areas below along with the other information requested. If the paddock is harvested over more than one day, please record each day separately and make a note indicating 'same paddock' next to 'GPS coordinates' heading. Please return the completed forms as soon as possible to SSAA National's Wildlife Biologist Matthew Godson via email wildlife@ssaa.org.au or Text photo of the form to 0448 887 079.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Date: _____ | Crop Type: _____ |
| Locality: _____ | Counters Name: _____ |
| GPS Coordinates: _____ | Contact Number: _____ |
| Total Paddock Size (Ha): _____ | Total Quail Counted: _____ |
| Date: _____ | Crop Type: _____ |
| Locality: _____ | Counters Name: _____ |
| GPS Coordinates: _____ | Contact Number: _____ |
| Total Paddock Size (Ha): _____ | Total Quail Counted: _____ |
| Date: _____ | Crop Type: _____ |
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| Locality: _____ | Counters Name: _____ |
| GPS Coordinates: _____ | Contact Number: _____ |
| Total Paddock Size (Ha): _____ | Total Quail Counted: _____ |

Explanatory Notes:

Locality

Name of nearest town or area that the paddock is situated.

GPS Coordinates – Please use datum WGS 1984. These details will only be used to aid analysis and will not be shared.

Crop Type

This will enable comparison of data with similar and other crop types.

Total Paddock Size (Ha)

This is very important data for the calculation of quail density not just in the counter's paddocks but all others. If this is unknown it can be worked out using Google Earth by overlaying an area polygon over the location of the paddock. In need seek assistance by contacting Matthew Godson.

Counters Name/Contact Phone Number

These details are important so the counter can be identified and contactable in case further data collections or data queries need to be made.

Total Quail Counted

This is the total number of quail tallied that were seen flushing out of crops and flying/running away from unharvested crop. It is important not to count quail that flush and then land back in unharvested crops that then may be accidentally recounted on a future pass.

