



Press release.

IT'S TIME TO RAT BAIT YOUR CANE CROPS BEFORE THEY ARE GONE!

High numbers of rats and significant crop damage has been observed across the Herbert cane growing region in the past few weeks.

Large areas of devastated cane have been observed in the Abergowrie area, with rat damage now starting to occur across the district.



Photo above: Rat damaged cane

Because of the large crop to harvest this year and the late finish to the harvest season, growers are urged to monitor fields yet to be harvested for rat activity.

As a part of an Integrated Rat monitoring approach, rat baiting can be considered. HCPSL has been working with the Queensland Government Department of Environment and Science and CANEGROWERS Brisbane to secure an **aerial rat baiting** permit, for use in the Herbert cane growing region.

HCPSL proposes to have a series of shed meetings to discuss the rat issue and several other topics on the following dates:

10 th of October	6pm Bambaroo Rural Fire Bridge shed
11 th of October-	7am HCPSL Macknade office
	6pm Long Pocket Finn's Hall
12 th of October-	7am Stone River CWA Hall
	6pm HCPSL Ingham office

To achieve a coordinated approach to the rat issue, growers are urged to attend the meeting in their relevant area (if possible). A coordinated approach to rat baiting is now being proposed.

Photo below: A severely rat damaged cane block in the Abergowrie area.



RSVP: For catering purposes and to have your farm maps available for the meeting, please phone 47761808 if you will be attending.

LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT THE HCPSL SHED MEETINGS.