What can we do?

Reduce available food sources:

- Don't leave pet food outside, feed pets indoors where possible or remove leftovers.
- Refrain from feeding native birds, especially when Indian Mynas are around.
- Put all food scraps in a covered bin, especially in picnic areas, school grounds and sporting ovals.
- Prevent access to poultry and stock feed.

Reduce available habitat:

- Block holes in building roofs and eaves to stop Indian Mynas nesting.
- Plant a wide variety of native shrubs to reduce the open areas in your garden. Avoid exotic tree species commonly used as roosts eg pines, palms.
- Regularly check your nest boxes for Indian Mynas.
- Destroy Indian Myna nests etc. and clean out tree hollows and nest boxes.

Trapping program:

- A local trapping program is in progress using specialised humane traps targeting Indian Mynas.
- Please contact the CVCIA to borrow a trap and for assistance in trapping. Information will also be provided on options for euthanasing trapped Indian Mynas.
- If you want your own trap, they are cheap to build. Visit our website to view the recommended PeeGee trap design.

If you are interested in helping control these INVASIVE PESTS or would like to report sightings of large numbers of Indian Myna birds please contact:

Clarence Valley
Conservation in Action

Phone: 0456 472 177

Email: mynas@cvcia.com.au

Website: www.cvcia.com.au

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Clarence Landcare

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clarence VALLEY COUNCIL

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COMMON INDIAN MYNA

Managing the Indian Myna invasion of the Clarence Valley

CVCIA Landcare

CARING FOR OUR COUNTRY

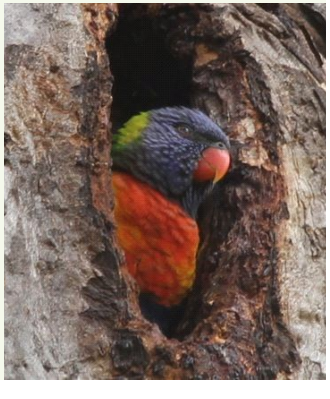
MANAGING THE COMMON INDIAN MYNA

Indian Mynas are listed as:
" One of the World's 100 Most Invasive Species".
(World Conservation Union)

The Indian Myna was introduced to Melbourne from southern Asia in late 1860s and shortly after to Cairns. They rapidly established along the eastern coast of Australia and have spread to other parts of the country including Darwin, Adelaide, Perth and Broken Hill. Indian mynas are commonly found in urban environments and rural areas near feed lots and cultivated land. They favour mainly open areas. Indian Mynas are opportunistic scavengers, eating a wide range of food including insects, fruits, vegetables, pet and stock feed. At night they sleep in communal roosts in large dense trees, sheds, homes or buildings.

Why are they a problem?

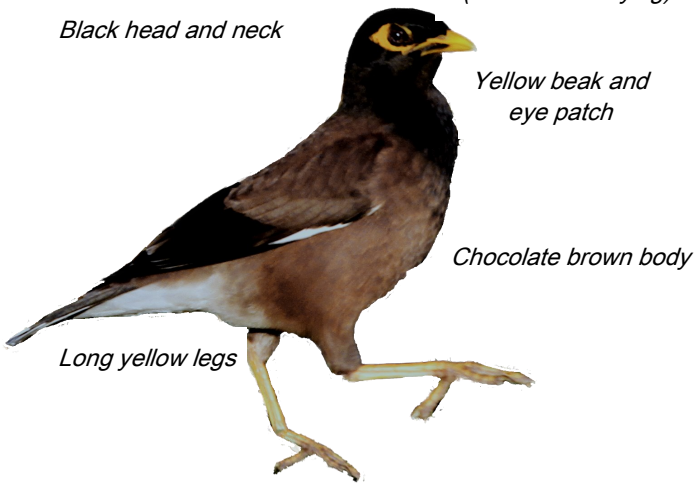
- Extremely aggressive and territorial, attacking and often killing native wildlife.
- Out-competes natives for tree-hollows/nesting boxes, roost trees and food sources.
- Out-breeds our native birds, often breeding 4 to 6 chicks and nesting three times a year.
- Their nests in eaves of buildings and sheds can cause fire and health hazards.
- Carry exotic varieties of bird mites which can cause rashes, asthma, etc.
- Damage fruit and grain crops, foul stock feed.



COMMON INDIAN MYNA

(Acridotheres tristis)

Introduced pest



How to identify Indian Mynas

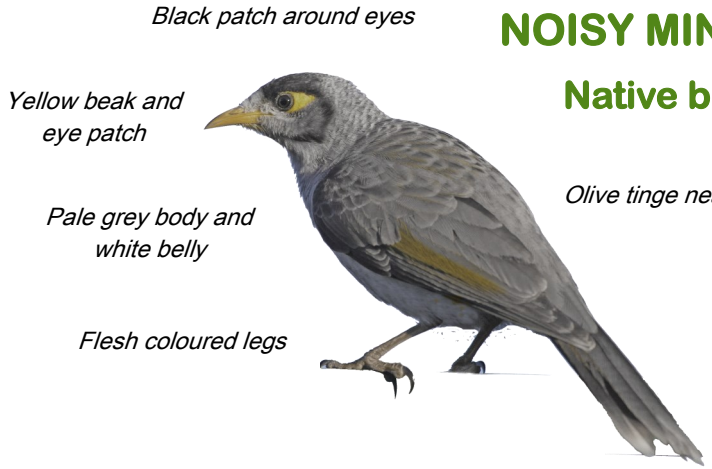
The Indian Myna is a chocolate brown bird about 25 cm head to tail with a black head and neck. It has a yellow beak, yellow legs and a yellow patch around the eyes. It struts rather than hops when on the ground and when flying its white wing patches are clearly visible.

Do not confuse with the Native Noisy Miner

The Noisy Miner (Marorina melancephala) is occasionally mistaken for the Indian Myna as it has a yellow beak and eye patch. The main difference is the Noisy Miner is a mottled grey and dull white and has no white patches underwings. Also when on the ground the Noisy Miner hops whereas the Indian Myna walks or struts.

NOISY MINER *(Manorina melanocephala)*

Native bird



The Noisy Miner is a honeyeater and has a limited diet. It forages for nectar and insects

IT IS A PROTECTED SPECIES