

Christine Chrystostom - Hunter Wildlife Rescue

12 Wildlife cameras for mange monitoring program

Having the cameras makes the success of fighting mange much higher. The wombats with mange come out in daylight to try and feed so we can pole them and follow to find where the burrow is. They are much easier to find when we first start treating but after 2 or 3 treatments start to feel a bit better, so it makes it harder to find them. This is why the cameras are so important placed at various burrows. We can identify each animal then use flaps. This is not without problems either! One burrow we monitored with a camera showed several different animals going in and out. Having the cameras raises the chances of successful treatment.

We are also monitoring wombats in care as we have 3 pens. There are burrows that have been used by previous residents and as they are soft released coming and going through a flap its possible they could get mange and bring the mites back to the pens.

We have had some neighbours with properties in our valley that have expressed an interest and asked if they can call us when seeing a wombat with mange so we can go and treat. We will do so and try and find the burrow so intend to use a camera when this happens.

Currently the weather conditions here are good for wombats. We have had a good rain fall, but not flooding. There is an abundance of grass etc. and the river is flowing. Food and drink for all. We find that the number of wombats around here who suffer from mange drops significantly in these good conditions.

We treated 3 wombats commencing in July that were coming to our house paddock. We only had 1 camera then!



*Thank you
NWC for enabling us to do
this work
treating mange
in wombats.*