

ON THE WAY TO BETTER PEST CONTROL: WAYS TO IMPROVE THE BATTLE AGAINST MAMMALIAN PREDATORS

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New Zealand's unique and largely endemic biodiversity relies heavily on the control of invasive mammalian predators. Nevertheless, today's pest control measures are still remarkably basic and require large amounts of human effort and resources which most countries are unable to afford. This talk will give an insight into current pest control measures by outlining their weaknesses and highlighting their potential for improvement. My research focuses on the attractiveness of pheromones and their application as potential lures. Additionally I'll discuss animal behavior and interactions with trapping devices and aims to achieve more innovative, sustainable, and effective pest control measure.