

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**Adrian Pederick MP JP**

Member for Hammond

**Opposition Whip**

**Shadow Minister for**

**Agriculture, Food & Fisheries and Forests**

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### **Frustration over lack of mouse plague action**

SA farmers have been left with few options to deal with a major mouse plague says Opposition Agriculture spokesman Adrian Pederick.

Mr Pederick said the current plague threatened to ruin the next grain harvest as farmers statewide battle the invasive pest.

'This problem has been looming for some time. I've been speaking with the government for twelve months about the need for action.

'The apparent three week delay in supply of commercial bait has highlighted the lack of other options.

'Farmers are frustrated and I'm frustrated that the government doesn't appear to appreciate the severity of the matter and the urgent need for solutions.

'I ask how hard the Labor government has pushed the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority to gain emergency approvals for mixing bait.

'And I don't believe the government have vigorously pursued all possibilities for other solutions.

'This lack of options is causing farmers to look for other ways of dealing with the mice.

'I remind the government that we are talking here about protecting an industry that last year contributed over \$3 billion to the SA economy.'