Introduced pest animals and weeds in South Australia - Acts of Parliament from 1837 to 2003 relating to their control

# Introduction

The list below of South Australian Acts has been sourced through the Flinders University South Australian Legal History Archive <https://dspace.flinders.edu.au/xmlui/handle/2328/1893> and South Australian Legislation website <https://www.legislation.sa.gov.au/index.aspx>.

The list is presented in chronological order and includes principal Acts and Acts amending those principal Acts. The purpose of some Acts listed may not be principally about the control of pest animals or weeds but these have been included as part of the Act related their control, such as the Crown Lands Act Amendment Act which provided for erection of rabbit-proof and vermin fences. Other Acts included that require explanation are:

* The Entire Horses Act is included as it provided for “the control of inferior kinds of horses that were likely to cause great injury to the colony”.
* Various Dog Acts have been included where they provided for “abating the Nuisance and Damage to Property in the colony”.

Out of interest, a second table of Acts is included listing several Acts that were passed as they provided for the protection of native and acclimatised animals. It is ironic that some introduced animals that were protected under these Acts shortly after were to become pests requiring landowners to destroy them.

# List of Acts to control pest animals and weeds

| Year | Act Name | Description |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1839 | Entire Horses Act | An Act to prevent Entire Horses being suffered to stray or run at large |
| 1851 | Scotch Thistle Act | An Act for preventing the further spread of the Scotch Thistle. |
| 1852 | Dogs Act | An Act for abating the Nuisance and Damage to Property occasioned by the great number of Dogs which are loose in the Province of South Australia. |
| 1860 | The Dog Act | An Act for abating the nuisance and damage to property occasioned by the great number of Dogs which are loose in the Province of South Australia, |
| 1861 | Dogs Act | An Act to amend "The Dog Act of 1860." |
| 1862 | The Thistle and Bur Act | An Act for preventing the further Spread of the Scotch Thistle, Variegated Thistle, and Bathurst Bur. |
| 1867 | The Dog Act | An Act to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to the Registration of Dogs and for making further Provisions for the Prevention of Damage done by Dogs in South Australia. |
| 1875 | Rabbit Destruction Act | An Act to provide for the Suppression of the Rabbit Nuisance. |
| 1878 | Rabbit Destruction Act | An Act to amend "The Rabbit Destruction Act of 1875." |
| 1879 | Rabbit Suppression Act | An Act to provide for the Suppression of Rabbits, and to consolidate, alter, and amend the laws relating thereto. |
| 1882 | Vermin Destruction Act | An Act to provide for the Destruction of Vermin. ; |
| 1884 | Dogs Act | An Act to amend "The Dog Act, 1867." |
| 1884 | Vermin Destruction Act | An Act to make better provision for the Destruction of Vermin. |
| 1885 | Vermin Act Repeal Act | An Act to repeal "The Vermin Destruction Act, 1882," and "The Vermin Destruction Amendment Act, 1884," and to revive and amend "The Rabbit Suppression Act, 1879," and for other purposes. |
| 1887 | The Thistle and Bur Act | An Act for amending the Act No. 26 of 1862, and for preventing the further spread of the Star Thistle. |
| 1887 | The Crown Lands Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend "The Crown Lands Consolidation Act, 1886." (Provides for erection of rabbit-proof and vermin fences) |
| 1888 | Crown Lands Act | An Act to repeal "The Crown Lands Consolidation Act, 1886," and "The Crown Lands Amendment Act, 1887," and to make other provisions in lieu thereof |
| 1888 | Dogs Registration Act | An Act to amend the Law relating to the Registration of Dogs. |
| 1889 | Crown Lands Act | An Act to amend "The Crown Lands Act, 1888," and for other purposes. (Provides for erection of rabbit-proof fences) |
| 1889 | Sparrow Destruction Act | An Act to provide for the Destruction of Sparrows. |
| 1889 | Vermin Funds Act | An Act to validate and confirm the Distribution of certain Funds of Vermin District No. 26. |
| 1889 | Wild Dogs and Foxes Act | An Act to provide for the Destruction of Wild Dogs and Foxes. |
| 1890 | Vermin-Proof Fencing Act | An Act to Supply Vermin-proof Fencing to District Councils and others, and for other purposes. |
| 1891 | Noxious Weeds Destruction Act | An Act to amend the Law relating to the Destruction of Noxious Weeds. |
| 1891 | Morgan and Nackara Dog-proof Fencing Act | An Act to authorise the construction of a Dog and other Vermin Proof Fencing from Morgan to Nackara. |
| 1891 | Fences Act | An Act to consolidate and amend the Law relating to Fences. (Provides for erection of rabbit-proof and vermin fences) |
| 1892 | Fences Act | An Act to consolidate and amend the Law relating to Fences. (Provides for erection of rabbit-proof and vermin fences) |
| 1894 | Vermin Districts Act | An Act relating to Vermin. |
| 1895 | Vermin Districts Act | An Act to amend the Laws relating to Vermin. |
| 1896 | Vermin Districts Act | An Act to amend "The Vermin Districts Act, 1894." |
| 1897 | Vermin-Proof Fencing Act | An Act to amend the Vermin-proof Fencing Acts, 1890 and 1894, and for other purposes. |
| 1898 | Vermin Districts Act | An Act to amend the Vermin Acts Amendment Act of 1895. |
| 1900 | The Vermin Districts Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Law relating to Vermin Districts. |
| 1903 | Fences Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend "The Fences Act, 1892" (Provides for erection of rabbit-proof fences) |
| 1904 | The Pastoral Act 1904 | An Act to consolidate and amend the Law relating to Pastoral Lands, and for other purposes. |
| 1905 | The Vermin Act | An Act to consolidate and amend the Law relating to Vermin Destruction and Vermin Fencing, and for other purposes. |
| 1905 | The Homing Pigeon Act | An Act for the Protection of Homing Pigeons, and for other purposes. |
| 1907 | The Vermin Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend "The Vermin Act, 1905. |
| 1911 | The Vermin Act Amendment Act | An Act to further amend "The Vermin Act, 1905". |
| 1912 | The Vermin Act Further Amendment Act | An Act to further amend "The Vermin Act, 1905". |
| 1912 | The Wild Dogs Act | An Act to provide for the Destruction of Wild Dogs. |
| 1913 | The Vermin Act Further Amendment Act | An Act to further amend the Vermin Acts. |
| 1914 | The Wild Dogs Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend, and to extend the operation of, "The Wild Dogs Act, 1912." |
| 1914 | The Vermin Act | An Act to consolidate certain Acts relating to Vermin Destruction and Vermin Fencing, and for other matters. |
| 1915 | Vermin Act Suspensory Act | An Act giving power to suspend the operation of certain provisions of the Vermin Act, 1914. |
| 1915 | Crown Lands Act | An Act to consolidate certain Acts relating to Crown Lands. (Matters relating to vermin) |
| 1916 | Vermin Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Vermin Act, 1914. |
| 1919 | Wild Dogs Act Amendment Act | An Act to further amend the Wild Dogs Act, 1912, and for other purposes. |
| 1919 | Vermin Act Further Amendment Act | An Act to further amend the Vermin Act, 1914, and for other purposes. |
| 1921 | Moolawatana and Yandama Fence (Removal) Act | An Act to authorise the Commissioner of Crown Lands to take up and remove a certain Vermin proof Fence, and to dispose of the Materials composing the same, and for other purposes. |
| 1921 | Sparrow Destruction Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Sparrow Destruction Act, 1889. |
| 1922 | Vermin Act Further Amendment Act | An Act to further amend the Vermin Act, 1914 |
| 1923 | Vermin Act Further Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Vermin Acts, 1914 to 1922, and for other purposes. |
| 1924 | Vermin Act Further Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Vermin Acts, 1914 to 1923, and for other purposes. |
| 1924 | Registration of Dogs Act | An Act to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the Registration of Dogs, and the Prevention of Damage by Dogs, and for other purposes. ; |
| 1924 | Wild Dogs Act Amendment Act | An Act to further amend the Wild Dogs Act, 1912. |
| 1925 | Camels Destruction Act | An Act relating to the Destruction of Trespassing Camels, and for other purposes. |
| 1925 | Noxious Weeds (African Boxthorn) Act | An Act relating to the Destruction of African Boxthorn. |
| 1926 | Camels Destruction Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Camels Destruction Act, 1925, and for other purposes. |
| 1926 | Vermin Act Further Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Vermin Acts, 1914 to 1924, and for other purposes. |
| 1928 | Wild Dogs Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Wild Dogs Acts, 1912 to 1924. |
| 1928 | Vermin Act Further Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Vermin Acts, 1914 to 1926. |
| 1929 | Registration of Dogs Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Registration of Dogs Act, 1924. |
| 1929 | Wild Dogs Act Amendment | An Act to amend the Wild Dogs Acts, 1912 to 1928. |
| 1929 | Crown Lands Act | An Act to consolidate certain Acts relating to Crown Lands. (Matters relating to vermin) |
| 1930 | Vermin Act Amendment Act | An Act to empower the Postponement of certain Repayments under the Vermin Acts, 1914 to 1928, to amend the said Acts, and for other purposes. |
| 1931 | Wild Dogs Act Amendment Act | An Act to further amend the Wild Dogs Act, 1912. |
| 1931 | Wild Dogs Act | An Act to consolidate certain Acts providing for the Destruction of Wild Dogs. |
| 1931 | Noxious Weeds Act | An Act to make further and better provision for the Destruction of Noxious Weeds, and for other purposes. |
| 1931 | Vermin Act | An Act to consolidate certain Acts relating to Vermin Destruction and Vermin Fencing, and other matters. |
| 1931 | Vermin Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Vermin Act, 1914. |
| 1934 | Alsatian Dogs Act | An Act to provide for the control of Alsatian dogs, and for incidental purposes. |
| 1935 | Noxious Weeds Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Noxious Weeds Act, 1931. |
| 1935 | Vermin Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Vermin Act, 1931, and the Loans for Fencing and Water Piping Act, 1930. |
| 1936 | Vermin Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Vermin Act, 1931, and the Loans for Fencing and Water Piping Act, 1930. |
| 1938 | Noxious Weeds Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Noxious Weeds Act, 1931-1935. |
| 1938 | Wild Dogs Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Wild Dogs Act, 1931. |
| 1939 | Noxious Weeds Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Noxious Weeds Act, 1931-1938. |
| 1939 | Vermin Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Vermin Act, 1931-1936. |
| 1942 | Vermin Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Vermin Act, 1931 -.1939 |
| 1943 | Vermin Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Vermin Act, 1931 - 1942. |
| 1944 | Vermin Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Vermin Act, 1931-1943 |
| 1945 | Vermin Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Vermin Act, 1931 - 1944 |
| 1946 | Dog Fence Act | An Act to provide for the establishment and maintenance of a dog-proof fence in the northern part of the State in order to prevent the ingress of wild dogs into the pastoral areas of the State, and for purposes incidental thereto. |
| 1948 | Wild Dogs Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Wild Dogs Act, 1931 - 1938. |
| 1949 | Dog Fence Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Dog Fence Act, 1946 |
| 1949 | Alsatian Dogs Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Alsatian Dogs Act, 1934. |
| 1951 | Wild Dogs Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Wild Dogs Act, 1931-1948. |
| 1953 | Vermin Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Vermin Act, 1931-1945. |
| 1953 | Dog Fence Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Dog Fence Act, 1946·1949 |
| 1953 | Wild Dogs Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Wild Dogs Act, 1931·1951 |
| 1954 | Vermin Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Vermin Act, 1931-1953. |
| 1954 | Wild Dogs Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Wild Dogs Act, 1931-1953. |
| 1956 | Weeds Act | An Act to make provision for the destruction of certain weeds, to repeal the Noxious Weeds Act, 1931 - 1939, and for other purposes. |
| 1957 | Vermin Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Vermin Act, 1931-1954. |
| 1959 | Vermin Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Vermin Act, 1931.1957 |
| 1959 | Dog Fence Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Dog Fence Act. 1946-1953. |
| 1960 | Dog Fence Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Dog Fence Act, 1946-1959. |
| 1960 | Vermin Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Vermin Act, 1931-1959 |
| 1961 | Dog Fence Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Dog Fence Act, 1946-1960. |
| 1961 | Wild Dogs Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Wild Dogs Act, 1931 - 1954 |
| 1962 | Dog Fence Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Dog Fence Act. 1946-1961. |
| 1962 | Vermin Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Vermin Act, 1931-1960. |
| 1963 | Weeds Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Weeds Act, 1956. |
| 1964 | Statutes Amendment (Dog Fence and Vermin) Act | An Act to amend the Dog Fence Act, 1946-1962 and the  Vermin Act, 1931-1962. |
| 1965 | Alsatian Dogs Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Alsatian Dogs Act, 1934-1949. |
| 1967 | Vermin Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Vermin Act, 1931-1964, and for other purposes. |
| 1969 | Weeds Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Weeds Act, 1956-1963. |
| 1969 | Dog Fence Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Dog Fence Act, 1946-1964. |
| 1970 | Wild Dogs Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Wild Dogs Act, 1931-1961 |
| 1975 | Vertebrate Pests Act | An Act to provide for the control of vertebrate pests; to repeal the Vermin Act, 1931-1967, and the Wild Dogs Act, 1931-1970; to amend the Statute Law Revision Act, 1935, the Statute Law Revision Act, 1936, the Loans for Fencing and Water Piping Act, 1938-1973, and the Statutes Amendment (Dog Fence and Vermin) Act, 1964; and for other purposes. |
| 1975 | Dog Fence Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Dog Fence Act, 1946-1969. |
| 1976 | Pest Plants Act | An Act to provide for the control of pest plants within the State; to repeal the Weeds Act, 1956-1969, and for other purposes. |
| 1977 | Vertebrate Pests Act Amendment Act (No. 2) | An Act to amend the Vertebrate Pests Act, 1975-1977. |
| 1977 | Vertebrate Pests Act Amendment Act (No. 7) | An Act to amend the Vertebrate Pests Act, 1975. |
| 1978 | Dog Fence Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Dog Fence Act, 1946-1975. |
| 1979 | Alsatian Dogs Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Alsatian Dogs Act, 1934-1965. |
| 1980 | Alsatian Dogs Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Alsatian Dogs Act, 1934-1979. |
| 1982 | Dog Fence Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Dog Fence Act, 1946-1978. |
| 1983 | Alsatian Dogs Act Repeal Act | An Act to repeal the Alsatian Dogs Act, 1934-1980. |
| 1984 | Dog Fence Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Dog Fence Act, 1946. |
| 1985 | Pests Plants Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Pest Plants Act, 1976. |
| 1986 | Dog Fence Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Dog Fence Act, 1946 |
| 1986 | Animal and Plant Control (Agricultural Protection and Other Purposes) Act | An Act to provide for the control of animals and plants for the protection of agriculture and the environment and for the safety of the public; to repeal the Vertebrate Pests Act, 1975, and the Pest Plants Act, 1975; and for other purposes. |
| 1989 | Dog Fence Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Dog Fence Act, 1946. |
| 1989 | Animal and Plant Control (Agricultural Protection and Other Purposes) Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Animal and Plant Control (Agricultural Protection and Other Purposes) Act, 1986. |
| 1992 | Animal and Plant Control (Agricultural Protection and Other Purposes) (Immunity from Liability) Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Animal and Plant Control (Agricultural Protection and Other Purposes) Act 1986. |
| 1995 | Dog Fence (Miscellaneous) Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Dog Fence Act 1946. |
| 1995 | Dog Fence (Special Rate, etc) Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Dog Fence Act 1946. |
| 1996 | Animal and Plant Control (Agricultural Protection and Other Purposes) (Interim Control Boards) | An Act to amend the Animal and Plant Control (Agricultural Protection and Other Purposes) Act 1986. |

# List of Acts to protect certain pest animals

| Year | Act Name | Description |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1864 | Protection of Animals Act | An Act to prevent the wanton Destruction of Certain Wild and Acclimatized Animals. |
| 1874 | Game Act | An Act to prevent the Destruction of certain Birds and Animals |
| 1885 | Game Act | An Act to amend the "Game Act, 1874." |
| 1886 | Game Act | An Act to repeal the "Game Act, 1874," and Act No. 337 of 1885, and to make other provisions in lieu thereof. |
| 1912 | The Animals Protection Act | An Act to provide for the Protection of Wild Animals. |
| 1919 | Animals and Birds Protection Act | An Act to provide for the Protection of Wild Animals and Birds, and to Regulate the Use of Firearms for the purpose of Sport, and for other purposes. |
| 1922 | Animals and Birds Protection Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Animals and Birds Protection Act, 1919. |
| 1927 | Animals and Birds Protection Act Amendment Act | An Act to further amend the Animals and Birds Protection Act, 1919, and for other purposes. |
| 1928 | Animals and Birds Protection Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Animals and Birds Protection Acts, 1919 to 1927. |
| 1932 | Animals and Birds Protection Act Amendment Act | An Act to enact provisions for the Better Protection of Certain Birds. |
| 1933 | Animals and Birds Protection Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Animals and Birds Protection Act Amendment Act, 1932. |
| 1938 | Animals and Birds Protection Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Animals and Birds Protection Act, 1919-1934. |
| 1958 | Animals and Birds Protection Act Amendment Act | An Act to amend the Animals and Birds Protection Act, 1919-1938. |