



HARES

Legislation in Victoria

European Hares (*Lepus eurpaeus*) are referenced under **Section 58** of the **Catchment and Land Protection Act (CaLP)** and declared against **Schedule 4A** as an 'established pest animal'.

The difference between Schedule 4A and 4B

The difference between the two schedules is **4B** refers to the animal being declared while in a feral or wild situation. Once securely housed it is no longer considered to be an 'established pest animal'. This is the case for European rabbit.

Animals on schedule **4A** (such as European hares) are declared as an 'established pest animal' regardless of their situation (wild or not).

As European hares are scheduled as 4A they cannot be kept for any reason without a permit. There is no difference to the classification based on age (juvenile or adult). I have attached a link regarding the schedules for your information below;

http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/283435/declared-prohibited-pest-animals.pdf

On what grounds can a permit be issued?

There are 5 permit types that can be issued for the following purposes:
Zoo's, animal exhibition (eg circus), research/education, private collections, special collections.

The Agriculture Victoria website contains more information on what each permit type is classified as, as well as guidance notes and permit application forms in the drop down lists. Please refer to the website below for more information.

<https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/biosecurity/protecting-victoria/legislation-policy-and-permits/permits-for-pest-animals-in-victoria>

Without being in possession of a permit issued under section 75 of the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*, any attempt to rehabilitate an established pest animal under schedule 4A (such as a hare) would be considered 'keeping' (by the centre) and the 'giving' of the hare from one person to another is considered selling (under the definition of 'sell' in the *Catchment and Land Protection Act*).



Government of Victoria, Victoria, Australia.