

# WILDLIFE ADVOCATE

Representing The Quiet Australian

## FACT SHEET

### Kangaroo Slaughter Inhumane

The kangaroo meat and skin industry would have the public believe that their practices are humane and that they are putting starving kangaroos out of their misery.

First of all, the kangaroo meat and skin industry does not shoot undernourished or starving kangaroos - there's no profit in it. Commercial kangaroo shooters are paid either by weight or by the size and quality of the skins. Consequently, commercial shooters target large, healthy and predominantly male kangaroos.

Secondly, while the use of a single shot to the head using a high-powered firearm is considered by many (including the RSPCA) as delivering a humane death, the same is not achieved for the millions of joeys caught up in the slaughter.

According to the *Code of Practice for the Humane Shooting of Kangaroos*, which the industry claims to follow, young joeys (equivalent to human babes at arms) are to be:

*Dealt with by...decapitation with a sharp instrument...or...  
a heavy blow to destroy the brain*

#### **Having one's throat slit or being bludgeoned to death is far from humane**

Furthermore, while commercial shooters may have a high level of compliance with the Code of Practice, the same could not be said for non-commercial or recreational shooters.

According to the 2002 Report on Compliance with the Code of Practice:

- ▶ *the incidence of cruelty within the non-commercial sector is higher than that found with professional shooters*
- ▶ *there is no requirement for the licence/permit holder (or their nominee) to undertake any training in humane shooting, or in firearms competency*

#### **Even the kangaroo industry has called for the end to non-commercial licences because of the cruelty**