



7th October

# WANTED

## Flea

*Also known as 'Cowboy Dan'*

- Description:**
- Length: 1-10mm
  - A small flattened, parasitic insect with a head, thorax and abdomen
  - Eyes, if present are small, simple and on opposite sides of head
  - Two short antennae
  - Mouth parts are adapted for piercing or sucking
  - Wingless, with three pairs of legs; hind-legs are enlarged and used for jumping to potential hosts
  - Abdomen is larger than head and thorax and usually round or oval in shape
  - Colour ranges from pale brown to dark reddish-brown
  - The larvae are small, white and maggot-like with tiny biting jaws and no legs

**Likely to be found:** On mammals, occasionally birds. Some fleas are host specific, others have up to 30 different animal hosts. Can live on or off host species. Often present in bedding, and sleeping areas of pet dogs and cats. Found in association with the host species, throughout Australia.

**Last seen:** On your pet cat, dog and rabbit



# REWARD OFFERED!

find out more at: [www.unisa.edu.au/barbarahardy](http://www.unisa.edu.au/barbarahardy)

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