Weed of National Significance Contain this weed



Origin South Africa

Description Sprawling shrub to 2 m tall.

Leaves Alternate, practically hairless except for a cottony down on young

leaves. Ovate to oblong, 1.5–6 cm long, 0.7 to 2 cm wide, smooth

edged or slightly toothed, pointed at tip.

Flowers Daisy-like, yellow, in heads with up to 13 petal-like ray florets (some

may not develop) at the end of branches. Flowers mainly autumn

and winter. 8-13 petals.

Fruit Fleshy green berries, 5–8 mm long, drying to a seed with black,

bony covering.

Roots Fibrous, shallow in young plants, becoming extensive with maturity.

Dispersal By animals passing the indigestible seeds, also by water.

Control Pull out plants in small infestations. Spot spray with glyphosate

at 5 mI/L or with metsulfuron-methyl at 1 g/20L with surfactant where native grasses are present. Follow-up important as seeds

remain viable for many years.

RDERIKT AND MAST DERIKT

Rubus spp.



Blackberry

White Blackberry

Native Raspberry, don't confuse with Blackberry

Origin North America, South Asia and Europe

Description Scrambling shrubs to 5 m high with prickly canes to about 7 m long

and leaves, black, purple, pink or red fruit. Stems mostly arching, green, reddish or purple, ribbed, angled or concave, with or without hairs. Prickles straight or curved. There are 26 known introduced

and 10 native Rubus species in Australia.

Leaves Usually comprise 3 or 5 ovate serrated leaflets, are dark green on

the upper surface and with many to no hairs underneath. Usually

also prickly.

Flowers European spp. have a branched flower head (panicle), American not.

Fruit Globe-shaped, 1–3 cm across, initially green ripening through yellow,

red and purple to black. European spp. has sepals bent backwards from the fruit, American has sepals surrounding the base of the fruit.

Seed Pitted, to 3 mm long.

Dispersal Spread by seed, rooting of cane tips and lateral roots producing

suckers. Fruit is eaten by birds and mammals (especially foxes) that

may transport seeds some distance.

Confused with Native Raspberry (see photo above).

Note It is important to distinguish between American and European

Rubus species in order to apply the correct and successful chemical

control agent. If in doubt, send sample to herbarium.

Control European & Asian Rubus: Spray with metsulfuron-methyl at

1 g/10L with surfactant. Positively identify species and consult with

local weeds officer.

BUTTERFLY BUSH

Buddleia davidii / B. madagascariensis



B. madagascariensis

Origin China and Japan

Description Large, brittle, woody shrub to small tree, can behave as a vine,

fast-growing, deciduous. Buddleia can grow almost anywhere, but prefers nutrient-rich watercourses and creeklines, where it quickly dominates, shading out and replacing native plant species and

climbing high into mature trees.

Leaves Long and narrow with a finely-toothed pointed tip, dull green

above, grey-white and hairy below.

Flowers Lilac/purple (B. davidii) or yellow-white flowersprays

(*B. madagasariensis*), borne on arching branches, long, narrow and fragrant, and made up of masses of small tubular flowers. The lilac is

the most weedy. Summer flowering.

Fruit Prolific numbers of small brown cylindrical fruits are produced in

late summer, each tailed to aid dispersal.

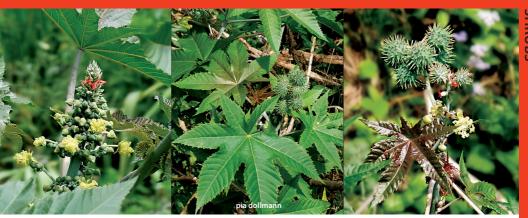
Dispersal Seeds are mainly dispersed by wind and water, but also by

machinery, vehicles, the movement of soil, and by dumping.

Control Small plants can be pulled by hand. Cut and paint larger stems with

100% glyphosate. Foliar spray with metsulfuron-methyl at 1 g/10L

with surfactant. Difficult to control.



Origin Probably originated in Africa, now widespread throughout the

tropical and subtropical regions of the world.

Description Long-lived perennial shrub which can grow to the size of a small

tree in suitable conditions.

Leaves Glossy, 15–45 cm long, long-stalked, alternate and compoundly

palmate with 5–12 deep lobes with coarsely toothed segments. In some varieties dark reddish purple or bronze when young, gradually changing to a dark green, sometimes with a reddish tinge, as they mature. The stems and the spherical, spiny seed capsules

also vary in pigmentation.

Flowers Borne in terminal panicle-like inflorescences of green or shades of

red, flowers without petals. Male flowers are yellowish-green with prominent creamy stamens and are carried in ovoid spikes up to 15 cm long; female flowers, borne at the tips of the spikes, have prominent red stigmas. Capable of flowering year round in a frost-

free environment.

Fruit Capsules of some varieties are more showy than the flowers.

The fruit is a spiny, greenish to reddish purple capsule, containing large, oval, shiny, bean-like, highly poisonous seeds with variable

brownish mottling.

Seed Seeds have a warty appendage. The plant can seed prolifically.

Roots Shallow-rooted.

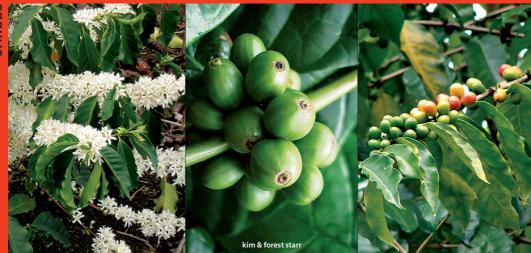
Dispersal Seed is spread by rodents and birds, on mud adhering to boots, on

vehicles and machinery and by floodwaters. Taller plants can throw

their seeds over 5 metres from the mother tree.

Control Hand-pull when young. Spray young plants with glyphosate at

10 ml/L. Cut & paint larger plants with 100% glyphosate.



Origin Africa

Description Wild plants grow to between 9 and 12 m tall, and have an open

branching system.

Leaves Opposite, simple elliptic-ovate to oblong, 6–12 cm long and 4–8 cm

broad, glossy, dark green.

Flowers White, 10–15 mm in diameter, growing in axillary clusters.

Fruit Drupe, though commonly called a 'berry', 10–15 mm in diameter,

oblong, 1 cm long, maturing bright red to purple and typically

contains two seeds.

Roots Shallow.

Dispersal Seed is dispersed by birds, rodents and water.

Control Hand-pull small plants. Cut & paint or inject larger stems with 100 %

glyphosate.





Origin Native to southern and eastern Asia

Description Small upright shrub, usually growing up to 1 m tall, and occasionally

reaching 2 m in height. Shade tolerant.

Leaves Simple leaves (5–20 cm long and 1–4 cm wide), alternately arranged

and dark green. Thick and leathery and narrowly oval or elongated. Glossy and dark green above with paler and duller undersides, with slightly toothed or finely wavy margins. Leaves are borne on short

stalks about 3–10 mm long and have pointed tips.

Flowers Fragrant, small, white to reddish-pink in colour, in clusters on

flowering branches 4–16 cm long. Branches divide into several smaller (2–4 cm) long branches, each bearing numerous flowers on stalks 5–10 mm long. Under close inspection, numerous tiny black

spots can be seen on the flowers.

Fruit Showy bright red berries, which hang down in clusters, can remain

on the plant for months.

Dispersal By seed. May be spread by humans (i.e. in dumped garden waste),

and by water movement (i.e. during floods).

Control Hand-pull and collect up all fruit.



Origin Central America

Description Fast-growing, prickly, upright shrub growing up to 4 m tall.

Leaves Lobed, large leaves, 17–30 cm long and 12–20 cm wide, with 7–13

lobes per leaf. Very hairy when young and just hairy underneath

when mature.

Flowers Small, star-shaped, white, 3–4.5 cm wide, and grow in clusters of up

to 50. Flowers from autumn to spring.

Fruit Round yellow or orange berry, 10–15 mm wide. Contains lots of

seeds.

Stems Young stems are densely covered in reddish coloured hairs and have

green prickles. Older stems have 3–9 mm long thorns.

Roots Shallow roots.

Dispersal Seed dispersed by water, birds, flying foxes and other animals.

Confused with Weed species Devil's fig (Solanum torvum) and Tropical soda apple

(Solanum viarum).

Control Manually remove where appropriate. Cut and paint with 100%

glyphosate. Foliar spray with 200ml glyphosate plus 1g of

metsulfuron-methyl in 10L of water + surfactant".



Origin North America, West Indies

Description Groundsel Bush is a densely-branched shrub, usually 1.5–3 m high,

and it sometimes grows into a small tree up to 12 m high with an

open branching system.

Leaves Dull or pale green, waxy to touch, alternate, 2.5–5 cm long, 1–2.5 cm

wide, wedge-shaped and prominently-toothed, particularly near the tip. Stems are green at first, turning brown with age and have a

characteristic striped bark.

Flowers Numerous male and female flowers grow on separate plants.

Male flowers are cream coloured and occur in globular heads. Female flowers are white and grow in head clusters at the ends of

branches.

Seed Very small and light, about 3 mm long and weighing only about

0.1 mg. Tufts of white hairs (the pappus) grow on the top of each seed, giving the female plant its characteristic fluffy appearance

when in full flower.

Roots Mature Groundsel Bush has a deep branching taproot, with

numerous fibrous lateral roots.

Dispersal Each female plant can produce more than 1.5 million seeds annually.

The seeds are adapted for dispersal by wind and water.

Control Hand-pull small plants. Cut and paint or stem inject with 100 %

glyphosate.



C. parqui C. nocturnum

Origin Central and South America (*Green Cestrum*), West Indies (*night*

blooming)

Description Large evergreen woody shrubs, 3-4 m high, forming clumps and

producing suckers.

Leaves GREEN CESTRUM

Dull grey-green above, paler below, alternate, narrow and lance-

shaped, 2-7 cm long, 1-5 cm wide.

NIGHT BLOOMING

As above, more glossy and larger leaves (6–20 cm long, 2–4.5 cm

wide)

Flowers GREEN CESTRUM

Loose terminal clusters of greenish to yellow tubular to 3 cm long

with 5 lobes. Flowers most of the year.

NIGHT BLOOMING

As above but flowers only during the warm months. Greenish-white

or yellowish colour, very strong, sweet perfume at night.

Fruit Green egg-shaped berry, black (*Green Cestrum*) or aubergine colour

(night-blooming) when ripe, 10-15 mm long.

Dispersal By water, animals (mostly birds), garden waste dumping.

Control Small plants can be pulled by hand. Cut and paint larger stems with

100% glyphosate.



Origin Central and South America

Description Perennial, summer-growing, erect or scrambling shrub, occurring

as groundcover, shrub or scrambling vine thicket to over 4 m high and often forming dense thickets. Broken stems produce a strong unpleasant odour when crushed. Stems are square-shaped with short, curved and hooked prickles. At least 29 varieties present in

Australia. Toxic to livestock.

Leaves Opposite and curved on a short stalk, about 10mm long. Egg-

shaped to spearhead-shaped, with toothed margins; rough and bright green on the upper surface and hairy and pale green below;

2-10cm long and 2-8cm wide.

Flowers In dense clusters, variable colours, including red, yellow, orange,

pink, purple and white, depending on type, maturity and location. Flowering and fruit production can occur almost year round where there is adequate soil moisture, high air humidity and high

temperatures.

Fruit Succulent, one-seeded drupe or berry about 6–8 mm in diameter.

These develop in clusters and consist of aggregate, fleshy segments that are green at first and then turn a shiny, dark purple-black when

ripe.

Dispersal Birds and other animals disperse seed. Stems will sprout when in

contact with soil. Seeds remain viable for 2-5 years.

Control Hand-pull or cut and paint with 100% glyphosate. Splatter Gun

glyphosate at 1:9. FOLLOW UP.





Origin Southern Africa

Description Extremely hardy plant, capable of growing in harsh, dry conditions.

It can grow to 4m in situations where it is supported by other plants, but mostly grows to about 2m. The branches are rough to

the touch.

Leaves Alternate, oblong to lanceolate, to 6 cm long, glossy green, slightly

paler below. Margins finely serrated and often wavy, new growth

reddish-brown.

Flowers Showy yellow with 5 petals in spring and summer. Green calyx turns

red after petals drop and fruit matures.

Fruit Succulent green berries to 8 mm across, in clusters of 4–6. Ripen

black in summer. One seed per berry.

Dispersal By water, animals, humans (contaminated soil and garden rubbish

dumping).

Control Hand-pulling difficult with strong taproot holding on tight. Stem

scrape and paint with 100% glyphosate or foliar spray seedlings

with glyphosate at 20 ml/L.



Origin Asia

Description Evergreen small tree or shrub to 12 m high, often multi-stemmed

from base when mature. Commonly planted in gardens as a hedge

plant. Stem bark grey, fissured with age.

Leaves Compound, alternate, dark green, ovate to elliptic, hairless, upper

ones larger than lower ones, 1–9 cm long, 0.5–6 cm wide. Smells of

citrus when crushed.

Flowers White, petals 1–2 cm long. Fragrant. Flowers irregularly throughout

the year but mainly late spring to early autumn.

Fruit Ellipsoid, ripening red, 0.8–2 cm long with 1 or 2 hairy seeds.

Dispersal Seed dispersed by birds.

Control Hand-pull small plants. Foliar spray glyphosate at 20 ml/L or stem

inject with 100% glyphosate.



Origin India

Description Perennial shrub, growing to 2–4m, or a sprawling climber to 15 m

high, which readily forms a dense impenetrable thicket. Thorns on the stems are straight or hooked and aid in its ability to climb.

Leaves Compound, bipinnate and up to 30 cm long. Leaflets are dark green

above and pale beneath. Leaflets are about 8 mm wide and covered

with fine hairs.

Flowers Distinctive pale yellow flowers, growing in racemes which protrude

up to 50 cm above the main plant. Flowers have prickles at the base.

Flowering in winter-spring.

Fruit Brown woody pods in spring–summer.

Dispersal By water and possibly rodents. The seed can remain viable in the soil

for up to 10 years.

Control Hand-pull if possible. Foliar spray metsulfuron-methyl at 1 g/10L

with surfactant



Origin China Description A semi-evergreen small tree/large shrub. Bark is a smooth grey. An extremely hardy, aggressively spreading plant, often branching near the base into strong, multiple trunks. Small, opposite, glossy, thickened, leathery leaves, similar colour on Leaves both surfaces. Showy, small, white flowers. Flowerhead dense, branched, 5–10 cm **Flowers** long. Flowers fragrant with 4 white petals, each 3–5 mm long. Flowers late winter and spring. Seed Large amounts of berries turn black when ripe. Seed remains viable for just one year. Dispersal Seed spread by birds and water.

Stem inject with 100% glyphosate.

Does not hand-pull easily because of strong tap root. Foliar spray

small plants with metsulfuron-methyl at 1 g/10L with surfactant.

Control

SENNA – SMOOTH & WINTER

Senna septemtrionalis & S. pendula var. glabrata



S. septemtrionalis

S. pendula

Origin South America

Description Straggly evergreen shrub, 1 to 3 m high.

Leaves Compound with 3–8 pairs of leaflets. Winter Senna (*S. pendula*) has

rounded tips, Smooth Senna (S. septemtrionalis) has pointed tips.

Flowers Flowers are yellow, large and showy, with protruding curved

stamens (the pollen-producing parts).

Seed Seed pods are a round bean, which distinguishes the weed from the

native, which has flattened pods. Seed may be viable for 3–5 years.

Dispersal By seed and sprouting from

the roots after fire.

Control Hand-pull or cut and paint

with 100% glyphosate.

Confused with Rainforest Cassia (Senna acclinis).

Threatened species.

Leaflets oval at 15 mm intervals. Seed pod 12–15 cm long, flat

and ribbed when dry.



Senna acclinis



Origin Taiwan and Japan

Description Fast-growing, dense spreading shrub growing up to 1–4 m tall but

occasionally reaches 6m. Grows in a broad range of soil types and both full-sun and semi-shade. Popular garden ornamental, sold as hedge or screen plant, often under the name 'Emerald lustre'.

Leaves Opposite, thick, leathery, large leaves, 10–20cm long. They are bright

green with a glossy or lustrous appearance. Irregularly toothed to

almost entire margins and have pointed tips.

Flowers Small, sweet smelling, produced in clusters at the tips of branches.

Fruit Small, oval shaped fruit, 8mm long ripen to bright red or black in

colour when mature.

Stems Brownish-grey bark mature stems. Young stems are green or reddish

tinged and hairless.

Dispersal Seed is spread by birds and animals. Seed is also spread into

bushland areas in dumped garden waste.

Confused with Viburnum odoratissimum var. odoratissimum, this species has smaller

dull green leaves (rather than thick and leathery) and also has the

potential to be invasive.

Control Manually remove whole plant where appropriate. Cut and paint or

stem inject with 100% glyphosate.

SUNFLOWER – JAPANESE & MEXICAN

Tithonia diversifolia, T. rotundifolia



T. diversifolia

Origin Central America

Description Both sunflowers stand erect to 3–5 m.

Leaves Large 3–5-lobed, serrated leaves.

Flowers Japanese Sunflower has sunflower-like heads up to 10 cm across,

with orange-yellow petals 4–5 cm long. **Mexican Sunflower** similar with orange-red petals and yellow flower centres. The stems are

bushy.

Seed Seeds are hairy, with a ring of scales and two spines.

Control Can be dug out or chipped, where infestations are small. Spray with

metsulfuron-methyl at 1g/10L with surfactant.



Origin South America

Description Straggly evergreen small tree or shrub to 4m high. All parts of the

plant are covered in velvety hairs and the plant has a life of up to thirty years, and can grow up to 10 m tall. All parts of the plant are

poisonous to humans, particularly the green berries.

Leaves Large, oval, grey-green soft leaves, covered with felt-like hairs.

Crushed leaves have a strong unpleasant smell.

Flowers Purple with a yellow centre. The plant can flower year round.

Fruit Clusters of large (to 2 cm) berries ripening from green to yellow.

Dispersal Seed is dispersed by birds, mostly large doves.

Control Many bush regenerators leave tobacco bush on site, providing

protection and shade to young native seedlings. Hand-pull or cut

and paint with 100% glyphosate.



Origin South America

Description Erect shrub to 2 m high. Upright and much branching, it has broad-

based, straight, cream-coloured prickles to 12mm long, scattered on

most plant parts.

Leaves are mostly 10–20 cm long and 6–15 cm wide. The upper and

lower leaf surfaces are densely covered in short hairs; mid-veins and primary lateral-veins are cream-coloured on both sides of the leaves and can have large cream-coloured thorns on the midvein of the

upper surface.

Flowers are white, with five petals 2–4mm long. They occur in clusters

of 3 to 6, off a short stem.

Fruit The immature fruit is pale green with dark green veins, looking like a

small watermelon. The mature fruit is yellow, golf ball size (20–30 mm)

and contains numerous brown seeds.

Dispersal By seed and from root material. Cattle, birds and other animals

disperse the seed. Also dispersed by water and contaminated soil &

equipment.

Control Notify your local Council Weed Officer. Hand-pull, taking care to

remove all plant parts, including fruit and root fragments. Bag plant material and bury deep under the ground. Foliar spray glyphosate at

20ml/L or cut and paint with 100% glyphosate.



Central and South America Origin

Description Perennial, multi-branched shrub or small tree, 4–7 m high.

Leaves Compound leaves, 8–25 cm long with 5–13 leaflets. Leaflets toothed

and pointed, 2.5-10 cm long and 8-30 mm wide.

Flowers Large clusters, yellow trumpet-shaped flowers in spring-summer,

occurring at tips of branches.

Fruit Green bean-like flat pod, maturing to brown, 10–22 cm long. Spring

to autumn.

Seed Numerous, winged.

Dispersal Wind, water, humans, contaminated soil, garden rubbish dumping.

Control Hand-dig small plants. Cut and paint or frill and inject larger stems

with 100% glyphosate. Bag and dispose of all seed pods.