



Coffs Harbour  
Regional  
**Landcare**

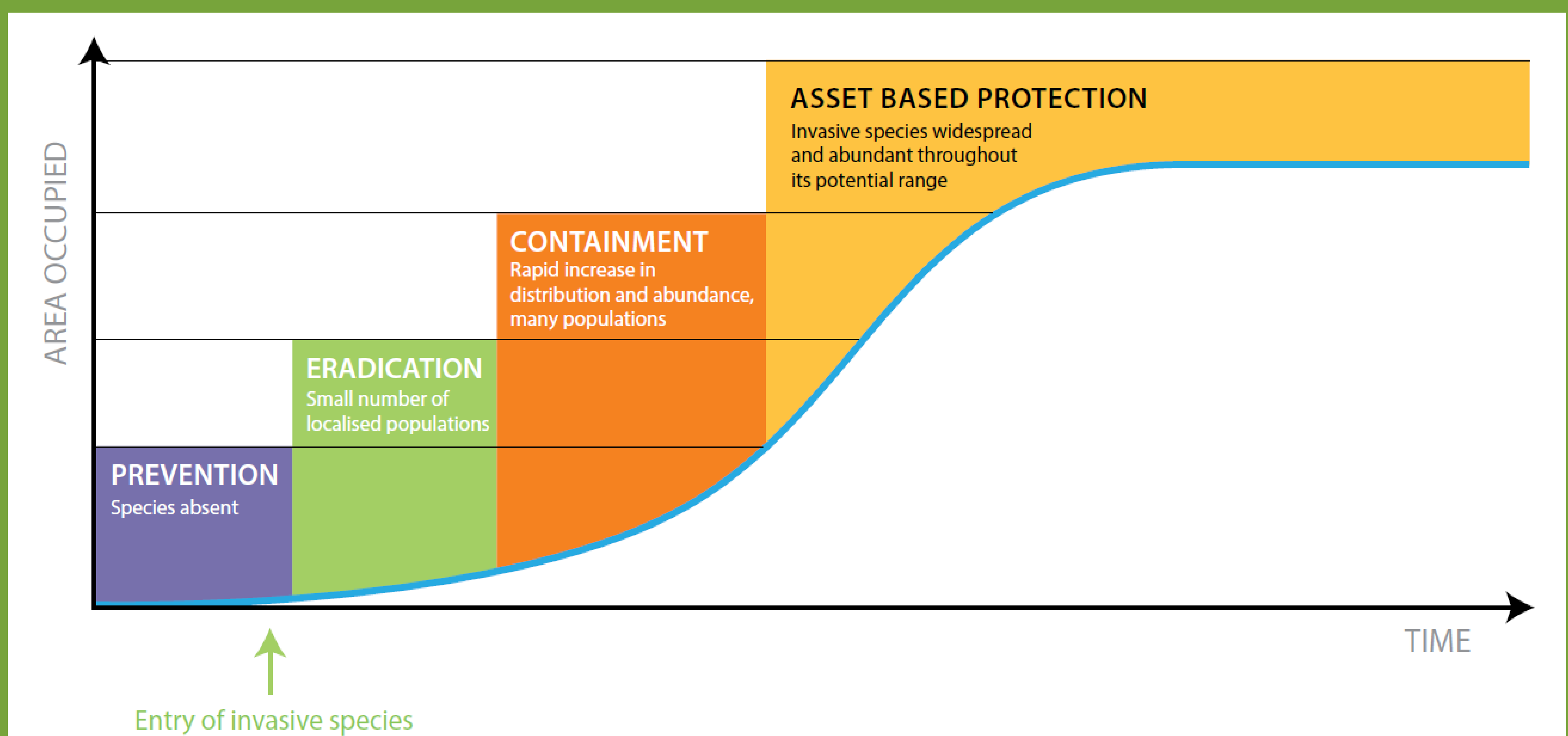
# NEW WEEDS ALERT

Over the past year several weeds not widely known are slowly making their presence felt on several of our Landcare sites.

It is well known that new weed incursions, once identified, can be much more easily controlled before they become established.

The species invasion curve illustrates the invasion process for weeds from first establishment to becoming widely spread. This graph shows that the number of resources and effort to control weeds rises over time as they become more widely spread.

## Actions appropriate to each stage of invasive species incursion



Source: NSW DPI, cited as Biosecurity Victoria, DPI, Victoria

The following is a short list of some weeds of growing concern. Keep an eye out for them and act quickly to control them.





## **PINK EUODIA ( *Melicope elleryana*)**

Pink Euodia is a rainforest tree species native to parts of coastal New South Wales north of the Clarence River in subtropical rainforests and swamp forests. It is not a local native species.

A rainforest tree capable of growing to 25m, it is now seen more frequently on several sites and grows very well in our area. Many of the larger trees sighted here have grown up to 15m and have flowered for several years, with young plants being seen in growing numbers in the vicinity of the parent tree.

Many years ago, it was widely grown by council as a street tree (as was another urban problem, Golden Rain Trees).

### **Description**

Leaves: opposite and trifoliate often 18-20cm in size

Flowers: attractive pink, growing in clusters in summer

### **Control**

Cutting and painting with glyphosate. Stem scraping, drilling and treating with glyphosate can also work, particularly with older trees.



## **SWEET VIBURNUM (*Viburnum odoratissimum*)**

Sweet viburnum is an evergreen small tree growing to six metres and sometimes sold under the name 'Emerald lustre'. It is becoming popular as a hedge or screen plant but is also spreading to bushland areas.



## Description

Leaves: large, leathery, opposite 10-20 cm long and 5-10 cm wide, olive green with entire margins or a few teeth and pinnate venation. No autumn color.

Flowers: fragrant, small, funnel-shaped white flowers, which bloom in conical terminal panicles.

Fruit: 6 mm red to black drupes.

## Control

Cutting and painting with glyphosate.

## COLUMBIAN WAXWEED (*Cuphea carthagenensis*)

This weed is an introduced species from tropical America that has naturalised from the N.S.W. north coast as far north as Bundaberg and is now a common weed of pastures, particularly in moist areas such as swamps, drains and waterways.



On Landcare sites these locations are where you would most likely expect to find this weed growing.

It is also commonly known as Cuphea.

## Description

Cuphea grows from 40-60cm tall. The stems are green to red in colour and covered in dense sticky hairs.

Flowers: pinkish purple at the leaf forks or tips of branches.

## Control

Hand removal and bagging of small areas. Larger infestations are best sprayed by the contractor with a registered herbicide.



## **BLOODBERRY (*Rivina humilis*)**

### **Description**

This plant is native to tropical and sub-tropical America. It is an evergreen perennial shrub 60-100cm high. It is a shade loving plant with many invasive properties: hardy, drought tolerant, high germination rate of seed, grows from cuttings, has no noticeable pests and very difficult to control. It is also capable of growing in low light conditions.

Fruit and leaves are toxic if ingested.

Easily identified from their glossy bright red clusters of fruit and can be confused with Coral Berry (*Ardisia crenata*)

### **Control**

Hand removal and bagging of small areas. Larger infestations are best sprayed by the contractor with a registered herbicide.

## **KIDNEY LEAF-MUD PLANTAIN (*Heteranthera reneformis*)**

### **Description**

Kidney leaf -Mud Plantain is an introduced aquatic weed which is being increasingly found growing in shallow water on several council reserves where it quickly forms dense mats.

It is easily recognised by its bright green kidney shaped leaves on long stalks.





## KIDNEY LEAF-MUD PLANTAIN (*Heteranthera reneformis*) cont.

It is able to reproduce vegetatively and by seed. This weed has an "Eradicate" classification under the NSW Biosecurity Act 2014 and if found council needs to be contacted for them to remove. There is no registered herbicide for the chemical control of this weed.

## OTHER EMERGING WEEDS



**Large Bird of Paradise  
(*Strelitzia reginae*)**



**Indian Hawthorn  
(*Raphiolepis indica*)**



**YELLOW BELLS (*Tecoma stans*)**

See page 87 of Landcare's Weeds of the North Coast





## **CHINESE CELTIS (*Celtis sinensis*)**

See page 55 of Landcare's Weeds of the North Coast



## **MURRAYA (*Murraya paniculata*)**

Easily missed as a small native shrub.

See page 79 of Landcare's Weeds of the North Coast



## **NIGHT SCENTED JASMINE (*Cestrum nocturnum*)**

See page 76 of Landcare's Weeds of the North Coast



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