

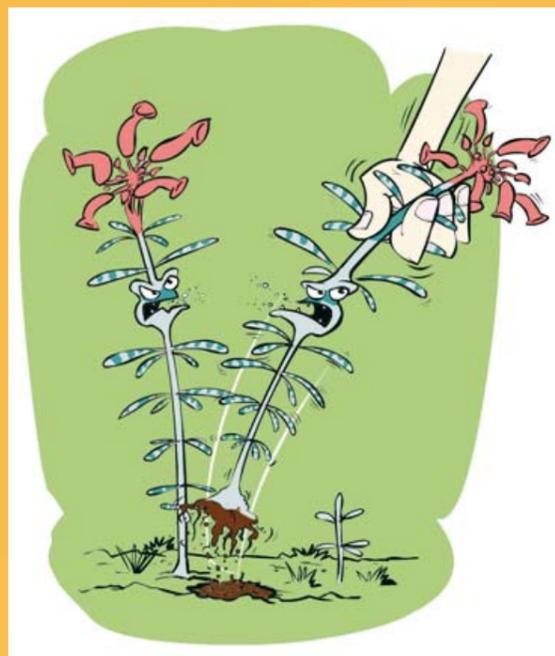
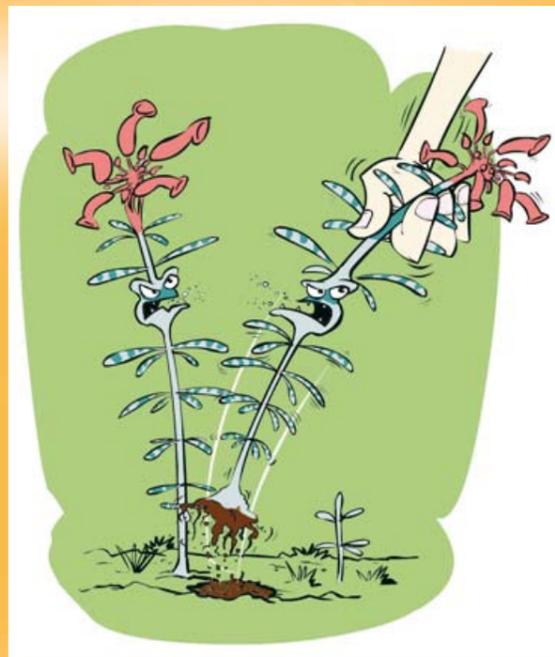
Why should I control declared weeds?

The *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002* and the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Regulation 2003* provide legislative measures for the management of weeds throughout Queensland.

All land managers are required by law to control declared weeds on their land.

Class 1 Weeds: can potentially cause serious economic and environmental damage and must be eradicated by all land managers.

Class 2 Weeds: can potentially cause substantial economic and environmental damage and land managers must take reasonable steps to keep their land free of these weeds.



Class 3 Weeds: frequently invade bushland and can damage Environmentally Significant Areas. Land managers must control these weeds where they are a threat to an Environmentally Significant Area. These areas have been mapped and described in the Fraser Coast Regional Pest Management Plan and are available to view at Fraser Coast administration offices and website.

Properties will be inspected regularly by way of a pest survey program by Council authorised persons. Any declared pests found will be mapped by a Global Positioning System and recorded in the Department of Natural Resources & Mines database. The Council can issue pest control notices to enforce landowners to meet their obligations.

Constant vigilance is required to ensure that no declared weeds are offered for sale as garden plants as this is illegal in Queensland.

Further information

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120 Lennox Street
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Fraser Coast
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Lucky the Bushland Lizard says...

"Pull out your weeds and look after our Bushland"

The Dirty Dozen

Fraser Coast's **Declared Weeds** and their Control Methods



All about weeds

A weed is a plant that has been introduced to an area, has got out of control and is not wanted.

Weeds affect the lives of all Queenslanders. They degrade our natural resources, damage farmland and remnant vegetation, compromise both native flora and fauna and interfere with human health and recreation.

Weed invasion is one of Australia's most serious and expensive land degradation problems. Globally, weeds are the second biggest threat to biodiversity, behind habitat loss. There are more than 2,400 weeds in Australia. If left unmanaged, they can destroy the natural environment.

Declared plants

A declared plant is one that has been targeted for control under State legislation. These species have, or could have, serious economic, environmental or social impacts. Declaration under the *Queensland Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002* imposes a legal responsibility for control by all landowners on land under their management.

Declared plants are categorised into 3 classes. Class 1 pests have the potential to have very serious impacts in Queensland if not controlled. Class 2 pests have already spread over substantial areas of Queensland, but their impact is so serious that they need to be controlled to avoid further spread onto properties that are still free of the pests. Class 3 pests mainly impact on the natural environment and amenity. Many are ornamental plants that have been brought in from overseas and invade bushland areas.

Identifying weed pests

If you've noticed a tough and hardy plant that seems out of place or that's dominating a natural habitat, it could be a weed. Fraser Coast Regional Council's Pest Management Plan lists the current priority weeds found on the Fraser Coast.

Various resources are available to identify suspect pest plants, for example, the Dept of Primary Industries and Fisheries website www.dpi.qld.gov.au. Alternately, contact Fraser Coast Regional Council's land protection staff.

This fact sheet highlights the top 12 declared weeds currently found in the Fraser Coast and their control methods.



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Dirty Dozen Declared Weeds...and some of their Control Methods

Before using any herbicide always read the label carefully.

All herbicides must be applied strictly in accordance with directions on the label.



CLASS 1

Bitou bush

(*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*)

Native to southern Africa. Shrubby and slightly fleshy bushes, often found growing in coastal areas, with yellow 'daisy' flowers and white woolly young growth. Originally introduced to prevent soil erosion in coastal and inland areas, these plants are most prevalent on sand dunes and in other coastal environments.

Areas found: Restricted to specific coastal areas, Booral and south east coast of Fraser Island.

Control Method: Hand pull plants up to 1m high. When using glyphosate herbicide, spray before the berries turn black to render them sterile.



CLASS 2

Mother of millions

(*Bryophyllum delagoense*)

Native to southern Africa and Madagascar. A fleshy herb with upright stems growing 30-180cm tall. The mottled leaves have small teeth located near their tips. It produces dense clusters of attractive, red drooping, bell-shaped flowers. This plant was introduced to be grown in gardens and is mainly found in coastal areas. Highly toxic to stock.

Areas found: Roadsides, pasturelands and foreshore areas.

Control Method: Hand pull plants and place them in a bag for disposal - do not use as mulch as the seeds and other plant parts may reproduce.



CLASS 2

Parthenium

(*Parthenium hysterophorus*)

A native of subtropical areas of North and South America. A deep rooted annual herb which can grow to 2m. Pale green leaves are deeply lobed with soft hairs. Small creamy white flowers and black seeds throughout the year. Contact with the plant or pollen can cause allergic reactions such as dermatitis and hay fever and is toxic to animals.

Areas found: Disturbed, bare areas along roadsides and in paddocks.

Control Method: Hand pulling is not recommended for health reasons. Minimise spread by ensuring good hygiene. Spray with registered herbicide preferably at seedling stage. Biological control (eight insects and two rust species) have been released in Central Queensland.



CLASS 2

Salvinia

(*Salvinia molesta*)

Native to South America. A free-floating freshwater plant forming dense mats of vegetation on the water surface. It has pairs of folded 'leaves' that emerge above the water surface and the 'leaves' have a covering of water-repellent waxy hairs. This species was introduced for the aquarium industry and is commonly found in dams.

Areas found: Drainage lines, creeks and dams.

Control Method: Removal by hand is a practical control method often used for small areas or when numbers are low. It is essential that it be moved away from the water's edge and preferably burnt. A biological control agent is available for this plant.



CLASS 3

Lantana

(*Lantana camara*)

Native to Central America and tropical South America. A rough-textured and prickly shrub with oppositely arranged leaves. It produces dense flower clusters consisting of many smaller tubular flowers of varying colours. Mature fruit are glossy and purplish-black. It's commonly found in the understorey of open forests. Poisonous to stock.

Areas found: Disturbed bushland areas and roadsides. Common throughout the region.

Control Method: Treatment of large lantana infestations with herbicides is not economically feasible. Fire, dozing/stickraking, slashing/cutting can reduce dense infestations and makes spot treatments with chemicals more economically effective.



CLASS 3

Singapore daisy

(*Wedelia trilobata*)

Native to tropical America. A mat-forming groundcover with glossy leaves that are mostly hairless and slightly fleshy. The bright yellow 'daisy-like' flowers have finely toothed tips. A commonly cultivated ornamental groundcover that is now a weed of urban bushland. It may also encroach into lawns, footpaths and parks from nearby gardens.

Areas found: Drainage lines and near urban areas.

Control Method: Spraying with "Brush Off" herbicide is very effective in controlling this weed.

CLASS 2

Giant rat's tail grasses

(*Sporobolus spp.*)

Native to central and southern Africa. An upright long-lived grass growing 60-170cm tall and forming large tussocks. Seed-heads have many short branches each bearing numerous tiny, flower spikelets which give rise to large numbers of tiny reddish-brown coloured seeds.

Areas found: Roadsides, adjacent grazing land and generally disturbed areas.

Control Method: Do not slash plants with seed heads and control stock and/or machinery to prevent seed spread. Herbicide application is the preferred method of trying to control this weed. Remove and destroy seed heads before spraying to reduce soil seed bank.



CLASS 2

Common prickly pear

(*Opuntia stricta*)

Native to tropical America. An upright fleshy shrub usually growing 50-100cm tall. Its flattened, fleshy segments are covered in groups of small bristles and sometimes 1-7 sharp spines. It has showy yellow flowers and fleshy fruit that turn reddish-purple in colour as they mature.

Areas found: Hervey Bay foreshore and some rural areas.

Control Method: There are many successful biological controls for Prickly Pear such as the Cactoblastis moth and cochineal mealy bugs. Manual removal including roots. Herbicide control is only recommended if there is a large infestation.



CLASS 2

Water hyacinth

(*Eichhornia crassipes*)

Native to tropical South America. A long-lived, free-floating plant that produces runners across the water surface. It develops rosettes of buoyant leaves that usually have inflated leaf stalks. The leaves are glossy, hairless and it has showy purple to mauve flowers. Found in still or slow moving water (often where available nutrients levels are high).

Areas found: Dams and along river systems.

Control Method: Removal by hand is a practical control method often used for small areas or when numbers are low. It is essential that it be moved away from the water's edge and preferably burnt.



CLASS 2

Groundsel bush

(*Baccharis halimifolia*)

Native to eastern North America. An upright bushy shrub, usually growing 1-3m tall. The waxy leaves are loosely diamond-shaped and have coarsely toothed margins. Seeds are straw-coloured or brown and are topped with a silky tuft of long white hairs. This species is suspected of causing allergies in humans.

Areas found: Drainage lines, saltmarsh areas, wetlands and fallow agricultural areas.

Control Method: Hand pull out small plants. Dig out larger plants or cut them off more than 10cm below ground level. Slashing or burning will rarely kill plants. There are six existing biological controls for groundsel bush. Herbicide can be used in conjunction with mechanical control, to swab cut stumps or spray regrowth shoots.



CLASS 3

Cat's claw creeper

(*Macfadyena unguis-cati*)

A native of tropical America. A tuberous aggressive climber with bright yellow bell-shaped flowers in spring. Leaves have two leaflets, with a three clawed tendril. Produces long thin brown seedpods with winged seeds. An ornamental garden plant in older gardens. Smothers plants, growing over the top of trees and shrubs.

Areas found: Older style Queensland gardens and along creek lines.

Control Method: Cut base close to the ground and paint immediately with herbicide. Follow up spray of any regrowth. Leaf sucking tingeid bug is the currently available form of biological control.



CLASS 3

Broad-leaved pepper tree

(*Schinus terebinthifolius*)

Native to South America. A large tree that grows 3-7 m tall. The leaflets are shiny, hairless and have entire or slightly toothed margins. Female flowers have five small whitish-coloured petals. The small glossy berries turn bright red when ripe. A commonly cultivated garden plant (i.e. ornamental).

Areas found: Creek lines near urban areas.

Control Method: Hand pull small plants if identified correctly. If the tree is established it is recommended to cut the tree down and immediately paint the cut area on the stump with herbicide.

