The Northern Tablelands Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 - 2022

Weed Control Management Plan for: Gorse

Botanical Name: *Ulex europaeus*
Common Names: Gorse

Northern Tablelands Regional Priority Weeds Objective – ERADICATION (Whole of Region)
This weed is present in limited distribution and abundance. Elimination of the biosecurity risk posed by this weed is a reasonably practicable objective. .

General Biosecurity Duty

*All plants are regulated with a **general biosecurity duty** to prevent, eliminate or minimise any biosecurity risk they may pose. Any person who deals with any plant, who knows (or ought to know) of any biosecurity risk, has a duty to ensure the risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised, so far as is reasonably practicable.*

Regional Recommended Measure:
Outcomes to demonstrate compliance with GBD

- The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant.
- Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land.
- The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.
- Notify local control authority if found.
- **Mandatory Measure** (Division 8, Clause 33 Biosecurity Regulation 2017) A person must not import into the State or sell.

Photo: NSW DPI

Gorse: Gorse is an invasive spiny shrub that forms dense impenetrable thickets. It can reduce pasture carrying capacity, block access and provide shelter for pests. In National Parks and other environmental areas, gorse can compete with native vegetation and increase the risk of bushfires—as it contains flammable oils and retains dead vegetation, increasing fuel loads.

Control Methods/Techniques:
Any Combination of the following methods is suitable.

Manual/Mechanical:
Once gorse becomes established it is very difficult to eradicate due its long-lived seeds. If you suspect you have found gorse, immediately contact a local council weeds officer who will assist with identification, removal and control.

Chemical: There are a number of Herbicides registered for use on gorse. Refer overleaf.

Penalty for not complying with the general biosecurity duty or a direction issued under the *Biosecurity Act 2015.*

The maximum penalty is:

- in the case of an individual—$220,000 and, in the case of a continuing offence, a further penalty of $55,000 for each day the offence continues, or
- in the case of a corporation—$440,000 and, in the case of a continuing offence, a further penalty of $110,000 for each day the offence continues.

The maximum penalty for an offence that is committed negligently is:

- in the case of an individual—$1,100,000 and, in the case of a continuing offence, a further penalty of $137,500 for each day the offence continues, or
- in the case of a corporation—$2,200,000 and, in the case of a continuing offence, a further penalty of $275,000 for each day the offence continues.

Linkage to Plans/Strategies

- Northern Tablelands Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017-2022
- NSW Biosecurity Strategy 2013-2021
- NSW Biosecurity Act 2015
- *Pesticides Act 1999* and Pesticide Regulation 2017

Download the weedwise app for detailed information on priority weeds in our area.

For Further Information:
Tenterfield Shire Council
247 Rouse St
Tenterfield NSW 2360
PH: (02) 6736 6000 www.tenterfield.nsw.gov.au
or
NSW DPI Weedwise: http://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/
or
Northern Tablelands Local Land Services:
https://northerntablelands.lls.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity

References

- *NSW DPI Website /Weedwise/ Noxious and Environmental Weed Control Handbook 6th Edition.*

Disclaimer:

Gorse Control Calendar

JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC

INTERGRATED CONTROL TECHNIQUES AND ALTERNATIVES

HERBICIDE OPTIMUM						HERBICIDE OPTIMUM
MECHANICAL						

Registered Herbicide Application Rates:

Triclopyr 300g/L + Picloram 100g/L + Aminipyralid 8g/L (Grazon ®Extra) at 250 or 250ml/100L of water. (Handgun application to actively growing plants. Use higher rate on bushes over 1.5m high or as an autumn treatment.

Triclopyr 300g/L + Picloram 100g/L + Aminipyralid 8g/L (Grazon ®Extra) at 500ml/100L of water. (Handgun treatment for winter treatment)

Triclopyr 600g/L (Garlon® 600) at 170 or 340ml/100L water. (Handgun application, add non-ionic surfactant. Spring to mid-summer, higher rate on older bushes.

Metsulfuron-methyl 600g/kg (Brush-off®) 15g per 100L of water. (apply to bushes up to 2 metres tall. Ensure thorough spray penetration and coverage of whole plant.

Critical Comments:

- Consult your weeds officer for application tips
- Always read and follow the Label instructions and MSDS of respective herbicides.

NOTE:

(a) All Control Techniques involving herbicide use, must comply with the directions on the herbicide label or the conditions set out in a current permit to use a nominated herbicide.

(b) All chemical control programs must be carried out in accordance with the *Pesticides Act 1999* and Pesticide Regulation 2017.

(c) All Chemical application programs used must be undertaken by or be designed and supervised by an appropriately Certified and Accredited Chemical user.

(d) Growth patterns and the changes to optimum treatment times will vary with seasonal conditions due to air temperature changes that may coincide with soil and moisture availability.

Disclaimer:

This document has been prepared by the North West Regional Weed Committee and Local Government Control Authorities in good faith and on the basis of best available information. Users of this document must obtain their own advice and conduct their own investigations and assessments of their individual circumstances.