Weed Management Information

Privet – broad-leaf

Botanical name: *Ligustrum lucidum*

Weed Class: Not listed as a noxious weed

Control options

**Manual control:** Pull up all small plants and hang up away from ground level. For the best results, pull after rain when the ground is still moist.

**Mechanical control:** Mowing or cutting is appropriate for small initial populations or environmentally sensitive areas where herbicides cannot be used. Repeated mowing or cutting will control the spread of privet, but will not eradicate it. Stems should be cut at least once per growing season as close to ground level as possible. Cut larger plants off well below ground level and mulch stump or plant may take regrow from any exposed roots.

**Chemical control:** Use a herbicide that is registered for use on privet in NSW and in a manner and rate stated on the label (or a current pesticide order). Seek advice from a Council Vegetation Officer or your herbicide supplier. Please ensure the chosen product is suitable for the designated land use and situation. Please observe all environmental and safety cautions that are stated on the label.

Description

A robust, vigorous, evergreen, fast-growing large shrub to small tree.

**Stem:** Large shrub to small tree with distinct markings on its trunk (lenticels - white dots)

**Leaves:** Dark glossy green oval with a pointed tip, up to 13cm long, with a paler dull undersurface and smooth margin.

**Flowers:** Abundant heavily-scented small white tubular flowers are produced in clusters in summer. They are highly allergenic.

**Fruit:** Clusters of small round blue-black berries persist into winter

**Dispersal:** Seed is spread deep into bush land by fruit-eating birds, both native and exotic. It is also washed down waterways, producing prodigious numbers of rapidly-growing seedlings.
Broad-leaf privet fruit – a favourite of currawongs and other fruit-eating birds

Broad-leaf privet stripped of its fruit by pied currawongs

Photos: J Miles and M Campbell

For further information: Councils Vegetation Officers Ph: (02) 6499 2222
Helpful websites www.southeastweeds.org.au

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