



## Weed Management Information

### Bitou bush and Boneseed (WONS)

**Botanical Names:** *Chrysanthemoides monilifera* ssp. *rotundata* and *C. monilifera* ssp. *monilifera*

**Weed Class:** Bitou bush is a Class 3 noxious weed, boneseed Class 2

**Legal requirements:** **Class 3** The plant must be fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed.  
**Class 2** The plant must be eradicated from the land and the land must be kept free of the plant.

#### Control options

**Manual control:** Pull out small plants, removing all the roots. For the best results, pull after rain has fallen while ground is still moist. Ensure layering stems removed. Plants can be treated using cut-paint method. Fire can destroy dense stands and stimulate seed germination for follow up treatments.

**Biological control:** A program is underway to introduce a number of natural enemies of boneseed and bitou bush from South Africa. Seven biological control agents have been released in Australia. However, many are ineffective on small populations and in South Coast climate conditions.

**Chemical control:** Use a herbicide that is registered for use on bitou bush and boneseed 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:

Shrubs to 3m tall. Distinguished by sprawling habit.

**Stems:** Crown at or below ground level, stems spreading horizontally before ascending.

**Leaves:** Fleshy, oval with the narrow end at the base, 3 to 6 cm long, (sometimes slightly toothed), young leaves covered in a cottony down.

**Flowers:** Yellow, 11 to 13 florets, flowers most of the year with peak from April to July. Egg-shaped, green, to black seeds.

**Dispersal:** By animals passing the indigestible seeds, also by water



**Bitou bush**

Photo: JM Iles and M Campbell



**Boneseed**

Photo: JM Iles and M Campbell

**For further information:** Councils Vegetation Officers Ph: (02) 6499 2222

**Helpful websites** [www.southeastweeds.org.au](http://www.southeastweeds.org.au)  
[www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pests-weeds/weeds](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pests-weeds/weeds)

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