



Weed Management Information

Lantana

Botanical name: *Lantana* species

Weed Class: Class 3 noxious weed

Legal requirements: The plant must be fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed.

Control options

Integrated control is the best option, using slashing, fire and herbicide with pasture improvements or native replanting.

Manual control: Seedlings and small individual plants can often be pulled up by hand. Manual hoeing or slashing should occur before fruiting. Best for minor infestations.

Mechanical control: Pull out larger plants by mechanical means; again best results are gained while ground is still moist. Cut plants off, well below ground level. Best for minor infestations. Push major infestations with heavy machinery. Must be followed up with a combination of herbicide application, cultivation, cropping, pasture improvement or rehabilitation with appropriate species. **Ensure that the area will not be subject to erosion and adhere to all environmental regulations.**

Biological control: There are several biological controls but they do not persist.

Chemical control: Use a herbicide that is registered for use 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

Lantana is a perennial shrub, usually 1-2m high, but it can reach 4m. It forms dense, impenetrable thickets that take over native bushland and pastures.

Stems: Long, often highly branched, square in cross section and hairy when young. Most forms usually have small prickles along the angles.

Leaves: Bright green oval leaves can be up to 100mm long and are carried in opposite pairs up the stem. They are rough, due to being covered with small stiff bristles, and give off a strong smell if crushed.

Flowers: The small flowers occur in compact heads with 20-40 flowers in each head. They can be yellow, pink, orange, red, mauve or combinations of these colours and are found in symmetric clusters.

Fruit: Fruits are glossy, rounded and purplish in colour when ripe.

Dispersal: Fruit-eating birds are the main agents of dispersal. Lantana can spread via a process known as layering, where horizontal stems take root when they are in contact with moist soil.

Habitats: Found in a variety of habitats



Lantana showing angled prickly stems, multi-coloured flower heads and ripe and unripe fruit

Photo: JM Iles and M Campbell



Lantana flowers

Photo: JM Iles and M Campbell

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

Helpful websites www.southeastweeds.org.au
www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pests-weeds/weeds

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