

The Northern Tablelands Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 - 2022



Local Land Services
Northern Tablelands

Weed Control Management Plan: Harrisia Cactus

Botanical Name: (Harrisia martini & Harissia tortuosa) Common Names: Harrisia Cactus

Northern Tablelands Regional Priority Weeds Objective – ASSET PROTECTION (Whole of Region)

This weed is widely distributed in some areas of the region. Their spread must be minimised to protect priority sites.

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

- Land managers should prevent spread from their land, where feasible.
- 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.
- **Mandatory Measure** (Division 8, Clause 33 Biosecurity Regulation 2017)

A person must not import into the State or sell.

New England Weeds Authority Local Control Requirements

In areas where Harrisia Cactus is present – owners/occupiers of land are required to actively control Harrisia Cactus, and as a minimum, to continuously inhibit the plants ability to spread, and its numbers and distribution must be reduced.

In areas where Harrissia Cactus is not present (NEWA)

The land is kept free of the plant, and land managers will mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land.



Photo: NSW DPI

Harrisia Cactus is a native of the Americas which was introduced into Australia as a garden plant. It has now become a serious problem in parts of Queensland and NSW.

Harrisia Cactus is spread by seed. The plant can begin to produce seed by six months of age and from then on can continue to produce fruit almost all year round. A single plant can produce > 50 fruit per year . Each fruit contains about 800 seeds encased in a sweet, sugary substance attractive to birds, emus, pigs, goannas and ants.

Harrisia cactus can form thick infestations, blocking out grazing access and reducing stock carrying capacity. The sharp spines are a hazard to humans and animals and it is hard to control because of its seed-producing ability.

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.

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For Further Information:

New England Weeds Authority

129 Rusden St

Armidale NSW 2350

PH: (02) 6770 3602 www.newa.com.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:

This document has been prepared by the Northern Tablelands 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 specific advice and conduct their own investigations and assessments of their individual circumstances.

Registered herbicide application rates for: *Harrisia Cactus*

Botanical Name: *Harrisia martini* & *H. tortuosa* Common Name: *Harrisia Cactus*

Harissia Cactus Control Calendar

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

Registered Herbicide Application Rates:

PERMIT 14442 Expires 30/06/2018

Picloram 100 g/L + Triclopyr 300 g/L + Aminopyralid 8 g/L (Grazon Extra®)

Rate: 500 mL in 100 L water Comments: Apply as a thorough foliar spray.

Withholding period: Where product is used to control woody weeds in pastures there is a restriction of 12 weeks for use of treated pastures for making hay and silage; using hay or other plant material for compost, mulch or mushroom substrate; or using animal waste from animals grazing on treated pastures for compost, mulching, or spreading on pasture/crops.

PERMIT 14442 Expires 30/06/2018

Triclopyr 600 g/L (Garlon® 600) Rate: 1.0 L per 75 L of distillate Comments: Apply as a thorough foliar spray.

Withholding period: Nil. Herbicide group: I, Disruptors of plant cell growth (synthetic auxins)

Critical Comments:

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

NOTE:

- 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.
- All chemical control programs must be carried out in accordance with the *Pesticides Act 1999* and Pesticide Regulation 2017.
- All Chemical application programs used must be undertaken by or be designed and supervised by an appropriately Certified and Accredited Chemical user.
- 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.