

North West Regional Best Practice Guide for:

Devil's Rope Pear



Botanical name: *Cylindropuntia imbricata*

Common names: Devil's Rope Pear, Rope Pear

The Devil's Rope Pear is native to the USA and central Mexico and was first recorded in Australia in 1911. Rope pear is a very spiny cactus which can cause injury to humans and animals. It has the ability to form impenetrable clumps and reduce stock-carrying capacity. Segments break off easily and can spread to new sites via flood waters. It is very hardy, grows readily and requires very little moisture.

Your responsibilities

Under the the General Biosecurity Duty - Biosecurity Act 2015, a General Biosecurity Duty applies to all dealings (as defined in the Act) with this species. Any person who deals with this species who knows (or ought to know) of any biosecurity risk posed by the plant, a carrier or a dealing, has a duty to ensure the biosecurity risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised, so far as is reasonably practicable.

The penalties

The maximum penalties for not complying with the general biosecurity duty or a direction issued under the Biosecurity Act 2015 are:

- 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.

Recommendations and requirements

Under the Regional Recommended Measure:

- Land managers should prevent seed and propagules spreading from their land
- Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land.
- Land managers reduce the impacts of the plant on priority assets.

Mandatory measure - A person must not import into the State or sell.

Under Gunnedah Shire Local Control Requirements:

1. Reduce the size and density of infested area by physical, mechanical and/or chemical control methods, and
2. Eliminate or minimise the risk of spread onto neighbouring lands.

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Control Calendar

Growth cycles

Germination: February to June; August to December

Segments set roots onto bare soil after rain: February to June; August to December

Flower and fruit set: September to January

Active Growth: February to June; August to December

Integrated control techniques and alternatives

Physically remove plants and destroy by burning anytime throughout the year

Optimum herbicide use: February to June; August to December

Release bioagents, follow-up herbicides: mid-September to January

Follow up any regrowth as it appears and destroy by physical removal or spray with herbicides throughout the year

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 of water foliar spray
- PERMIT 14442 Expires 30/06/2018 Triclopyr 300 g/L + Picloram 100 g/L (Grazon® DS) Rate: 500 mL per 100 L of water Apply thoroughly as a foliar spray
- PERMIT 14442 Expires 30/06/2018 Triclopyr 600 g/L (Garlon® 600) Rate: 1 L per 75 L of diesel Comments: Spot spray application
- PERMIT 14442 Expires 30/06/2018 Triclopyr 600 g/L (Garlon® 600) Rate: 3 L per 100 L of water Comments: Add 0.5% Uptake® spray oil

Critical hints:

- Apply to actively growing plants.
- Consult your LCA Biosecurity Officer- Weeds for application tips
- Always read and follow the Label instructions and SDS 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.

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 specific advice and conduct their own investigations and assessments of their individual circumstances.

For further information:

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Local Land
Services