

North West Regional Best Practice

Guide for:

Honey Locust



Botanical name: *Gleditsia tricanthos*

Common names: Honey locust, McConnells Curse, Bean tree

Honey Locust is native to North America. It is a large, spiny, rapidly growing deciduous tree. Honey locust has been promoted and planted in Australia as a fodder tree and garden ornamental. Honey locust forms dense, spiny thickets that can out-compete native vegetation, provide a haven for pests, and injure stock and humans. It is a major threat to the environment and sustainable pasture production.

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, an exclusion zone is established for all lands in the region, except the core infestation area comprising Gunnedah Shire Council, Narrabri Shire Council and Tamworth Regional Council.

The following is needed to demonstrate compliance with the Act:

- Whole of region: The plant or parts of the plant are not traded, carried, grown or released into the environment
- Within Exclusion Zone: The plant is eradicated from the land and the land is kept free of the plant. Land Managers should prevent spread from their land. Land Managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land
- Within Core Infestation: Land managers should reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets.

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

A core infestation exists within Gunnedah Shire. Under Gunnedah Shire Local Control Requirements:

- Land managers should reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets.

North West Regional Best Practice Guide for: **Honey Locust**

Control Calendar



Growth cycles

Germination: January to April; September to January

Flower and pod set: September to January

Active Growth: January to April; October to January

Integrated control techniques and alternatives

Physically remove plants and destroy by burning anytime throughout the year

Optimum herbicide use: January to March; November to January

Registered herbicide application rates:

- Fluroxypyr 200 g/L (Starane™) Rate: 500 mL per 100L of water Comments: Foliar application, up to 2 m in height.
- Fluroxypyr 200 g/L (Starane™) Rate: 1.5 L per 100 L of diesel Comments: Basal bark application. Plants up to 10 cm basal diameter.
- Fluroxypyr 200 g/L (Starane™) Rate: 3 L per 100 L of diesel Comments: Basal bark application. Plants 10–20 cm basal diameter.
- Fluroxypyr 200 g/L (Starane™) Rate: 5 L per 100 L of diesel Comments: Basal bark application. Plants above 20 cm basal diameter
- Fluroxypyr 200 g/L (Starane™) Rate: 5 L per 100 L of diesel Comments: Cut stump application
- Fluroxypyr 333 g/L (Starane™ Advanced) Rate: 300 mL per 100L of water Comments: Foliar application, up to 2 m in height
- Fluroxypyr 333 g/L (Starane™ Advanced) Rate: 900 mL per 100 L of diesel Comments: Basal bark application. Plants up to 10 cm basal diameter.
- Fluroxypyr 333 g/L (Starane™ Advanced) Rate: 1.8 L per 100 L of diesel Comments: Basal bark application. Plants 10–20 cm basal diameter.
- Fluroxypyr 333 g/L (Starane™ Advanced) Rate: 3 L per 100 L of diesel Comments: Basal bark application. Plants above 20 cm basal diameter
- Fluroxypyr 333 g/L (Starane™ Advanced) Rate: 3 L per 100 L of diesel Comments: Cut stump application
- Picloram 44.7 g/kg + Aminopyralid 4.47 g/L (Vigilant II ®) Rate: Undiluted Comments: Cut stump/stem injection application. Apply a 3–5 mm layer of gel for stems less than 20 mm. Apply 5 mm layer on stems above 20 mm .
- Triclopyr 240 g/L + Picloram 120 g/L (Access™) Rate: 1 L per 60 L of diesel Comments: Basal bark application for basal diameter less than 5 cm or cut stump application for above 5 cm.

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:

a) 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.

(b) All chemical control programs must be carried out in accordance with the Pesticides Act 1999 and Pesticide Regulation 2017.

(c) All Chemical application programs used must be undertaken by or be designed and supervised by an appropriately Certified and Accredited Chemical user.
(d) 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:

Gunnedah Shire Council Biosecurity Officer - Weeds.
63 Elgin Street, Gunnedah NSW 2380
T: (02) 6740 2100
E: council@gunnedah.nsw.gov.au