



Broad leaf or tree privet

Ligustrum lucidum

DECLARED CLASS 3



The problem

Tree privet is a naturalised weed in south-east Queensland that is a potential invader of riparian vegetation and disturbed sites. In some coastal areas it displaces rainforest species. Privet is densely branched and can form thickets, destroying native animal habitat and disrupting their access through natural corridors. It is also recognised as a weed in South Africa and is known to cause significant irritations to sufferers of hay fever.

Description

Privet can grow up to 10 m tall, with closely packed branches. The broad, dark green, leathery leaves grow in opposite pairs and are up to 12 cm long with a pointed tip. Fruits occur as dense bunches of black berries, and are eaten (and hence dispersed) by birds. Originally from Japan and China, tree privet is regularly seen in ornamental gardens throughout south-east Queensland.

Management strategies

Privet seedlings may be controlled by mowing or hand pulling. If removing by hand, take care not to break the taproot or regrowth is likely to occur.

Declaration details

Broad leaf or privet tree is a declared Class 3 plant under the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route*

Management) Act 2002. The Act prohibits the supply or sale of Class 3 plants and may require their removal from environmentally significant areas.

Further information

Further information is available from the vegetation management/weed control/environmental staff at your local government.

TABLE 1 – HERBICIDES REGISTERED FOR THE CONTROL OF BROAD LEAF OR PRIVET TREE

Method	Herbicide	Rate	Registration status	Comments
Cut stump	glyphosate (360 g/L)	1 L product to 1 L water 1:1 in water	Registered	
Cut stump	triclopyr (600 g/L)	1 L product in 12 L diesel	Registered	
Cut stump	triclopyr (240 g/L) + picloram (120 g/L)	1 L product in 30 L diesel	Registered	
Basal bark spray	triclopyr (240 g/L) + picloram (120 g/L)	1 L product in 30 L diesel	Registered	
Basal bark spray	triclopyr (600 g/L)	1 L product in 12 L diesel	Registered	Only for plants with stem diameter <10 cm.
Stem injection	glyphosate (360 g/L)	Use undiluted, apply 1–2 mL per 2 cm cut	Registered	
Foliar spray	metsulfuron-methyl (600 g/kg)	10 g per 100 L water plus wetting agent	Registered	Apply to bushes up to 3 m high. Complete spray coverage is essential.
Cut stump	picloram (43 g/Kg) e.g. Vigilant®	Apply a layer 3–5 mm thick over cut surface	Registered	Cut stems no higher than 100 mm above ground level. Stems > 20 mm in diameter, apply 5mm thick. In multi-stem plants treat at least 80% stems including all main stems.

Read the label carefully before use and always use the herbicide in accordance with the directions on the label.

It is a requirement of a permit that all persons using the products covered by this off-label permit comply with the details and conditions listed in the permit. In addition, read the herbicide label carefully before use and always use the herbicide in accordance with label directions. The above permit can be used by pest control operations, members of environmental groups such as Bushcare, Catchment Care, Coast Care and people employed as or working under supervision of local and state government officers.



Fact sheets are available from NRW service centres and the NRW Information Centre phone (07 3237 1435). Check our web site <www.nrw.qld.gov.au> to ensure you have the latest version of this fact sheet. The control methods referred to in this Pest Fact should be used in accordance with the restrictions (federal and state legislation and local government laws) directly or indirectly related to each control method. These restrictions may prevent the utilisation of one or more of the methods referred to, depending on individual circumstances. While every care is taken to ensure the accuracy of this information, the Department of Natural Resources and Water does not invite reliance upon it, nor accept responsibility for any loss or damage caused by actions based on it.