



WATCH OUT for these Weeds

Grasses & Shrubs

Reference Guide & Calendar

Use this quick reference guide to identify and manage priority weeds of north western NSW. If allowed to spread, these weeds could have significant impacts on agricultural production, waterways, the natural environment and human health.

The calendar on the back page gives you an indication of the best time and method to manage each weed species. Weed management is most effective when it is part of an integrated program using a variety of methods to control weeds at certain times - for example, biological control, grazing management and herbicide.

For more detailed information, contact North West Local Land Services, your local council or the Department of Primary Industries.

NORTH WEST LOCAL LAND SERVICES

203 Balo St, Moree • T: 02 6752 8012

www.northwest.lls.nsw.gov.au



GRASSES

Coolatai Grass

Hyparrhenia hirta

Distinguished by seedhead spikes in pairs. Perennial tussock grass to 1.5m. Leaves greyish-green turning to orangey-red in winter.

IMPACT: Highly invasive grass. Takes over pastures and invades native ecosystems.



Photo: Leah MacKinnon, Les Tanner (inset)

African Love Grass

Eragrostis curvula

Tufted, tussocky, perennial grass to 1.5m. Erect, open or compact seedhead, grey-green appearance. Leaf tips curly.

IMPACT: Extremely competitive with pasture and native species. Overtakes poor pastures and forms dense monocultures.



Photo: Michelle McKemey

Johnson Grass

Sorghum halepense

Perennial sorghum grass to 2m. Leaf blades up to 50mm wide with prominent mid ribs. Seed heads large and loose.

IMPACT: Invades cropping land and contaminates seed crops. Can be toxic to livestock.



Photo: Les Tanner

Feathertop Rhodes Grass

Chloris virgata

Distinguished by feathery white/silver seed heads. Tufted annual grass up to 1m. Leaves bluish-green.

IMPACT: Major weed in broadacre cropping systems. Invades creeks and disturbed areas such as roadsides.



Photo: Greg Steenbeeke

Giant Rat's Tail Grass

Sporobolus natalensis and *S. pyramidalis*

Distinguished by cylindrical spike-like seedhead. Tufted perennial grass to 1.7m.

IMPACT: Invasive grass that reduces pasture productivity, out-competes desirable pasture grasses and degrades natural areas.



Photo: J. Hosking



Green Cestrum

Cestrum parqui

Shrub to 3m. Yellow, trumpet-shaped flowers. Smooth, shiny, dark green leaves. Black, shiny berries. Brittle stems.

IMPACT: Poisonous to livestock, especially cattle. A weed of roadsides, creeks and neglected sites.



Photo: Les Tanner



Parkinsonia

Parkinsonia aculeata

Shrub to 8m. Yellow flowers. Many small leaflets along leaves. Sharp spines.

IMPACT: Forms thickets near waterways that harbour feral animals, deter stock, reduce water flow and replace native vegetation.



Photo: Nikki Shepherd

SHRUBS



St John's Wort

Hypericum perforatum

Small shrub to 1m. Yellow flowers. Oil glands in leaves obvious when held up to the light.

IMPACT: Causes photosensitisation in livestock. Adds vegetable fault to wool. Invasive in pastures, roadsides and cleared land.



Photo: Les Tanner



Weed Management Calendar

WEEDS		SPRING	SUMMER	AUTUMN	WINTER
Grasses	Coolatai Grass				
	Johnson Grass				
	African Love Grass				
	Feathertop Rhodes Grass				
	Giant Rat's Tail Grass				
Shrubs	Parkinsonia				
	Green Cestrum				
	St John's Wort				

KEY:



Mechanical Removal



Herbicide Application



Toxic / Poisonous



Manual Removal



Manual Removal
(small infestation)



Weed of National
Significance



Pasture Management



Crop Management



Declared Noxious and
Notifiable Weed



Fire Management



Biological Control



Declared Noxious Weed

For detailed management information, refer to the DPI's *Noxious and Environmental Weed Control Handbook*: www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pests-weeds/weeds