

# WEEDS TRAVEL FAR IN FLOODS



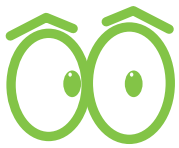
## Have the recent floods brought unwanted and invasive weeds to your property?

It's important to regularly check your land for invasive weeds – especially after flooding – so that you can control the weeds before they become a problem.

All landholders are required to manage invasive weeds on their land. During a flood, weed seeds and fragments can travel a large distance and turn up in previously unaffected locations.

They can quickly multiply and become established causing the following problems:

- Taking over valuable pasture and crops – impacting productivity
- Competing with and smothering native vegetation – reducing diversity and habitat for wildlife
- Forming monocultures and thickets – effecting land use, accessibility and scenic amenity.



### LOOK AROUND

Take a walk around your property:

- Search for plants that you haven't noticed before
- Most likely to be found:
  - where vegetation has been stripped away,
  - at the 'high tide' mark,
  - where plant fragments have been trapped and deposited on vegetation and structures, and
  - sites where flood water has pooled and sat for some time
- Keep an eye out for growth from seeds or plants striking from deposited plant fragments.



### TAKE ACTION

1. Act early before the plant goes to flower, sets seeds or has a chance to multiply vegetatively.
2. Physical Removal – small infestations can be manually removed by hand (e.g. cutting, pulling, chipping/grubbing, slashing, mowing), if left unmanaged, machinery techniques (e.g. ploughing, harvesting, slashing, felling and mulching) may be needed.
  - To help control the weeds – lay mulch, revegetate, plant a cover-crop, or follow up with herbicide treatment.
3. Herbicide Treatment – for larger areas, more persistent weeds or those that have already dropped seed.
  - Ensure the product is registered for the species and suitable for your situation. Only use as per product label.
  - Organic herbicides are available for some species, they often require multiple treatments.
4. Integrating techniques (using both physical and herbicide treatments) often has the best results.
5. Dispose of removed weeds responsibly – double bag and bin, place in piles to dry out and burn, deep bury or compost.



### SEEK SUPPORT

Report any new invasive weed you find to council. This helps us map the movement of high-risk species across the region, strategically plan for collective action and support you with advice on the best management approach.

Phone: 1300 307 800 **\*Check overpage for ID tips\***

Web Search:

- GRC – Biosecurity
- Weed Identification – Brisbane City Council
- DAF Invasive Plant Species





# PRIORITY SPECIES

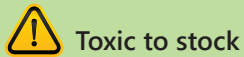
## Parthenium *Parthenium hysterophorus*



Annual herb up to 1–1.5m tall, with many branches when mature. Leaves are pale green, deeply lobed, and covered with fine hairs. Small (4–10mm) cream flowers are on stem tips in a 5-sided shape.



Daisy-like herb that is an annual or short-lived perennial. Grows to 50cm tall with multiple branches. The leaves are alternate, dark green and are usually 2-6 cm long. The flowers are bright yellow and daisy-like, often with 13 petals.



## Fireweed *Senecio madagascariensis*

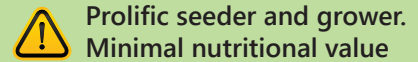


## Giant Rat's Tail Grass (GRT)

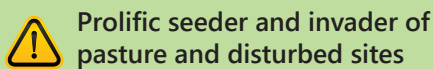
*Sporobolus pyramidalis*, *S. natalensis*, *S. jacquemontii* and *S. fertilis*



Giant rat's tail grass forms tussocks that grow up to 2m high, with a seed head of up to 50cm long with thousands of small long-lived seeds.



An erect plant, 1-2 m high with slightly rough, fern-like leaves, which are deeply divided with hairy undersides. Flowers are small, greenish and in spikes.



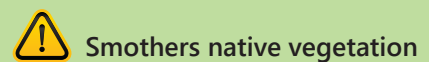
## Annual Ragweed *Ambrosia artemisiifolia*



## Maderia Vine *Anredera cordifolia*



Vigorous climbing vine with light green, heart-shaped fleshy leaves 4-5cm long. Flower spikes 10cm long, with individual small cream flowers. Aerial tubers form along the vine stem that drop off and re-grow.



All landholders have a General Biosecurity Obligation (GBO), under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* to manage the risks associated with invasive plants that are under their control.