

Weed identification and management

Caltrop or cats head

A summer growing plant that spreads from a single tap root. It can spread up to 2m from the center root. Spraying is effective when the plants are small and before seeds have set. Spraying should be undertaken as new seedlings appear. Once seeds are visible, the plants should be removed manually and placed in a bin or burnt.



Bindii

A common winter/spring weed in many regions of Australia that emerges after rain and sets seeds over a prolonged period of time if the plant is allowed to continue to grow. The plant is difficult to spot when young, but this is the best time to spray them. Once seeds can be seen on the plant it should be removed manually and disposed of to prevent further seed spread. Seeds will dry and drop whilst the plant is still growing and setting new seeds.

A pre-emergent spray can also be used to prevent future germinations.



Khaki Weed

Khaki weed is a low growing vine that has a central tap root. The tap root continues to grow and will remain in the soil for next season unless it is removed or killed.

When the infestation is small, khaki weed can be physically removed, ensuring the entire taproot is removed and disposed of by burning to prevent regrowth. For more extensive infestations it is recommended to spray prior to seed set.



Noogoora Burr

Mainly growing in summer, this tall plant has prolific seed pods which pose a risk to pets. It can be easily pulled or chipped when young. Spraying is effective when the plants are young.



Bathurst Burr

Bathurst burr is a compact annual, summer growing herb. It is an annual plant found in warm and temperate regions. Stems produce many groups of 3-pronged, stiff, yellowish spines at the base of each leaf or branch. Leaves are dark green with prominent white veins. Leaves are divided into three irregular lobes. Burrs are 1 to 1.5 cm long, covered in numerous hooked spines.

Plants can be pulled or chipped and disposed of. Spraying is effective when the plants are young.

