



FACTS SHEET No. 10

Target Weeding

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Every Landcare site is degraded by Noxious and/or Environmental weeds. Landcarers devote a considerable amount of time and effort into dealing with weeds on their patch. This fact sheet will suggest some strategies to help make the most of that effort.

What is a weed?

Noxious weeds are plants that have been declared noxious and must be managed according to the weed declaration. (Go to www.lakemac.com.au to find out which plants are declared noxious in Lake Macquarie)

Environmental weeds are plants that although not declared noxious, cause a problem to the local environment.

A "Weed" is defined as a plant out of place. It is typically a plant that has been introduced to an area where it has a negative effect on the local ecology or land use.

Natives can also be weeds if they are introduced into a new area.

All plants have evolved with factors that limit their growth (e.g. predators). *Introduced species* have left their limiting factors at home and therefore have a major competitive advantage over the locals.

Should we remove all introduced plants?

Introduced species might not be "weeds" if they don't cause a problem to their new home and therefore, although we should always plant natives on our sites we might not need to remove them.

Introduced species might not be "weeds" if they are providing a benefit to the site. Lantana is a weed that we should be addressing, but if we take it all out at once we may be exposing the local birds to predation by cats. Removing all the weeds from the creek bank might lead to soil erosion. In these situations and at this time, these plants aren't weeds and shouldn't be removed until they can be replaced.

Which weeds should we concentrate on?

Many weeds have minimal impact on your site and will probably be out-competed by healthy natives in time. Some weeds however, have the ability to overpower the ecology of your site if given the opportunity. Removing these plants will provide opportunities for local natives to recolonise the area.

A list of weeds to target is included on page 2. Some or all of these weeds may occur on your site.

Concentrating on these targeted weeds will be the best use of your landcaring time and should therefore be our highest priority. *Help in managing weeds may be available through the Landcare Resource Office.*



How can we be sure that we are removing weeds?

Target weeding will help reduce the risk of removing natives by mistake. Choosing a weed to target and discussing with your group how to identify it is a great way of controlling this risk.

All plants have differences that help us identify one from another. For example Lantana has square stems and thorns, the native Poison Peach has a round stem and no thorns. Privet and Cassia have opposite leaf attachments; the native Coffee Bush has alternate leaf attachments. Look for the differences. If you're not sure, leave it until you find out.

A copy of "Attack of the Killer Weeds" a booklet produced by Coastcare and reprinted by the Landcare Resource Office in 2005, is available to assist Landcare groups to identify the weeds on their sites.

There is also a "WEEDeck" containing 36 weed identification cards to help you identify weeds in the field and gives advice on their control.

Advice and assistance is available through the Landcare Resource Office

For more information on weeds in your area visit Weeds Australia www.weeds.org.au

Botanical name	Common name	Control Method
<i>Lantana camara</i>	Lantana	Cut and paint / manual removal
<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i>	Bitou Bush	Cut and paint / manual removal
<i>Ipomoea spp</i>	Indian & Coastal Morning Glory	Manual removal / stem scrape
<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>	Bridal Creeper	Manual removal / stem scrape
<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Japanese Honeysuckle	Cut and paint
<i>Araujia hortorum</i>	Moth Plant	Manual removal / stem scrape
<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	Small Leaf Privet	Cut and paint
<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>	Large Leaf Privet	Cut and paint
<i>Senna pendula</i>	Cassia	Cut and paint
<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	Camphor Laurel	Cut and paint
<i>Olea europaea</i>	African Olive	Cut and paint
<i>Ageratina adenaphora</i>	Crofton Weed	Manual removal
<i>Bryophyllum delagoense</i>	Mother of Millions	Manual removal
<i>Protasparagus spp</i>	Asparagus ferns	Manual removal of core
<i>Rubis fruticososa</i>	Blackberry	LMCC Spray contractor
<i>Ricinus communis</i>	Castor Oil Plant	Cut and paint - manual removal
<i>Cestrum Parqui</i>	Green Cestrum	Cut and paint - manual removal
<i>Anredera cordifolia</i>	Madeira Vine	Cut and paint - remove fruit
<i>Acetosa sagittata</i>	Turkey Rhubarb	Cut and paint - manual removal
<i>Delairea odorata</i>	Cape Ivy	Manual removal
<i>Gloriosa superba</i>	Glory Lily	Manual removal of all parts
<i>Erythrina X sykesii</i>	Coral Tree	Cut and paint
<i>Ochna serrulata</i>	Mickey Mouse Plant	Cut and paint
<i>Solanum mauritianum</i>	Wild Tobacco	Cut and paint - manual removal
<i>Pennisetum clandestinum</i>	Kykuyu	Manual removal of runners
<i>Stenotaphrum secundatum</i>	Buffalo Grass	Manual removal of runners

Further information and advice is available from the Landcare Resource Office - 4959 5080