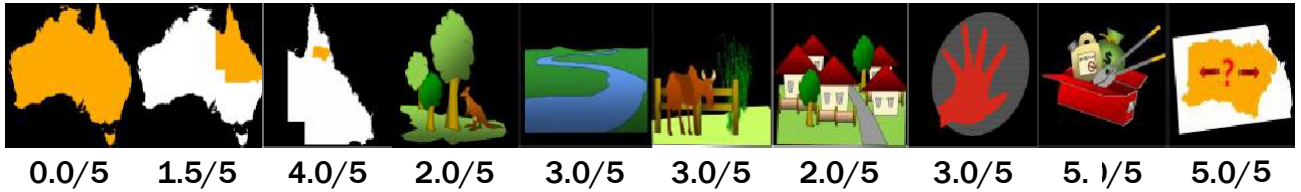


Mimosa diplotricha (Giant sensitive plant)

Priority



Details

Description: A shrubby or sprawling annual that has four angled branches with a line of sharp, hooked prickles along the angles. Similar to the common sensitive weed but grows as a small shrub rather than a ground cover. Seed is very long-lived and remain dormant for out to 30+ years.

Distribution: Isolated to several small outbreaks on rural properties in Starke and Cooktown areas.

Impacts: GSP chokes pastures and crops causing lost productivity and contaminating produce. The long seed life means soils in infested areas may contain seed long after plants have been controlled.

Key projects: A successful bio-control agent is present in the Wet Tropics which significantly impacts developing seeds. It is not know how effective the biocontrol is on populations of GSP in southern Cape York. Selective herbicide or grubbing of individual plants prior to flowering is essential to prevent further seed development.

Management requirements

Delimitation

The distribution of GSP beyond the know infestations will be required to determine the most effective next steps in management. Report any occurrences within the delimitation zone to Cooks Shire Council on 07 4069 5444.

Prevention

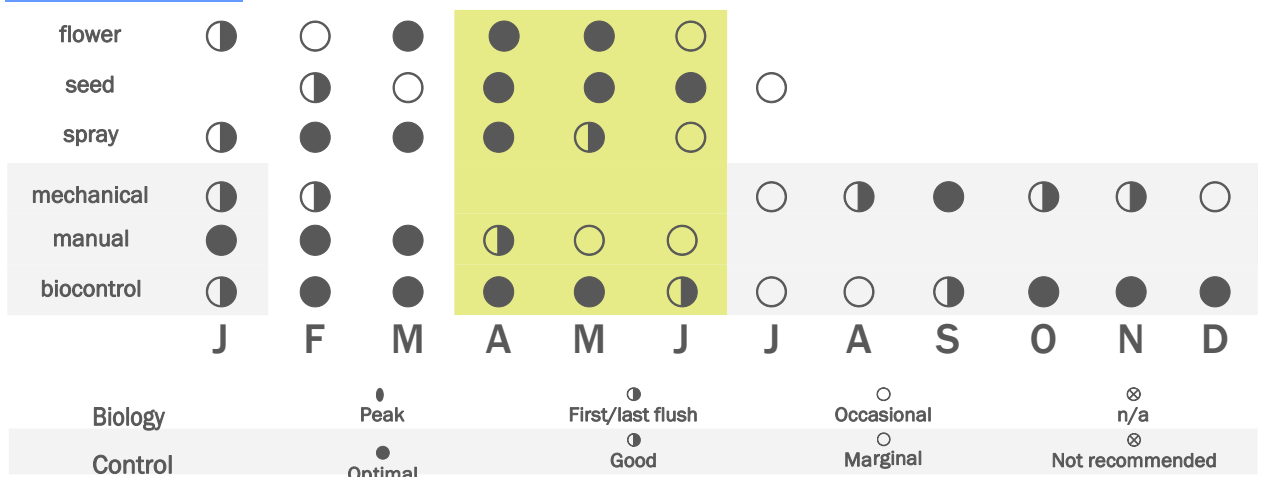
Because the seed of GSP is so long lived maintenance of detailed hygiene is required to prevent spread to new locations in soil, materials or on vehicles, stock and machinery. The Spelling pastures and careful management of stock can assist reduce the spread in of GSP grazing lands. Cleaning down machinery and plant between movements between properties will assist to reduce spread. Spelling stock in a holding paddock for at least 7 days prior to turnout or movement will ensure any ingested seed is passed before moving .

Intensive control

Manage roadside and pastures to prevent spread to adjoining paddocks and properties. Integrated control in grazing areas including pasture management, herbicide control and weed hygiene activities will assist to keep pasture healthy. Spot spraying isolated outbreaks as they occur and prior to slashing or grazing will assist to prevent development and spread of seed.

The biocontrol agent for GSP is a small psyllid which attacks the flowers and seeds. The biocontrol will reduce new seed input but does not reduce the seed stored in the soil. Careful management and mapping of old and new infestation will assist to ensure spread to new locations does not occur.

Control Calendar









- terrestrial
- herb
- annual



Category

- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6

Control

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Spread

- 
- 

What is my biosecurity obligation?

- Delimitation zone**
- Prevention zone**
- Intensive control zone**

Report any suspected outbreaks or detections in the prevention or eradication zones to Cook Shire Council on 07 4069 5444. Ensure any machinery or vehicles moving from the infested areas are free from plant material and soil. Ensure best practice weed hygiene measures are in place to reduce risk of spread to new locations.

Ensure best practice weed hygiene measures are in place to reduce risk of spread to new locations. Maintain weed free areas. Minimise or prevent soil disturbance in known infestations.

For more information on management aims in each zone refer to *Using the pest plan templates*