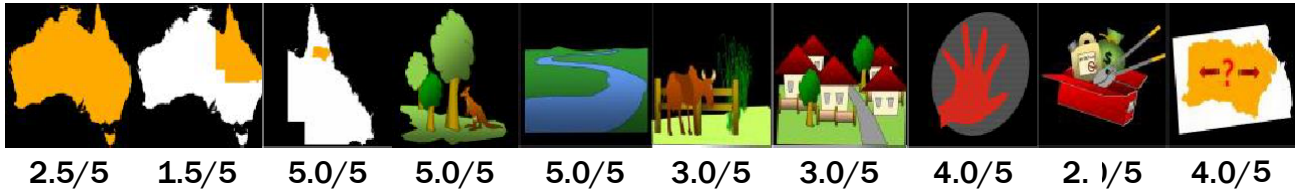


Annona glabra (Pond Apple)



Priority



Details

Description: Tall semi-deciduous shrub or tree reaching around 15m but typically 3-6 m. Pond apple is most likely to occur in wetlands and along stream margins but it may occur along beaches as well. Leaves are lighter below than above and have a green apple scent when crushed. The Large fruit is similar to a custard apple and are filled with floating seeds similar in size and shape to a pumpkin seed.

Distribution: Along the east coast of Cape York Peninsula core infestation occur in Temple Bay, Lockhart River and Amos Bay. Outliers occur scattered along the coast particularly on the south facing coastline as far north as the mouth of the Jardine River. Outside of the Cook Shire core infestations occur in the Daintree, Russell/Mulgrave, Johnson and Murray river catchments. Seeds can float on river and ocean currents.

Impacts: Pond apple is a highly invasive tree/shrub that can colonise and take over a wide range of aquatic habitats. It forms dense thickets that exclude most native ground and shrub layer plants and prevents regeneration of trees.

Key projects: Long term projects are continuing along the east coast catchments.

Management requirements

Prevention

Pond apple is most likely to grow along creeks and in wetlands. It may also be found in old orchards where it was used as graft stock for custard apple in the past or appear along beaches and beach swales where it is arrives as floating seeds. Along the east coast of Cape York Peninsula pond apple has been detected as isolated plants or scattered infestations on south facing beaches. The distinctive seeds (similar to pumpkin seed) may be found at high tide mark on coastal beaches. Pond apple seed requires fresh water to germinate. Plants may be confused with some mangrove species particularly blind-your-eye or milky mangrove (*Excoecaria agallocha*).

Keep an eye out for pond apple in swamps, mangroves, estuaries or islands and report any suspect plants to Cook Shire on 07 4069 5444.

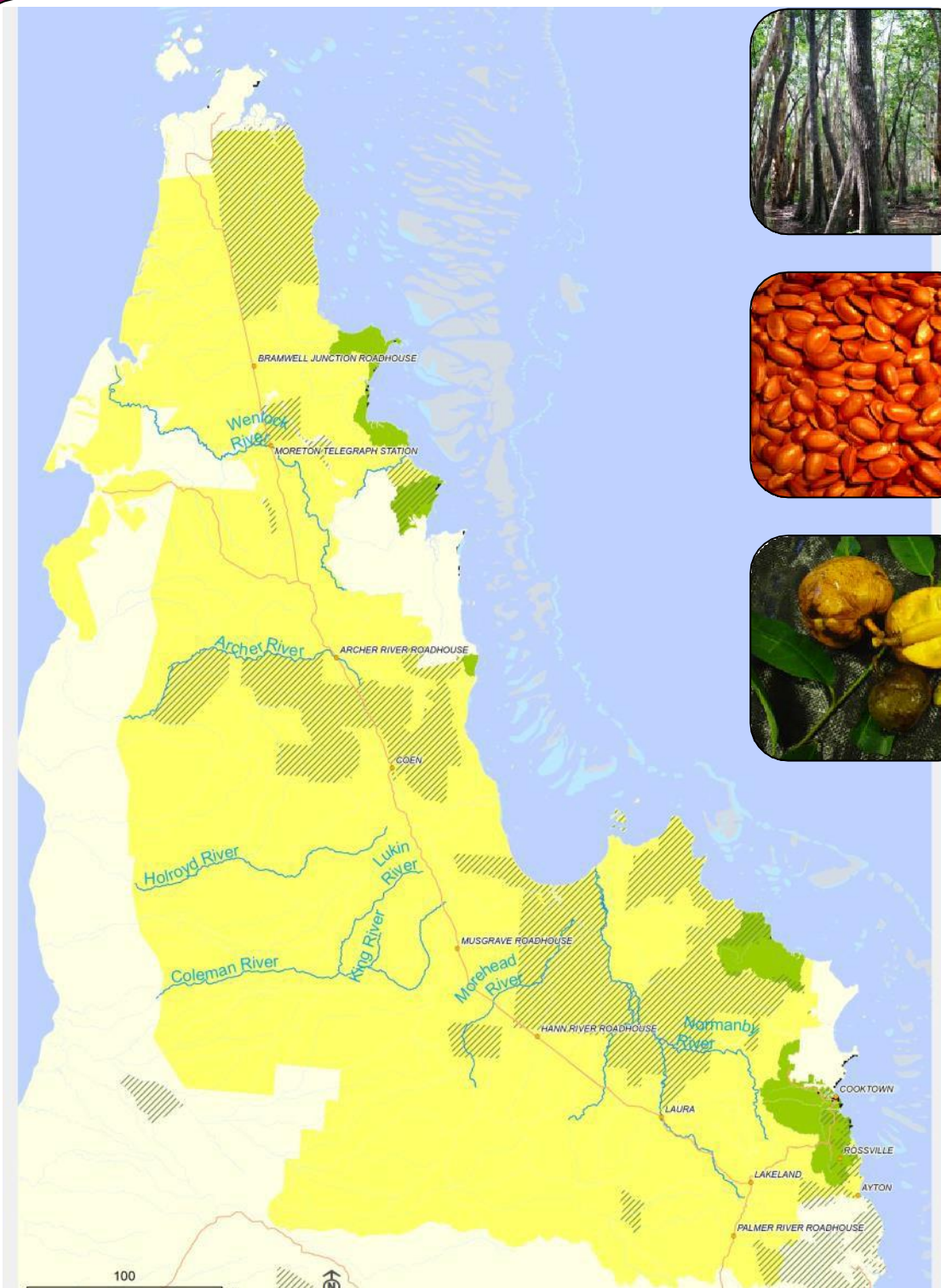
Eradication

The northern infestation in Temple Bay has been the subject of ongoing control and is progressing to eradication. Infestations in the Endeavour River basin have been removed and are subject to monitoring. Management of the infestation in Amos Bay is underway which is essential work to prevent reinfestation to the north.

Control Calendar

flower	○						○	◐	●	◐
seed	●	◐	○				○	○	◐	●
spray						○	◐	◐	◐	○
mechanical						○	◐	●	◐	○
manual	○	○	○	○	○	◐	●	●	●	●
burn						○	◐	◐	●	●
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O
Biology		●			●		○			⊗
Control		Optimal			Good		Marginal			Not recommended

Annona glabra (Pond Apple)



- tree
- aquatic
- perennial

Category

- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6

Control

-
-
-
-

Spread

-
-

What is my biosecurity obligation?

- Prevention zone**
- Eradication zone**

Originally introduced as a water tolerant root-stock for custard apple pond apple is no longer in use on the horticultural industry. Pond apple is a restricted plant under the Biosecurity Act, it is an offence to sell, give away or distribute this plant.

Keep an eye out for pond apple when fishing or visiting beaches, estuaries and wetlands. Report any suspected outbreaks or detections to Cook Shire on 07 4069 5444.

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