

# Blainvillea

*Blainvillea gayana*



Blainvillea is native to west Africa. Like many plants in the Asteraceae family, it is an early succession species and is well-adapted to colonise open, disturbed sites. Blainvillea appears to be in a relatively early stage of population development in Queensland, with a limited distribution mostly around Mackay, Proserpine and Cape York. Risk assessments suggests that blainvillea is highly likely to spread since it is widespread in Africa. However, there is currently no evidence to suggest it will become a major invasive plant. As a precaution, however, landholders are encouraged to try to minimise proliferation and spread.

## Legal requirements

Blainvillea is not a prohibited or restricted invasive plant under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*. However, by law, everyone has a general biosecurity obligation (GBO) to take reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with invasive plants under their control.

Local governments must have a biosecurity plan that covers invasive plants in their area. This plan may include actions to be taken on blainvillea. Some of these actions may be required under local laws. Contact your local government for more information.

## Description

Blainvillea is an erect, herbaceous annual that grows up to 2 m high. Leaves are arranged in more or less opposite pairs along angular stems. Leaves are slightly hairy and have serrated margins. Flowers are mauve to white.

## Life cycle

A quick-growing annual that reproduces from seeds. Seeds have short bristles that presumably enable them to adhere to the fur of animals or the clothing of people. Individual plants can produce thousands of seeds before they die. Blainvillea flowers in Autumn.



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## Habitat and distribution

Prefers open, disturbed sites such as roadsides, pastures and neglected cultivation in tropical areas. It appears to be sparingly naturalised at a few locations in coastal north Queensland. However, formal surveillance has not been undertaken and additional populations are likely to exist elsewhere. It is locally abundant around Mackay (e.g. Dingo Beach, Kuttabul and North Gregory).

## Herbicide control

Certain herbicides can be used to control dryland annual invasive plants such as blainvillea, but only under certain circumstances. Glyphosate (e.g. Roundup/Glyphosate CT) at 1 L product per 100 L of water (for 360 g/L formulations- see PER11463 for other formulations) or Metsulfuron-methyl (e.g. Associate, Ken-Met 600 WG) at 10 g product per 100 L of water (plus wetting agent) can only be used in non-crop situations in Queensland under the strict conditions of an APVMA off-label permit PER11463. Only ground-based application equipment can be used.

There are no herbicide products specifically registered for the control of blainvillea in Queensland. However, a permit allows people generally to use some herbicide products to control blainvillea as an invasive plant in various situations.

See Table 1 for the treatment options in situations allowed by the permit.

Prior to using the herbicides listed under this permit (PER11463) you must read or have read to you and understand the conditions of the permit. To obtain a copy of this permit visit [apvma.gov.au](http://apvma.gov.au).

## More information

For more information contact your local government or visit [biosecurity.qld.gov.au](http://biosecurity.qld.gov.au).

**Table 1. Herbicides for the control of blainvillea**

Situation	Herbicide	Rate	Registration details	Comments
Non-agricultural areas, domestic and public service areas, commercial and industrial areas, bushland/native forests, roadsides, rights-of-way, vacant lots, wastelands, wetlands, dunal and coastal areas	Glyphosate 360 g/L (e.g Roundup, Weedmaster Duo)	1 L per 100 L water	APVMA permit PER11463 (expires 30/04/2027)	Spot spray
	Glyphosate (other formulations)	Consult table at end of attachment 1 in PER11463 for instructions to determine rates for other formulations		
	Metsulfuron-methyl 600 g/kg (e.g. Associate, Ken-Met 600 WG)	10 g per 100 L water plus wetting agent		

**Read the label carefully before use. Always use the herbicide in accordance with the directions on the label.**

