

Barleria

Barleria prionitis



Barleria is native to tropical Asia, Africa and India. It invades open woodland habitats and watercourses, surviving the dry season and growing vigorously with the onset of the wet.

It can form dense, prickly thickets that can eliminate most other ground vegetation. Barleria seedlings grow slowly at first; however, once established, they can add 50 cm per year to their height.

Barleria is a popular garden ornamental and is grown in Darwin and parts of Queensland as a hedge plant because of its small thorns. Reproduction is generally by seed, and garden escapees have invaded bushland, disturbed areas and overgrazed paddocks.

Legal requirements

Barleria 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 barleria. Some of these actions may be required under local laws. Contact your local government for more information.

Description

Barleria is a robust, prickly shrub that grows up to 1 m high.

It has 3–5 sharp, pale-coloured spines, 1–2 cm long, in each leaf axil. Branches are smooth, brown and roughly square in cross-section. Leaves are oval, 10–12 cm long, with a pointed tip ending in a short spine.

Yellow, tubular flowers about 4 cm long with long projecting stamens occur in upright spikes at the top of the plant.

Seed capsules are oval-shaped and about 18 mm long, tapering into a 6 mm long beak. Seeds are large (8 mm long and 5 mm wide), flat and covered in matted hairs.

Herbicide control

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

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



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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.

Follow up

Monitor treated areas regularly for any new seedlings or regrowth.

More information

For more information contact your local government or visit biosecurity.qld.gov.au.

Table 1. Herbicides for the control of barleria

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, dunal and coastal areas	Glyphosate 360 g/L (e.g. Weedmaster Duo)	1 L per 100 L water	APVMA permit PER11463 (expires 30/04/2027)	Spot spray
	Metsulfuron-methyl 600 g/kg (e.g. Associate)	10 g per 100 L water plus wetting agent		
	2,4-D 300 g/L + picloram 75 g/L (e.g. Tordon 75-D)	1 L per 100 L water plus wetting agent		
	Fluroxypyr 200 g/L (e.g. Flagship 200)	1 L per 100 L water		
	Triclopyr 300 g/L + picloram 100 g/L (e.g. Conqueror) or Triclopyr 300 g/L + picloram 100 g/L + aminopyralid 8 g/L (e.g. Grazon Extra)	500 mL per 100 L water plus wetting agent		
	Fluroxypyr 140 g/L + aminopyralid 10 g/L (e.g. Hotshot)	500–700 mL per 100 L water		

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

