

Caribbean pine

Pinus caribaea



Originally from the West Indies and Central America, Caribbean pine is an aggressive species that tolerates hard conditions.

Winged seeds are blown into paperbark and open eucalypt forests that adjoin plantations and ornamental plantings of this pine. Dense stands may then form, that exclude native vegetation and alter fire regimes. These stands provide few of the habitat advantages that native plants offer, such as berries or nectar to encourage birds and insects.

Legal requirements

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

Description

Caribbean pine is an evergreen tree growing up to 30 m high, with a broad, rounded crown, often free of branches to a considerable height.

Its grey to reddish-brown bark is fissured and sheds in wide, flat plates. Deep-green needles, 15–25 cm long, usually occur in bundles of three, and rarely four, five, or two, and are crowded at the ends of branches.

Glossy brown cones are about 5–10 cm long and 2.5–3.5 cm wide when closed. Each cone scale has a small prickle. Winged seeds are usually mottled grey or light brown.

Control

Manual control

This tree will not regrow if it is cut down, provided all branches and needle formations below the cut are cleaned off the stump. If ringbarking is used, it is important to make sure the trees, when they finally fall, will not become a hazard for people or public utilities.

Hand pull small pines or ease them out of the ground with a mattock. Shake the soil from the pine's roots and place any available leaf litter over the disturbance site. Never leave bare soil as this will encourage further pine seeds or other weeds to germinate.

Herbicide control

There are no herbicide products specifically registered for the control of Caribbean pine in Queensland. However, a permit allows people generally to use some herbicide products to control Caribbean pine 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.

Follow up

Monitor treated areas regularly for any new seedlings or regrowth.



**Queensland
Government**

More information

More information is available from your local government or visit biosecurity.qld.gov.au.

Table 1. Herbicides for the control of Caribbean pine

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. Roundup Herbicide, Weedmaster Duo)	Undiluted to 1 L per 2 L water	APVMA permit PER11463 (expires 30/04/2027)	Stem injection Inject at 6–8 cm intervals around base of tree during active summer growth The cut of the injection must be through the bark and deep enough to place the herbicide in contact with the sapwood The herbicide must be applied immediately after the dose pocket is made Ensure that any trees treated with herbicide will not cause a hazard for people or public utilities when they finally fall
	Triclopyr (200 g/L) + picloram (100 g/L) (e.g. Apparent Slogger Herbicide) or Triclopyr 200 g/L + picloram 100 g/L + aminopyralid 25 g/L (e.g. Tordon RegrowthMaster)	1 L per 4 L water		Stem injection, drill, frill or axe Inject at 10–15 cm intervals around base of tree during active summer growth The cut of the injection must be through the bark and deep enough to place the chemical in contact with the sapwood The herbicide must be applied immediately after the dose pocket is made Ensure that any trees treated with herbicide will not cause a hazard for people or public utilities when they finally fall
	Triclopyr (240 g/L) + picloram (120 g/L) (e.g. Access)	1 L per 60 L diesel		Basal bark If the tree's diameter is greater than 15 cm it will have developed thick, woody bark. To increase the uptake of herbicide, remove the bark from the part of the trunk to be treated with an axe prior to basal barking

The herbicides listed in Table 1 are permitted under APVMA PER11463 (expires 30/04/2027). Persons who wish to prepare for use and/or use products for the purposes specified in this permit must read or have read to them, the details and conditions of the permit. The permit is available on the APVMA website apvma.gov.au

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

