

Broad-leafed paspalum

Paspalum mandiocanum



Broad-leafed paspalum is an unpalatable, introduced, hardy and adaptable grass that invades livestock pastures by outcompeting and replacing palatable native pasture species.

It tolerates both dense shade and drought conditions, grows quickly (particularly after rainfall), smothers less competitive grasses by spreading horizontally, produces a large number of seeds and has a high rate of germination.

Legal requirements

Broad-leafed paspalum 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 broad-leafed paspalum. Some of these actions may be required under local laws. Contact your local government for more information.



**Queensland
Government**

Description

Broad-leaved paspalum has bright green, mature leaves, up to 10 mm wide and have a crinkled margin. The lower 70–100 mm section of the leaf is maroon, burgundy or brown.

Flower stems can be over 1 m high, with up to 10 flower/seed stalks growing alternately down the stem. Ripe seed heads hang at about 45° if the stem is upright.

Individual tussocks can grow up to 1 m wide and easily spread sideways, as the stems that make contact with the soil will form roots. Tussocks have a high degree of tolerance to mowing.

Habitat and distribution

Broad-leaved paspalum plants grow in open pasture, along roadside verges and in bush margins, but also in deeply-shaded sections of forest.

Control

Seedlings and smaller plants can be hand-pulled, bagged, composted or disposed of at the local tip. Wear gloves, as the leaves and seed heads can cause skin irritation.

An integrated approach is required for larger infestations of broad-leaved paspalum. Ensure pastures are not over-grazed to allow competition from desired species.

No single herbicide will be 100% effective. Take care when using non-selective herbicides that may cause damage to desired pasture species.

Herbicide control

Very little information is available on control of this species and the herbicides listed below are those that have been recommended for other paspalum species or grasses generally elsewhere.

More information

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

Table 1. Herbicides for the control of broad-leaved paspalum

Situation	Herbicide	Rate	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. Weedmaster Duo) and other formulations	1 L/100 L water Consult Permit PER11463 (expires 30/04/2027) for other formulations	Spot spray Use only formulations registered for aquatic use in riparian areas
	Fluazifop 212 g/L (e.g. Fusilade)	400 mL/100 L water or 4 L/ha + wetting agent or spray oil	Spot spray Do not allow spray to enter water bodies
	Haloxypop 520 g/L (e.g. Verdict)	25 mL/100 L water or 250 mL/ha + wetting agent or spray oil	

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

NOTE: These herbicides can kill all grasses and glyphosate can also kill a range of other plants. Use with care.

