



WEED CONTROL CLASS 4 MANAGEMENT PLAN

The control objective for weed control class 4 is to minimise the negative impact of those plants on the economy, community or environment of NSW.

NAME OF WEED: Blackberry

Common name: Blackberry **Scientific name:** *Rubus fruticosus*

The above mentioned weed(s) is a noxious weed declared under section 7 of the Noxious Weeds Act 1993.

AREA OF OPERATION & PHONE NUMBERS FOR LOCAL CONTROL AUTHORITIES:

Sutherland 9710 0333

PLAN PERIOD (not to exceed weed control order)

Starting date: 1 March 2006

Completion date: 28 February 2011
(Unless otherwise revoked)

CONTROL MEASURES FOR THE WEED(S) AS PER ORDER 19

Class 4: "The growth and spread of the plant must be controlled according to the measures specified in a management plan published by the local control authority and the plant may not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed".

The above local control authorities specify the following measures to control this weed:

On privately owned land less than or equal to 2Ha in size, the weed must be prevented from fruiting and flowering (usually occurs between Dec – Apr) and it's spatial extent reduced by a minimum of 50% annually. Establishment of new infestations must be prevented.

On privately owned land greater than 2Ha in size, the weed must be prevented from spreading and it's spatial extent reduced by a minimum of 25% annually. Establishment of new infestations must be prevented. Alternatively a weed management plan for the site must be completed by the landholder and approved by the Local Control Authority.

If these measures cannot be continuously complied with on private land, then total removal will be enforced.

On publicly owned or managed land, the weed must be prevented from spreading and it's spatial extent reduced by a minimum of 10% annually.

CONTROL REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS WEED IN THE AREA OF OPERATION

General information on control methods for this weed can be found in the most recent edition of the annual *Noxious and Environmental Weed Control Handbook* www.dpi.nsw.gov.au or at www.sydneyweeds.org.au Additional biological and control information is available in the Weeds Of National Significance (WONS) Weed Management Guide for Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* aggregate), produced by the CRC for Weed

Management.

Before commencing any chemical control program contact your local council's weeds officer for advice tailored to your situation.

All herbicide use should be undertaken with a registered herbicide as specified on the herbicide product label or relevant off-label permit published by the Australian Pesticides & Veterinary Medicines Authority.

Manual control.

Small infestations can be dug out, however all parts of the root system must be removed to avoid re-shooting. This control technique is not advisable on slopes, riparian zones or in situations where accelerated erosion may potentially occur.

Herbicide control.

Blackberry can be sprayed with a registered herbicide. Plants can be treated year round, although best results will be obtained from November to February, when the plant is flowering and actively growing. Several follow-up treatments may be required.

For smaller infestations, direct herbicide application using the scrape and paint method should be used. This technique requires each blackberry stem to be scraped with a knife or similar, removing the outer layer of 'skin' from the base of the stem to at least 30cm along the stem. Herbicide must be applied to each stem immediately after scraping. Re-apply to any regrowth.

Biological control.

The Blackberry Leaf Rust (*Phragmidium violaceum*) is effective where large, inaccessible infestations occur. Control of Blackberry will not be achieved with Rust alone - an integrated pest management program combining Rust with other approved control techniques is required. A weed management plan for the site must be completed by the landholder that is approved by the Local Control Authority.

LINKAGES TO OTHER PLANS, STRATEGIES (Local, Regional, State and National)

Sydney Metropolitan Catchment Weed Strategy (under preparation)
Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Weed Strategy (under preparation)
Weeds of National Significance – Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus L. agg.*) Strategic Plan

SECTION 12 OBLIGATIONS (from the Noxious Weeds Act 1993)

Private occupiers of land must control noxious weeds on land.

An occupier (other than a public authority or a local control authority) of land to which a weed control order applies must control noxious weeds on the land as required under the order.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

Note: If an occupier fails to comply with obligations under a weed control order, those obligations may be enforced against the owner of the land as well as the occupier by a weed control notice issued under section 18.

PLAN ENDORSEMENT

This plan is endorsed by each Local Control Authority in the area of operation.

Signed by:

Position:

Or, ratified at the meeting of Sutherland Shire Council, dated 26 June 2006

Please note: this document is only binding when reproduced in entirety

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