

# Prohibited invasive plants of Queensland



Blind cactus (*Opuntia rufida*)



Tropical soda apple (*Solanum viarum*)



Red witchweed (*Striga asiatica*)



Bitter weed (*Helenium amarum*)

## The Biosecurity Act

The *Biosecurity Act 2014* protects Queensland's economy, biodiversity and people's lifestyles from the threats posed by invasive pests and diseases.

Under the Act, certain species of invasive plants are listed as 'prohibited' matter.

Species not listed as prohibited may be listed as restricted matter under the Act or may be listed by a local government under local laws.

Australian legislation administered by the Australian Department of Agriculture also applies to the import of all plants into Australia.



Queensland  
Government

## What is prohibited matter?

Prohibited matter includes a range of invasive plants and other types of pests and diseases listed in the Act. These plants have the potential to have significant impacts and are currently not present or known to be present in Queensland.

It is an offence to deal with prohibited matter or fail to report its presence.

'Must not deal with' includes that a person must not do any of the following with prohibited invasive plants:

- keep or possess
- conduct experiments
- produce or manufacture
- breed
- propagate
- use
- grow, raise, feed or culture
- distribute
- import
- transport
- dispose of
- buy, supply or use.

## Reporting prohibited matter

All prohibited matter must be reported within 24 hours of being sighted to Biosecurity Queensland by calling 13 25 23.

By law, everyone has a general biosecurity obligation (GBO) to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risk of the plant spreading until they receive advice from an authorised officer.

Prompt action will protect our valuable agricultural industries, natural resources and the environment.

## Invasive plants that are prohibited matter

- Acacias non-indigenous to Australia (*Acaciella* spp., *Mariosousa* spp., *Senegalia* spp. and *Vachellia* spp. excluding *Vachellia nilotica* and *Vachellia farnesiana* which are restricted matter).
- anchored water hyacinth (*Eichhornia azurea*)
- annual thunbergia (*Thunbergia annua*)
- bitter weed (*Helenium amarum*)
- candleberry myrtle (*Myrica faya*)
- cholla cactus (*Cylindropuntia* spp. and their hybrids, other than *C. fulgida*, *C. imbricata*, *C. prolifera*, *C. pallida*, *C. spinosior*, and *C. tunicata*)

- Christ's thorn (*Ziziphus spina-christi*)
- Eurasian water milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)
- fanwort (*Cabomba* spp. other than *C. caroliniana*)
- floating water chestnuts (*Trapa* spp.)
- harrisia cactus (*Harrisia* spp. syn. *Eriocereus* spp. other than *H. martinii*, *H. tortuosa* and *H. pomanensis* syn. *Cereus pomanensis*)
- honey locust (*Gleditsia* spp. other than *G. triacanthos*)
- horsetails (*Equisetum* spp.)
- karoo thorn (*Vachellia karroo*)
- kochia (*Bassia scoparia* syn. *Kochia scoparia*)
- lagarosiphon (*Lagarosiphon major*)
- mesquites (all *Prosopis* spp. and hybrids other than *P. glandulosa*, *P. pallida* and *P. velutina*)
- Mexican bean tree (all *Cecropia* spp. other than *C. pachystachya*, *C. palmata* and *C. peltata*)
- miconia (*Miconia* spp. other than *M. calvescens*, *M. cionotricha*, *M. nervosa* and *M. racemosa*)
- mikania vine (*Mikania* spp. other than *M. micrantha*)
- Peruvian primrose bush (*Ludwigia peruviana*)
- prickly pear (*Opuntia* spp. other than *O. aurantiaca*, *O. elata*, *O. ficus-indica*, *O. microdasys*, *O. monacantha*, *O. stricta*, *O. streptacantha* and *O. tomentosa*)
- red sesbania (*Sesbania punicea*)
- salvinia (*Salvinia* spp. other than *S. molesta*)
- serrated tussock (*Nassella trichotoma*)
- Siam weed (*Chromolaena* spp. other than *C. odorata* and *C. squalida*)
- spiked pepper (*Piper aduncum*)
- tropical soda apple (*Solanum viarum*)
- water soldiers (*Stratiotes aloides*)
- witch weeds (*Striga* spp. other than native species).

## More information

More information is available from your local government or call Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23 or visit [biosecurity.qld.gov.au](http://biosecurity.qld.gov.au).

