

Duranta

Duranta erecta



Native to tropical America, duranta was introduced to Australia as an ornamental. It now invades disturbed areas of native vegetation and road embankments and is spread long distances by birds and the dumping of garden refuse.

Legal requirements

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

Description

Duranta is a vigorous shrub or small tree that grows to 7 m high. It has drooping, spiny branches and leaves that are opposite, stalked, egg-shaped and 2–8 cm long.



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Blue tubular flowers are around 1 cm long, occur in sprays up to 20 cm long and develop into bright-yellow, round fruits that are 5–10 mm in diameter.

Control

Manual control

Hand pull seedlings and small plants, making sure you remove all the roots. Try to limit seed setting of larger plants until infested areas can be treated with herbicide. If plants are cut down, the stump must be immediately treated with a suitable herbicide or the shrub will reshoot.

Herbicide control

There are no herbicide products specifically registered for the control of duranta in Queensland. However, a permit PER11463 allows people generally to use some herbicide products to control duranta 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 the 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

Treated areas should be monitored regularly for any new seedlings or regrowth.

More information

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

Table 1. Herbicides for the control of duranta

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	Metsulfuron-methyl 600 g/kg (e.g. Nufarm Associate Herbicide)	10 g per 100 L water plus wetting agent	APVMA permit PER11463 (expires 30/04/2027)	Spot spray young plants (less than 2 m)
	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. Wynca Fluroxypyr 200 Herbicide)	500 ml to 1 L per 100 L water		Spot spray
	Fluroxypyr 333 g/L (e.g. Starane Advanced Herbicide)	300–600 mL/100 L water		
	Triclopyr 240 g/L + picloram 120 g/L (e.g. Access Herbicide)	1 L per 60 L diesel		Basal bark or cut stump
	Fluroxypyr 333 g/L (e.g. Starane Advanced Herbicide)	35 mL per 1 L diesel, kerosene or Biosafe		Basal bark
21 mL per 1 L diesel, kerosene or Biosafe				

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



Fact sheets are available from biosecurity.qld.gov.au. The control methods recommended should be used in accordance with the restrictions (federal and state legislation, and local government laws) directly or indirectly related to each control method. These restrictions may prevent the use of one or more of the methods referred to, depending on individual circumstances. While every care is taken to ensure the accuracy of this information, the department does not invite reliance upon it, nor accept responsibility for any loss or damage caused by actions based on it.

