The new 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 ‘restricted’ biosecurity matter.

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

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

Restricted invasive plants of Queensland

- **Hudson pear** (*Cylindropuntia rosea* syn. *Cylindropuntia pallida*)
- **Fireweed** (*Senecio madagascariensis*)
- **Mother-of-millions** (*Kalanchoe delagoense*)
- **Bunny ears** (*Opuntia microdasys*)
What is restricted matter?

Restricted matter is listed in the Act and includes a range of invasive plants that are present in Queensland. These invasive plants are having significant adverse impacts in Queensland and it is desirable to manage them and prevent their spread, thereby protecting un-infested parts of the State.

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with invasive plants and animals under their control. This is called a general biosecurity obligation (GBO).

The specific restriction requirements also apply to a person when dealing with restricted invasive matter. The different restriction requirements address the risk posed by that invasive plant.

A person may apply for a restricted matter permit. This permit may allow dealings with the invasive plant contrary to the restriction requirement but under strict conditions. The purposes include commercial use, biological control or scientific research about the invasive plant.

Restricted invasive plants that are categories 2, 3, 4 and 5

A person has the following restrictions placed upon them when dealing with these invasive plants:

Category 2
A person must report the invasive plant within 24 hours to 13 25 23. Your GBO requires you to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the risk of the plant spreading until they receive advice from an authorised officer.

Category 3
A person must not distribute the invasive plant either by sale or gift, release it into the environment.

Category 4
A person must not move the invasive plant.

Category 5
A person must not keep the invasive plant.

The invasive plants listed below must be reported when found. These invasive plants cannot be moved, kept, released into the environment, or given away or sold as a plant or as something infested with its seeds:

- bitou bush (Chrysanthemoides monilifera ssp. rotundifolia)
- boneseed (Chrysanthemoides monilifera ssp. monilifera)
- bridal creeper (Asparagus asparagoides)
- Hudson pear (Cylindropuntia rosea syn. Cylindropuntia pallida and C. tunicata)
- jumping cholla (Cylindropuntia prolifera)
- Koster’s curse (Clidemia hirta)
- limnocharis or yellow burrhead (Limnocharis flava)
- madras thorn (Pithecellodium dulce)
- Mexican bean tree (Cecropia pachystachya, C. palmata and C. peltata)
- Mexican feather grass (Nassella tenuissima)
- miconia (M. calvescens, M. cionotricha, M. nervosa and M. racemosa)
- mikania vine (Mikania micrantha)
- mimosa pigra (Mimosa pigra)
- bunny ears (Opuntia microdasys)
- riverina prickly pear (Opuninta elata)
- water mimosa (Neptunia oleracea and N. plena).

Restricted invasive plants that are Category 3

The following invasive plants have restriction requirement Category 3. A person must not release these invasive plants into the environment, give away or sell as a plant or something infested with its seeds:

- African boxthorn (Lycium ferocissimum)
- African fountain grass (Cenchrus setaceum)
- African tulip tree (Spathodea campanulata)
- alligator weed (Alternanthera philoxeroides)
- annual ragweed (Ambrosia artemisiifolia)
- asparagus fern (Asparagus aethiopicus, A. africanus, A. scandens, A. declinatus and A. plamosus)
- athel pine (Tamarix aphylla)
- austrocyldindropuntia cactus with the following names: – cane cactus (Austrocyldindropuntia cylindrica) – Eve’s pin cactus (A. subulata)
- badhara bush (Gmelina elliptica)
- balloon vine (Cardiospermum grandiflorum)
- bellyache bush (Jatropha gossypiiifolia and hybrids)
- blackberry (Rubus anglocandicans, Rubus fruticosus aggregate.)
- broad-leaved pepper tree (Schinus terebinthifolius)
- broom with the following names: – flax-leaf broom (Genista linifolia) – Montpellier broom (Genista monspessulana) – Scotch broom (Cytisus scoparius)
- cabomba (Cabomba caroliniana)
- camphor laurel (Cinnamomum camphora)
- candyleaf (Stevia ovata)
- cat’s claw creeper (Dolichandra unguis-cati)
- Chilean needle grass (Nassella neesiana)
- chinee apple (Ziziphus mauritiana)
- Chinese celtis (Celtis sinensis)
- cholla cactus with the following names: – coral cactus (Cylindropuntia fulgida) – devil’s rope pear (Cylindropuntia imbricata) – snake cactus (Cylindropuntia spinosior)
• Dutchman’s pipe (Aristolochia spp. other than native species)
• Elephant ear vine (Argyreia nervosa)
• fireweed (Senecio madagascariensis)
• gamba grass (Andropogon gayanus)
• giant sensitive plant (Mimosa diplosticha var. diplosticha)
• gorse (Ulex europaeus)
• groundsel bush (Baccharis halimifolia)
• harrisia cactus (Harrisia martinii syn. Eriocereus martinii, H. tortuosa and H. pomanensis syn. Cereus pomanensis)
• harungana (Harungana madagascariensis)
• honey locust (Gleditsia tricanthos including cultivars and varieties)
• hygrophila (Hygrophila costata)
• hymenachne or olive hymenachne (Hymenachne amplexicaulis and hybrids)
• kudzu (Pueraria montana var. lobata, syn. P. lobata, P. triloba other than in the Torres Strait Islands)
• lantanas:
  – creeping lantana (Lantana montevidensis)
  – lantana or common lantana (Lantana camara)
• Madeira vine (Anredera cordifolia)
• Mesquites:
  – honey mesquite (Prosopis glandulosa)
  – mesquite or algrroba (Prosopis pallida)
  – Quilpie mesquite (Prosopis velutina)
• mother-of-millions (Bryophyllum delagoense syn. B. tubiflorum, Kalanchoe delagoensis)
• mother-of-millions hybrid (Bryophyllum × houghtonii)
• Ornamental gingers:
  – kahili ginger (Hedychium gardnerianum)
  – white ginger (Hedychium coronarium)
  – yellow ginger (Hedychium flavescens)
• parkinsonia (Parkinsonia aculeata)
• parthenium (Parthenium hysterophorus)
• pond apple (Annona glabra)
• prickly acacia (Vachellia nilotica)
• prickly pears:
  – common pest pear, spiny pest pear (Opuntia stricta syn. O. inermis)
  – drooping tree pear (O. monacantha syn. O. vulgaris)
  – tiger pear (O. aurantiaca)
  – velvety tree pear (O. tomentosa)
  – Westwood pear (O. streptacantha)
• privets:
  – broad-leaf privet or tree privet (Ligustrum lucidum)
  – small-leaf privet or Chinese privet (Ligustrum sinense)
• rat’s tail grasses:
  – American rat’s tail grass (Sporobolus jaccuomontii)
  – giant Parramatta grass (Sporobolus fertilis)
  – giant rat’s tail grass (Sporobolus pyramidalis and Sporobolus natalensis)
• rubber vines:
  – ornamental rubber vine (Cryptostegia madagascariensis)
  – rubber vine (Cryptostegia grandiflora)
• sagittaria (Sagittaria platyphylla)
• salvinia (Salvinia molesta)
• Senegal tea (Gymnocoronis spilanthoides)
• Siam weed (Chromolaena odorata and Chromolaena squalida)
• Sicklepods:
  – foetid cassia (Senna tora)
  – hairy cassia (Senna hirsuta)
  – sicklepod (Senna obtusifolia)
• Silver-leaf nightshade (Solanum elaeagnifolium)
• Singapore daisy (Sphagneticola trilobata; syn. Wedelia trilobata)
• telegraph weed (Heterotheca grandiflora)
• thunbergias:
  – laurel clockvine (Thunbergia laurifolia)
  – thunbergia or blue thunbergia (Thunbergia grandiflora)
• tobacco weed (Elephantopus mollis)
• water hyacinth (Eichhornia crassipes syn. Pontederia crassipes)
• water lettuce (Pistia stratiotes)
• willow (all Salix spp. other than S. babylonica, S. × calodendron and S. × reichardtii)
• yellow bells (Tecoma stans)
• yellow oleander or Captain Cook tree (Cascabela thevetia syn. Thevetia peruviana).

Further information
Further information is available from your local government office, or by contacting Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23 or visit biosecurity.qld.gov.au.
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Koster’s curse (*Clidemia hirta*)

Water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes* syn. *Pontederia crassipes*)

Bellyache bush (*Jatropha gossypiifolia*)

African boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*)

Prickly acacia (*Vachellia nilotica*)