

# Easter cassia

*Senna pendula* var. *glabrata*



Easter cassia is a successful invader of disturbed or modified sites. It has been observed to establish in sunny openings and then scramble over the adjacent vegetation, often into the canopy layer of even rain forest. Easter cassia is very common in Brisbane gardens and is naturalised in highly disturbed urban bushland and farmland in many areas of coastal Queensland and northern New South Wales. Easter cassia is frequently seen along roadsides and on the banks of waterways.

## Legal requirements

Easter cassia 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 steps to minimise the risks associated with invasive plants and animals under their control.



Local governments must have a biosecurity plan that covers invasive plants and animals in their area. This plan may include actions to be taken on certain species. Some of these actions may be required under local laws. Contact your local government for more information.

## Description

Easter cassia grows as a shrub, up to about 5 m tall. Stems often grow in a zigzag pattern and may be sparsely hairy. Leaves grow in alternate formation, and are pinnate with 3–6 pairs of leaflets. The topside of the leaf stalk has a gland between the lowermost leaflets. Around Easter, it produces masses of bright yellow flowers. Flowering is followed by hundreds of brown, slender seed pods up to 12 cm long and each containing 5–10 seeds.

## Control

Small individual plants can be removed by hand pulling, particularly in moist soil. Take care to remove the roots and consider applying mulch to discourage regrowth. Larger individuals may be dug out with a mattock or similar garden tool. Once again, the whole crown must be removed for the achievement of long term control. This approach may be deemed too labour intensive for more established individual plants or for larger infestations.

**Table 1. Herbicides for the control of Easter cassia**

Method	Herbicide	Rate	Registration details	Comments
Cut stump	Glyphosate 360 g/L	Product undiluted	APVMA permit PER11463	Paint stump immediately after cutting
Basal bark spray	Fluroxypyr 200 g/L	35 mL per 1 L diesel or kerosene	Permit expires 30/06/2018	

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



This fact sheet is developed with funding support from the Land Protection Fund.

Fact sheets are available from Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) service centres and our Customer Service Centre (telephone 13 25 23). Check our website at [www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au](http://www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au) to ensure you have the latest version of this fact sheet. The control methods referred to in this fact sheet 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, DAF does not invite reliance upon it, nor accept responsibility for any loss or damage caused by actions based on it.



## Herbicide control

There is no herbicide currently registered for control of Easter cassia in Queensland; however, an off-label use permit allows the use of various herbicides for the control of environmental weeds in non-agricultural areas, bushland and forests.

See Table 1 for treatment options allowed by the permit.

Prior to using the herbicides listed under PER11463 you must read or have read to you and understand the conditions of the permit. To obtain a copy of this permit visit [www.apvma.gov.au](http://www.apvma.gov.au)

## Further information

Further information is available from your local government office, or by contacting Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23 or visit [www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au](http://www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au).