

# Laurel leaf pidgeon wings

*Clitoria laurifolia*



Native to tropical America, laurel leaf pidgeon wings is a perennial forb/climber. In North Queensland, laurel leaf pidgeon wings has aggressively invaded paperbark swampland, displacing the natural ground cover. Hard seeds could remain viable in the soil for around 10 years, germinating after fire.

## Legal requirements

Laurel leaf pidgeon wings 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

Laurel leaf pidgeon wings is a perennial forb/climber with slender twining stems to 2 m long and growing up to 1 m high. The root is a thick woody rootstock. Young growth has silky hairs.

It has dark green trifoliate leaves with oval, blunt leaflets, 8 cm × 4 cm, very fine hairs on underside of leaflets. Purple to nearly white pea-shaped flowers, 3–3.5 cm long, in clusters in the leaf axil with only a couple open at any one time. Fruit is a slender pod and contains hard seeds.

## Control

### Manual control

Hand pull isolated plants and small infestations, making sure that all roots and stem fragments are removed. Plant pieces should either be bagged and taken to the dump or hung up off the ground to prevent resprouting.



## Herbicide control

Larger infestations should be treated with herbicide.

There are no herbicide products specifically registered for the control of laurel leaf pigeon wings in Queensland. However, a permit held by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries allows people generally to use some herbicide products to control laurel leaf pigeon wings as an environmental weed in various situations.

See Table 1 for the treatment options in situations allowed by the permit.

Prior to using the herbicides listed under this 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](http://apvma.gov.au).

## Follow up

Monitor treated areas regularly for any new seedlings or regrowth.

## 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](http://biosecurity.qld.gov.au).

**Table 1. Herbicides for the control of laurel leaf pigeon wings**

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, wetlands, dunal and coastal areas.	Dicamba 500 g/L (e.g. Kamba 500)	200 mL (on mature) to 1 L (on regrowth) per 100 L water	APVMA permit PER11463 Permit expires 30/06/2023	Spot spray
	2,4-D 300 g/L + picloram 75 g/L (e.g. Tordon 75-D)	1 L per 100 L water plus wetting agent		

**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 [biosecurity.qld.gov.au](http://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.

