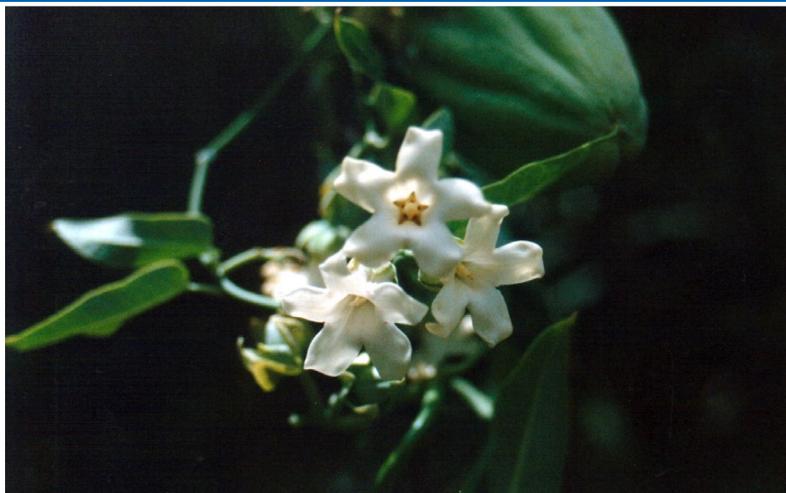


# White moth vine

*Araujia serichifera*



White moth vine is quick to wrap its tendrils around any supporting structure, including other plants. White moth vine poses a smothering threat to native plants, with its thick, tangled growth. Native to Brazil, white moth vine has been recorded as a weed in several countries. In south-east Queensland, it is usually found in rainforest remnants, vine scrubs and wet sclerophyll forests. White moth vine can be a problem in disturbed sites and is often seen draped over fence lines. If damaged, the leaves and stems exude a smelly, milky latex, which may cause an allergic reaction in some people.

## Legal requirements

White moth vine 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

White moth vine is a vigorous, woody creeper with a shallow root system. It can climb to about 7 m tall. Leaves are triangular, opposite, up to 10 cm long, with a white underside. Flowers are bell-shaped and vary from white, pink and violet colour. Flowers have five sepals, 8–13 mm long and five petals, 18–20 mm long. The fruits are a large egg-shape, 6–12 cm long, 3–7 cm wide, resemble a choko. When fruits dry, they split open when ripe, releasing a profusion of wind-borne seeds on silky hairs. Seeds are blackish topped with long white silky hairs, 20–30 mm long.

## Management strategies

It is advisable to wear gloves when manually removing white moth vine, due to the irritating latex.

It is best to cut the roots at least 10 cm below the ground and dispose of all removed material at an appropriate council landfill site.

## Herbicide control

There is no herbicide currently registered for control of white moth vine 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).

**Table 1. Herbicides for the control of white moth vine**

Method	Herbicide	Rate	Registration details
Spot spray	fluroxypyr 200 g/L	1 L per 100 L water	APVMA permit PER11463 Permit expires 30/06/2018
Basal bark spray	fluroxypyr 200 g/L	35 mL per 1 L diesel or kerosene	

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

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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.

