Native to South America, red Christmas pride was introduced to Far North Queensland as an ornamental. It is shade-loving and invades disturbed areas of rainforest and creek banks.

Legal requirements
Red Christmas pride 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
Red Christmas pride is a wiry sub-shrub that grows to 60 cm with a dense, bushy, spreading habit.
Leaves are opposite, grow to 12 cm long, becoming smaller towards the top of the plant and are glossy green, narrowly oval and hairless.

Bright red, swollen, tubular flowers that are streaked yellow inside appear in small clusters on long stalks in the leaf axils. Petals are up to 3 cm long.

**Control**

**Manual control**

Hand pull seedlings and small plants, ensuring that all stem fragments and roots are removed. Plant pieces should either be bagged and taken to the dump or hung up off the ground to prevent reshooting.

**Herbicide control**

There is no herbicide currently registered for control of Red Christmas pride 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

**Table 1. Herbicides for the control of red Christmas pride**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Herbicide</th>
<th>Rate</th>
<th>Registration status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spot spray</td>
<td>Glyphosate (360 g/L)</td>
<td>1 L per 100 L water</td>
<td>APVMA permit PER11463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spot spray</td>
<td>Fluroxypyr (200 g/L)</td>
<td>500 ml to 1 L per 100 L water</td>
<td>Permit expires 30/06/2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spot spray</td>
<td>Triclopyr (300 g/L) + picloram (100 g/L)</td>
<td>350 ml to 500 ml per 100 L water plus wetting agent or spray oil</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**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 www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au.