

# Puero

*Pueraria phaseoloides*



Photo courtesy Dinesh Valke (<http://www.flickr.com>)

Introduced as a pasture legume, puero has naturalised along roadsides and moist, disturbed areas.

## Legal requirements

Puero 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 under their control.

Local governments must have a biosecurity plan that covers invasive plants 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

Puero is an aggressive, perennial, climbing, leguminous shrub. Its roots are tuberous and the slender stems are 2–10 m long and rusty hairy. Purple pea flowers with white margins appear in clusters on an elongated inflorescence 15–30 cm long. Pods are dark grey, linear and 5–10 cm long, with soft hairs, containing 14–20 brown, barrel-shaped seeds.

## Control

### Manual control

Isolated plants and small infestations can be hand pulled. Make sure 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 reshooting. This treatment will require regular follow up—puero's root system can be deep and reshooting will occur if any roots remain in the ground.



## Herbicide control

There are no herbicide products specifically registered for the control of puero in Queensland. However, a permit held by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries allows people generally to use some herbicide products to control puero 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 puero**

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	Glyphosate 360 g/L (e.g. Glyphosate 360) and other formulations	1 L per 100 L water	APVMA permit PER11463 Permit expires 30/06/2023	Spot spray
	Dicamba 500 g/L (e.g. Kamba 500)	200 mL on mature to 400 mL on regrowth per 100 L water plus wetting agent		
	2,4-D 300 g/L + picloram 75 g/L (e.g. Tordon 75-D)	1 L per 100 L water plus wetting agent		
	MCPA 340 g/L + dicamba 80 g/L (e.g. Kamba M)	125 mL per 100 L water		

**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 [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.