

# Barleria

*Barleria prionitis*



Photo courtesy Colin Wilson

Barleria is native to tropical Asia, Africa and India. It invades open woodland habitats and watercourses, surviving the dry season and growing vigorously with onset of the wet.

It can form dense, prickly thickets that can eliminate most other ground vegetation. Barleria seedlings grow slowly at first; however, once established they can add 50 cm per year to their height.

Barleria is a popular garden ornamental and is grown in Darwin and parts of Queensland as a hedge plant because of its small thorns. Reproduction is generally by seed, and garden escapees have invaded bushland, disturbed areas and overgrazed paddocks.

## Legal requirements

Barleria 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

Barleria is a robust, prickly shrub growing to about 1 m high.

It has 3–5 sharp, pale-coloured spines 1–2 cm long, in each leaf axil. Branches are smooth, brown and roughly square in cross-section. Leaves are oval, 10–12 cm long, with a pointed tip ending in a short spine.

Yellow, tubular flowers about 4 cm long with long projecting stamens occur in upright spikes at the top of the plant.

Seed capsules are oval-shaped and about 18 mm long, tapering into a 6 mm long beak. Seeds are large (8 mm long and 5 mm wide), flat and covered in matted hairs.



## Herbicide control

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

| 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, dunal and coastal areas | Glyphosate 360 g/L (e.g. Weedmaster Duo)   | 1 L per 100 L water                       | APVMA permit PER11463<br>Permit expires 30/06/2023 | Spot spray |
|   | Metsulfuron-methyl 600 g/kg (e.g. Associate)   | 10 g 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    |  |            |
|   | Fluroxypyr 200 g/L (e.g. Flagship 200)   | 1 L per 100 L water                       |  |            |
|   | Triclopyr 300 g/L + picloram 100 g/L (e.g. Conqueror)<br>or<br>Triclopyr 300 g/L + picloram 100 g/L + aminopyralid 8 g/L (e.g. Grazon Extra) | 500 mL per 100 L water plus wetting agent |  |            |
|   | Fluroxypyr 140 g/L + aminopyralid 10 g/L (e.g. Hotshot)  | 500–700 mL/100 L water                    |  |            |

**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.

