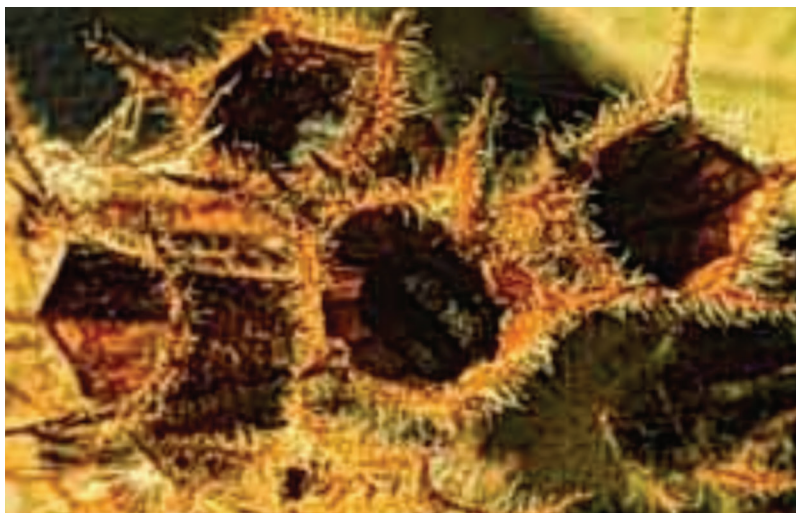


Horehound

Hyptis suaveolens



Photos courtesy Colin Wilson



Horehound is native to tropical South America and is extensively naturalised in northern Queensland. It is common along roadsides and in cultivated paddocks and overgrazed areas; however, it is not a weed of rainforest interiors as it requires light to germinate.

Seeds provide the only means of spread and are primarily spread by animals, machinery and other vehicles, and contaminated hay.

Legal requirements

Horehound 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

Annual, erect herb to 1.5 m with hairy, four-angled stems that are hairy on upper parts.

Opposite leaves are dull green, stalked, slightly toothed and heart-shaped—pointed at the tip and rounded at the base with an undersurface that is densely hairy. Leaves have a strong mint smell when crushed.



Flowers are small, purple-mauve, about 5 mm long and usually arranged in clusters in the forks of the upper leaves of the plant.

Fruit is a lobed two-sectioned burr, each with two small, dark brown, shield-shaped seeds.

Control

Manual control

Hand pull isolated plants and small infestations in bushland. Hand pull prior to seeding when the soil is wet. Collect heads into bags for disposal at the dump.

Herbicide control

2,4-D is registered for control of horehound (as Chinese mint) in sugar cane only. Consult labels for details.

There are no herbicide products specifically registered for the control of horehound in other situations in Queensland. However, a permit held by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries allows the use of a limited range of 2,4-D and other herbicide products to control horehound 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.

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.

Table 1. Herbicides for the control of horehound

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.	2,4-D 500 g/L (e.g. 2,4-D Low Odour 500)	4 ml per 1 L water	APVMA permit PER11463	Spot spray (young plants)
	2,4-D 625 g/L (e.g. Ken-Amine 625)	3 mL per 1 L water	Permit expires 30/06/2023	Read permit and label carefully prior to use
	2,4-D 300 g/L + picloram 75 g/L (e.g. Tordon 75-D)	1 L per 100 L water plus wetting agent		Spot spray (older plants) Read permit and label carefully prior to use

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 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.

