

Stinking passion flower

Passiflora foetida



Stinking passion flower is a native of South America. Though less common in south-east Queensland than the other weedy passionfruit species (corky passion and white passion), stinking passion flower is an invasive environmental weed which can be found invading forest edges, coastal vegetation, roadsides and disturbed areas.

In northern Queensland, stinking passion flower is more widespread, and is commonly found invading disturbed areas along river and creek banks. If left unchecked, this environmental weed has the ability to increase its current distribution, spreading into other natural areas and becoming more invasive. Stinking passion flower is also considered a weed of crops and pastures. It contains cyanic acid and is suspected to be poisonous to people and livestock.

Legal requirements

Stinking passion flower 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

Stinking passion flower is a climbing vine, densely covered in soft, sometimes sticky hairs. Leaves can have 3–5 pointed lobes, and are between 3–10 cm long. The typical passionfruit-like flowers have cream petals, white, pink or purple centres, and are from 3–5 cm across. Unlike commercial passionfruits, the fruits on this species are dry orange berries, 1–3 cm across, and enclosed in prickly outer leaves (bracts). As its name suggests, the whole plant has an unpleasant smell.

Management strategies

Hand pulling vines when the soil is moist is the most reliable form of control.

Herbicide control

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

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 stinking passion flower

Method	Herbicide	Rate	Registration details	Comments
Cut stump	Glyphosate 360 g/L	1 part product to 2 parts water	APVMA permit PER11463 Permit expires 30/06/2023	
Basal bark spray	Griclopyr 240 g/L + Picloram 120 g/L	1 L per 60 L diesel		
Spot spray	Triclopyr 200 g/L + Picloram 100 g/L	500 mL per 100 L water		
Cut stump	Triclopyr 200 g/L + Picloram 100 g/L	50 mL per 1 L		

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.

