Griffith City Council – Noxious Weed – Management Plan

Bridal Creeper *(Asparagus asparagoides)*

Weed of National Significance

Class 4
Locally
Controlled Weed

J F M A M J J A S O N D

Annual Growing Season *(green)*

This plan is published in accordance with Order 30 *(made under the Noxious Weeds Act 1993)* and outlines requirements to control class *(4)* weeds by private occupiers of land in the Griffith City Council area.

Plan period:
This plan commences on *30th January 2015*. Council reserves the right to review, revoke, vary or amend this plan at any time by publication of a revised control plan.

Obligations of landholders (Section 12, Noxious Weeds Act 1993).

Private occupiers of land must control noxious weeds on land.
An occupier (other than a public authority or a local control authority) of land to which a weed control order applies must control noxious weeds on the land as required under the order.

Note: If an occupier fails to comply with obligations under a weed control order, those obligations may be enforced against the owner of the land as well as the occupier by a weed control notice issued under section 18.

Prescribed Control Measures as per Weed Control Order no. 30 made under the Noxious Weeds Act 1993

Locally Controlled Weed – **"The plant must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed".**

- The weed must be prevented from growing within 20 metres of a property boundary or watercourse.

Treat all weeds prior to seed set by:

- Application of a registered herbicide as per label.
- Or by physical or mechanical removal.

Individual Management Plans
can be drawn up in consultation with landholders on request.

Important: Always read herbicide label prior to use. ***Mixing rates should be adhered to***; applying extra chemical does not enhance the chemicals' ability to control weeds, but could contribute to "herbicide resistance".

Further assistance and information can be obtained by contacting G.C.C. on (02) 6962 3933.

Correspondence contact

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Plan Authorisation

Signed:

Position: General Manager

Date Authorised: 28/1/2015.

Bridal creeper – *Asparagus asparagoides*

Non-chemical options: Dig out all tubers and burn. A biocontrol fungus is also available. www.nsw.gov.au/weeds

Chemical and Concentration	Rate		Comments
PER9907	**Glyphosate** 360 g/L Roundup®	1 part glyphosate to 50 parts water	Spray August to September only.
PER9907	**Metsulfuron-methyl** 600 g/kg Brush-off®	10 g metsulfuron-methyl to 100 L water	Spray August to September only.

Bridal Creeper: invades undisturbed habitats and is a major threat to most low shrubs and groundcover plants in Mallee, dry sclerophyll forest and heath vegetation.

The plant: Has annual, climbing shoot growth from a perennial root system consisting of many tubers *(food storage organs)* grouped along a central rhizome *(an underground stem with shoot buds)*. The underground mat of rhizomes and tubers make up the bulk of the plant.
These tubers provide water, energy and nutrients that enable the plant to survive over summer and allow rapid shoot growth in autumn.

Stems: Twisting stems grow up to 3 m in length, with leaves borne in groups on short side branches. Numerous shoots are produced from one patch of roots and entwine with each other and native vegetation, making it almost impossible to identify individual plants.

Fruit/Seeds: Bridal creeper produces pea-sized green berries which ripen to red and usually contain two or three black seeds.

Spread: The plant can produce 1000 berries per square metre. Birds feed on the berries and later excrete the seeds at perch sites, usually within 100 metres of source plants. Rabbits and foxes also eat berries and disperse seeds. The plant can also spread as the root system expands in an area. Movement of soil containing roots *(eg by grading)* can spread plants further.

Control: Herbicides have been the most effective form of control. Because bridal creeper often grows in areas of native vegetation, it is important to avoid contact with desirable plants or soil near tree root zones. Isolated plants can be treated with recommended herbicides applied by spot spraying.

Mechanical removal: Is not effective unless all the rhizomes are dug up and destroyed.

Biological Control: Three biological agents including: the bridal creeper leaf hopper *(Zygina sp.)*, rust fungus *(Puccinia myrsiphylli)* and leaf beetle *(Crioceris sp.)*. These agents can be effective although local climatic conditions make it difficult to establish them.

Above: Bridal creeper growing on trees and shrubs on the bank of a water supply channel. Off target herbicide is problematic as damage can be caused to host trees.

Above: Citrus groves can be over run by bridal creeper, reducing productivity and making it difficult to pick fruit. Herbicide applications can control the weed.