

LANTANA

Lantana camara

Lantana can quickly colonise roadsides, power line and railway easements, river banks, fence-lines, forestry, pastures, open native woodlands and subtropical rainforest edges. Lantana can grow in steep, inaccessible areas. Lantana often invades disturbed areas where vegetation has been cleared. It's less likely to grow in undisturbed bushland. Lantana can survive periods of drought. It tolerates poor soils and sand and will grow on stony hillsides as long as moisture is available.



HOW DOES THIS WEED AFFECT YOU?

Lantana:

- is poisonous to animals and humans
- invades native grassland and pastures
- invades eucalyptus and pine plantations
- fuels bushfires
- can restrict access to bushland and waterways
- costs land managers more than \$22 million each year to control.

Lantana provides some shelter for native fauna.

WHERE IS IT FOUND?

Lantana's range extends from Bega Shire in southern NSW to Cape Melville in north Queensland. It is present on Lord Howe and Norfolk Islands. The main infestations are eLantana comes from the tropical and subtropical regions of Central and South America. It was introduced to Australia in 1841 as an ornamental plant. By the 1860s it was common in Sydney and Brisbane. ast of the Great Dividing Range in NSW and QLD.



DESCRIPTION

Stems are:

- square
- with short, curved prickles.

Leaves are:

- rough and bright green on top
- hairy and pale green underneath
- with serrated edges
- fragrant when crushed
- in pairs, opposite each other on stems
- about 10 cm long
- 2 – 8 cm wide
- egg to spearhead-shaped.

Flowers are:

- in clusters, different colors depending on the type of lantana, age and location. Flowers can be pink, red, orange, white and pink-edged red
- produced almost year round.

Fruit are:

- 6 – 8 mm in diameter
- round berries
- in a group
- green to start
- shiny, dark purple-black when ripe
- with one seed per fruit.

HOW DOES IT SPREAD?

By seed, - A single plant can produce up to 12,000 fruit (and seeds) in a year. Most seeds are spread by birds and some animals that eat the fruit. Lantana seed is more likely to germinate if it has been through the gut of a bird or mammal. Seeds are also spread by water, in soil, on machinery and garden waste.

By plant parts, - Lantana regrows after cutting back, even if cut to the base. Cut stems grow new roots when they contact damp soil.



LOOK A LIKES

Native Peach - Trema tomentosa

- Trema leaves are thinner, and odorless
- Lantana leaves are opposite where Trema is not



CONTROL

Successful weed control takes time and follow up efforts to monitor and suppress weeds.

To control Lantana:

- gradually control sections of large infestations, starting at the edges.
- dry or frosty periods are good times to work on mature Lantana plants
- treat regrowth or seedlings before they are 1 m high
- control young plants before they are a year old to prevent new fruit and seeds

in summer, look for a flush of seedlings after rain, and kill the seedlings 1 – 3 after the rain event (Lantana seeds can germinate year round but peak after summer rain).

- 1 – 3 months after clearing, burning or cultivation, look for regrowth or new seedlings and control them.

For more info please visit:

<https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/Lantana>



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DECLARATION & BIOSECURITY DUTY

General Biosecurity Duty

All pest plants are regulated with a general biosecurity duty to prevent, eliminate or minimise any biosecurity risk they may pose. Any person who deals with any plant, who knows (or ought to know) of any biosecurity risk, has a duty to ensure the risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised, so far as is reasonably practicable.

Prohibition on certain dealings