



Grassy Eucalypt Woodlands Stewardship Program

Standards for Weed Management

Effective weed management forms an important component of most conservation programs. Weed management should seek to address the most high-threat weeds, which typically means woody species as well as perennial herbaceous (non-woody) species.

The following minimum standards apply in cases where the management agreement includes a requirement to undertake weed management:

- The requirements to comply with the control or eradication of weeds listed under the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 remain. For more information on what species are listed, and the associated requirements, visit: <http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/pests-diseases-and-weeds/weeds/invasive-plant-classifications>
- If chemicals are being used, you are required to comply with the current legislation. Visit Agriculture Victoria for more information: <http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/pests-diseases-and-weeds/weeds/state-prohibited-weeds/prescribed-measures-for-the-control-of-noxious-weeds>
- You must comply with the requirements of a Commercial Operators License: <https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/farm-management/chemicals/licences-and-permits/commercial-operator-licence-for-contractors>
- More information on using restricted chemicals on your own property can be found at: <https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/farm-management/chemicals/licences-and-permits/agricultural-chemical-user-permit>.
- Monitor and eliminate any new or emerging weeds. It is far more cost effective and requires less effort to manage emerging weeds before they can establish and reproduce
- Prevent or minimise disturbance to native vegetation
- Minimise soil disturbance. This limits the areas of disturbance where new weeds tend to readily populate
- Aim to control weed populations before seeds are set
- Always read the herbicide label prior to use
- Use an aquatic-friendly herbicide around waterways

Methods for weed management

Woody Weeds	
Felling / ringbarking	Useful for trees and large shrubs that won't re-sprout. Considerable care should be taken to avoid the potential dangers of future limb drop and trees with sizeable branches, and particularly in areas used for human traffic.
Cut and paint with suitable herbicide	Use on trees and shrubs that are likely to re-sprout from cut stumps. Cut close to the ground and paint immediately (within 20 seconds) with systemic herbicide.
Drill and fill with suitable herbicide	Use on trees and shrubs that are likely to re-sprout. Drill a number of holes or make horizontal cuts at an angle of 45° into the sapwood (moist wood below the bark) and immediately fill hole with systematic herbicide.

Grasses / Herbs	
Spot-spraying and wick-wiping	Use spot spraying or wick-wiping on selected weeds with an appropriate herbicide (refer to herbicide label), ensuring that due care is taken to minimise impacts on non-target species (useful for perennial grass/herb control).
Slashing and mowing	May be used to stop seed set and to allow for easier herbicide application (use only where there is a dense weed infestation and where included in the management agreement).
Hand weeding	Removing selected plants by hand or chipping (useful where infestations are small or where herbicide use is not desirable).
Grazing	Grazing by domestic stock to control the further spread of dense weed infestations. This method is only used when it is ecologically appropriate and there is no commitment to stock exclusion in the management agreement.

Grasses / Herbs	
Burning	Burning may be appropriate in areas where 1) it is safe to do so, and 2) the impact to non-weedy species can be managed. This method can be useful to manage significant infestations of woody weeds by reducing the biomass to provide improved access and by substantially reducing the amount of follow-up spraying with herbicide.

Health and Safety

You are responsible for ensuring all works required in implementing the management actions are conducted in a safe manner and comply with the lawful requirements of any Authority, and with all Acts, regulations and other laws.

Further information

For more information on weeds and weed control methods, visit the Agriculture Victoria website: <https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/biosecurity/weeds>

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