

WEED CONTROL PROGRAM

Section 371 (1) (b) of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*

This Weed Control Program is a Council endorsed document under Section 371 (1) (b) of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, and describes how a person must discharge the person's general biosecurity duty for the biosecurity matter (weed) described.

PLANT SPECIES

Common name: Dwarf Broom; Hedge Broom

Scientific name(s): *Cytisus racemosus nana*; *Genista x spachiana*

AREA OF OPERATION

Local government area of Eurobodalla Shire.

SPECIES INFORMATION

Brooms are perennial leguminous shrubs in the Fabaceae (pea family) which have numerous, flexible, broom-like young branches that give rise to their common name. They commonly grow to 2–3 m tall but can grow to 3–6 m. All Brooms have bright yellow flowers, produce hard-coated seeds in pea-like pods and have seeds that are light brown to very dark, almost black, around 2.5–3 mm long, with an edible growth on the end of the seed (called an aril) that is attractive to ants.

Brooms have invaded over one million hectares of Australia and have naturalised in many other parts of the world. Seeds are naturally dispersed from the plant by explosive pods that can flick seeds up to 3 m, though the majority of the seed lands within 1 m of the parent plant. Once on the ground, seeds are readily moved long distances by water, humans or animals. Mature Broom plants can produce thousands of seeds each year, and these seeds can remain dormant in the soil for 30 years or more before germinating.

Brooms invade native vegetation, forestry and pastoral systems in Australia where they cause significant environmental and economic impacts. Brooms establish rapidly after disturbance such as fire, grazing or forestry harvesting, but can also invade relatively undisturbed areas. Dwarf/Hedge Broom is a cultivar of a Broom species that is known to be invasive in other parts of Australia, and as such, is a potential threat to the biodiversity and agriculture of Eurobodalla Shire.

LEGAL OBLIGATIONS

Any person who deals with biosecurity matter or a carrier and who knows, or ought reasonably to know, the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by the biosecurity matter, carrier or dealing has a biosecurity duty to ensure that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the biosecurity risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised.

WEED RISK ASSESSMENT

Feasibility of control: Very high.

Objective: Destroy infestations.

WEED RISK ASSESSMENT

Feasibility of control: Very high.

Objective: Eradication.

COUNCIL CONTROL REQUIREMENTS

- (1) The plant must be destroyed.
- (2) The landholder must prevent spread from their land.
- (3) The plant must not be sold, propagated or distributed.

ENFORCEMENT

A person who fails to discharge the person's general biosecurity duty is guilty of an offence.

In the event that the general biosecurity duty is not discharged, Council may:

- charge a reinspection fee
- issue a penalty notice (refer to *Biosecurity Regulation 2017 (NSW)* Schedule 6 - Penalty Notice Offences)
- enter the property, perform weed direction works and recoup all costs and expenses incurred.

REVIEW DATE

28 August 2019, or when required.

CONTACT DETAILS

Invasive Species Supervisor – *Biosecurity Act 2015* Authorised Officer

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