

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: Madeira Vine

Scientific name: *Anredera cordifolia*

AREA OF OPERATION

Local government area of Eurobodalla Shire.

SPECIES INFORMATION

Madeira Vine was introduced from South America and has since become a serious weed in NSW. This plant rarely produces viable seed and mainly spreads via large numbers of aerial tubers that are produced along the stems. These are also spread shorter distances after falling off stems high in the canopy (by gravity) and fragments that end up in waterways are easily transported to new locations. Madeira Vine also spreads vegetatively by tuberous roots and creeping underground stems (rhizomes).

Madeira Vine is most problematic in moist forests, rainforest margins and riparian zones (banks of watercourses) where it can establish under an intact canopy and quickly engulf native species. The growth rate is fast and the plant can grow up to six metres in a growing season. This vine can totally envelop the canopy layer and smother the ground layer of invaded habitats. This habit reduces light penetration, eventually killing the plants underneath and preventing the germination and regeneration of native plants.

The weight of dense infestations can bring down trees in the canopy layer and eventually destroy natural areas. Madeira Vine is also poisonous and suspected of poisoning livestock. Additionally, its sap is a skin irritant and care should be taken when manually removing infestations.

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: Monitor and protect high priority sites.

COUNCIL CONTROL REQUIREMENTS

(1) Destroy all plants, or if that is not practicable, destroy as many plants as is practicable and stop the spread of any remaining plants from the property in a manner agreed to, or dictated by, Council.

(2) The landholder must prevent spread from their land to high priority sites including, but not limited to, waterways, endangered ecological communities and rainforests.

(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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